

Newsletter

"Together, we will give our children...



...the roots to grow and the wings to fly."

St John's C.E.V.A First School Frome
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Issue 12
Friday 10th December 2021

EdShed

HEADTEACHER'S AWARDS

Athena (Ash) Lilly-Mae (Oak)
Marcel (Hawthorn) Matthew (Poplar)
Isaac (Beech)
Phoebe (Rowan) Sebastian (Willow)
Rio (Maple) Alexa (Sycamore)

Mrs Conway, Mrs Dayman-Johns,
Ms Priddle, Mrs Porter and Mrs Morten

TOP 5 INDIVIDUAL SPELLERS

1. Logan - Rowan
2. Edward - Rowan
3. Fynn - Rowan
4. Rio - Maple
5. Vincent - Rowan

TOP 5 SPELLING GROUPS

1. Rowan
2. Y3 Green Group
3. Y3 Red Group
4. Maple
5. Y4 Green Group

From Mrs Marsland

Church on Monday

It was so lovely to be altogether on Monday morning in the church, singing Christmas carols. This is the first time we have been together, inside, as a whole school, this academic year. The whole school sang 'Away in a Manger' and 'He Came in Love' absolutely beautifully; it really was a very special moment for us all.

Nativity – 'Witnesses'

Mostly on Monday, but throughout the week, each year group have recorded their songs and readings for this year's whole school nativity entitled 'Witnesses'. Our roving reporters interview all of the witnesses from Christmas Day, who each tell their story in songs and words. Year 4 have also recorded 'Light a Candle' and 'Once in Royal David's City' to open our nativity. Mr Jackson will work some technical magic to produce one whole nativity, which we hope will be available to watch on our school website on Friday 17th December.

House Captains

Due to staff absence this week, we have not been able to meet. However, both of the Year 4 classes have had a discussion about Collective Worship. This was a topic of their choice as some of them are not so keen on the Zoom Collective Worship, preferring to be in the hall. They have emailed me their thoughts and suggestions, which I will ponder upon and see whether we can come up with a plan for January.

Next Week – Friends of St John's Event

You will have had a communication from us this morning with regards to the Friends of St John's Christmas event, running across next week. Please do respond to the Parentmail form to help us manage numbers each day. Please read the communication received this morning for all of the details.

Next Week – Christmas Singing

As part of the St John's Event communication you will have also been informed of the Christmas singing. Although we can only allow one parent per family in through the building, we are happy to accommodate both parents on the front playground for the singing. Please read the communication received this morning for all of the details.

Next Week – Carol Service on Friday

On Friday 17th December, at approximately 09.30, we will be holding our school carol service, which will be a condensed version of our nativity. We are hoping to livestream this for you, if we have enough consent to do so, and we will confirm the details of this when the Parentmail form for this event closes. Please do make sure you respond to this Parentmail form.



From Mrs Marsland

Thank You...

Governors

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the governors for their continued commitment and hard work, and I would like to express an extra special thank you to Mrs Loundras and Mr Daniels whose terms of office have recently come to an end; they have both given the school four years of their time and support – thank you!

We are a very small board of governors at the moment. If you know anyone who would be interested in being a Foundation Governor please do ask them to contact the school.

Friends of St John's

I would like to thank the new Friends of St John's Committee for working hard to put together a Christmas event for you all. I am looking forward to working with them even more after Christmas, to find ways of holding more events throughout the remainder of the school year. The Friends of St John's do not just raise vital funds for the school, but also provide great opportunities and experiences for your children; we are looking forward to having those back on our calendar.

My Staff

As always, all of my staff have been fabulous this week, with adjustments to timetables to fit in singing and recordings, and also to support where there is staff absence. I would like to extend additional thanks to Mrs Conway, who has worked tirelessly on risk assessments and procedures so that our events can run next week, Mrs Dayman-Johns who has been leading our review and development of phonics and reading, which will be shared with you in January, and lastly to Ms Priddle, Mrs Porter and Mrs Morten who have all had their timetables turned upside down to cover staff absence – thank you!

We are all looking forward to next week, welcoming you into school and singing for you. Please remember those Parentmail forms that need completing and also to purchase raffle tickets for the Friends of St John's raffle and also the House Captains' raffle.

DIARY DATES

Mon 13 Dec	Christmas singing & Friends' craft events Y4
Tues 14 Dec	Non-uniform and Christmas celebration for Years R, 1 and 2 Christmas lunch for Years R, 1 and 2 Christmas singing & Friends' craft events Y3 Deadline - House Captains' toy raffle tickets
Weds 15 Dec	Non-uniform and Christmas celebration for Years 3 and 4 Christmas lunch for Years 3 and 4 Christmas singing & Friends' craft events Y2 Deadline - Friends' raffle tickets House Captains' raffle prize draw
Thurs 16 Dec	Christmas singing & Friends' craft events Y1 Friends of St John's raffle prize draw
Fri 17 Dec	Christmas cards handed out Christmas singing & Friends' craft events YR End of term

THE HAPPINESS HUNT

Maple class are really excited to be paired with Rowden House again in this year's 'Happiness Hunt'. The children have made some pine cone hedgehogs for the residents to have in their rooms and they made tree decorations out of clay. They also wrote letters to introduce themselves, and made a book of their ultimate Christmas wishes.

This week, Mrs Simenton and the children boxed up the hedgehogs, decorations, letters, photos and book of wishes, and sent the box, decorated with self-portraits, to the residents of Rowden House. They are looking forward to getting to know them all over the coming year and hopefully meeting them too.



LEARNING NEXT WEEK

Our Value this half term is Respect

It is also the third week of Advent: Joy

Year R

We will be making words with all our sounds plus r, j, v, y, w. In Maths we will be learning everything we can about number 5. We'll be putting the finishing touches to our Christmas crafts, singing Christmas songs and having fun in our Christmas celebrations.

Year 1

Maths - Comparing numbers.
English - Christmas crafts. Making our very own toy museum.

Year 2

Maths - Continuing money.
English - Writing fact files about adélie penguins.

Year 3

Maths - Multiplication.
English - The story of the angels of the Nativity.

Year 4

Maths - Times tables.
English - Creative activities - cards and calendars.

At St John's CE VA First School the health, safety and wellbeing of every child is our top priority. We expect all staff, governors, parent/carers and visitors to share this commitment to safeguarding our pupils.