

8th December 2023

Dear Parents

Christmas Bazaar – What a wonderful day we had at the Bazaar last Saturday! After a huge amount of work from a large group of parents, **£10,693** was raised in profit – an incredible amount! Very well done to everyone for all their hard work, particularly to the new committee who worked so hard (and have continued to do so all this week, clearing and sorting) and a big thank you to everyone who spent their hard-earned money on the day. Thank you all!

Support for a past pupil – One of stalls at the Bazaar was run by one of our past pupils, Tom Pope, who is raising money to build a play area at a school in Kenya. If you would like to support him, check out the details here https://www.justgiving.com/page/thomas-pope-1700050105999?utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=page%2Fthomas-pope-1700050105999&utm_source=copyLink&utm_campaign=pfp-share

Christmas Disco – A huge thank you to all the staff who came into school to run the children's disco today – especially those staff who don't even work on Fridays! The children had a great time and over £2,000 has been raised in donations which is incredible! The teachers would like to purchase Teachmate AI <https://teachmateai.com> as well as digimaps for schools <https://digimapforschools.edina.ac.uk> and so perhaps The Friends might be able to purchase these for us!

Outdoor Play and Learning (OPAL) – The OPAL team sent out a letter yesterday requesting certain items needed for our playground project. Please note these do not have to be new, just in good, safe, usable condition. Next week the infants and juniors will be mixed for every morning playtime.

Reconciliation – Children in Year 4 had the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation this week. Thank you to Fr Mehall and Fr David from our parish and Fr Patrick from my parish in Enfield for coming in for this. Year 5 will have the opportunity next week. Year 6 had their opportunity during their retreat days and Year 3 children recently made their very first Reconciliation.

Pet Photo Competition – Mrs Tottle-Nugent spoke to the children today about The Friends' Pet Competition. You just need to take a photo of your pet, or draw one if you don't have one! Winners will be in the following categories: Most Festive Pet, Silliest Pet, Cutest Pet, Me & My Pet, My Dream Pet. All the details about where to submit your entry can be found here <https://app.goodhub.com/christmaspetphoto2023>. The deadline for emailing your entry is Tuesday 12th and the winners will be announced on Friday 15th.

Red Car Raffle – Some of you noticed the fun red car at the Bazaar and bought a number on the 100 square for £5 to win it. There are still some tickets left and they will be on sale before and after school next week! The car is suitable for 4 years and under with a working battery – kindly donated by the Galata family. All proceeds go to The Friends.

IDL Spelling programme – Reminder that children do not need to come in before school for IDL now until Monday 8th January. All accounts will be locked while reassessment takes place.

Christmas Celebrations – The children have been working very hard to practise for their various Christmas performances. All parents are invited and we can usually fit in some grandparents too – no tickets are required. Please note that there will be a retiring collection at the end of each performance. The proceeds are used to purchase resources for the classrooms throughout the following year.

The schedule is as follows:

Both Junior performances take place at 7pm at St Monica's Church, Stonard Road

Monday 11th children from Years 3 & 4 - children to arrive by 6:40pm

Monday 18th children from Years 5 & 6 – children to arrive by 6:40pm

The Infant performances all take place in the main school hall at 9.30am

Tuesday 12th – Year 1

Wednesday 13th – Reception

Thursday 14th – Year 2

Other Diary Dates

Friday 15th December – Christmas Party Day! Children come to school dressed in party clothes (but with footwear suitable for playing outside/running around)

Monday 18th December – Christmas dinner day – children wear uniform – no need to bring packed lunch if you have booked a Christmas dinner on SchoolGrid

Tuesday 19th December - Panto Day! The children will have the opportunity to attend a pantomime in school – thanks to The Friends for paying for this treat! School uniform as usual.

Wednesday 20th December – School closes at 1pm for the Christmas holiday

Kind regards
Kate Baptiste
Headteacher