

# Christmassy Newsletter

## 27 November 2009

Dear Parent

The Christmas activities are fast approaching so hopefully you will appreciate all the important dates in one newsletter.

Once again there will be 3 performances of the nativity play, Thursday 3 Dec in the evening, Monday 7 Dec in the afternoon and Tuesday 8 Dec in the evening. If you know that you will have a spare ticket please return it to the office a.s.a.p. as other parents may want to use it. **Admission will be by ticket only so please ensure you bring your tickets with you, one ticket per person (adult or child).**

We tried the extra performance last year as many of you wanted to bring grandparents etc. and it was a great success and we have spread the evening performances out so that the children do not get 2 late nights in the same week!

**Tickets for Nativity went out on Monday.**

### **Christmas Dinners**

The menu and booking form for this year's meal is attached. Please book by **Friday 4 December** to enable Jayne to make her order. KS2 will have Christmas dinner on Tuesday 8 Dec and KS1 on Thursday 10 Dec. **KS1 will have to bring a packed lunch on the Tuesday and KS2 will have to do the same on the Thursday as there will be no meal service for the other Key Stage on Christmas Dinner days.** Almost all children join us for a Christmas Dinner and the atmosphere is always wonderful. We have crackers, music playing and the children are served in their seats. Whilst the success of these days will be largely due to the incredible contribution from Jayne and Tina in the kitchen, it will also be down to the generous support from parent-helpers; therefore I am once again asking for your help on one or both days. It would be nice if every child could join their class for the meal, therefore I would really appreciate your support in making this possible. It is just a roast dinner...nothing alien in it I promise. But seriously it is the community aspect of sharing the meal that makes it all the more special.

### **News from this week:**

The January intake visited the school on 3 occasions this week and seemed happy and settled in their new class to be!

Year 3 went to Colchester Castle on Wednesday and by all accounts they had a fun learning experience.

The Dads' Lunch was enjoyed by 16. I am pleased to report clean plates and empty beer bottles! The children enjoyed the experience but were a little too keen to get rid of them once they had eaten so that they could get out to play with their friends. Big thanks to Jayne and Tina for the yummy curry!

### **Friday 27 November - Craft Day**

We had our annual Christmas Craft Day today where each class spent a session with every class teacher in the school thereby completing 7 different art activities. Great fun for all!

### **Workers of the week:**

This week's award is for Making Skills well done to:

### **Housepoints:**

Colchester 42

Lincoln 71

Bath 82

York 48

Well done Bath!

### **Forthcoming Events:**

**Netball team play Brinkley Grove this afternoon - good luck!**

**PTA Christmas Disco Tonight!!!!**

### **Monday 30 November - Advent Mass**

Our Advent Mass will be in the Church at 9.15. You are all invited to join us as we start the season together.

### **Tuesday 1 December - Choir to the O2**

45 members of the choir will be singing at the O2 as part of Young Voices 2009.

### **Thursday 3 December - Nativity**

KS1 dress rehearsal during the day.

**6.30 pm Evening Nativity Performance** KS1 Children should arrive between 6 and 6.15. Once again admission by ticket only. For the benefit of our young stars and their proud parents we ask that children under school age are not brought to this performance. Thank you.

There will be collections after each performance towards the Millennium Trust which helps to fund an education for children in our twin Diocese in South Africa. The trust was set up in 2000 by the Catholic schools in our Deanery. Money is invested and the interest earned is sent to support projects to help disadvantaged children.

### **Friday 4 December - Brentwood Concert**

35 members of the Choir will be singing with Basil Meade and his Gospel Choir at the Brentwood Centre.

**Monday 7 December - Nativity**

We have a journalist coming along to take a couple of pictures for a local feature on Nativity Plays.

**1.45 pm Afternoon Nativity Performance KS1.**

Admission by ticket only. If you would like to bring a younger sibling with you are very welcome but please take them outside if they are making a noise to be fair to the performers. Thank you.

**Tuesday 8 December**

**KS2 Christmas Dinner - No KS1 dinners please provide packed lunch.**

**6.30 pm Evening Nativity Performance KS1.**

Admission by ticket only. Details as Thursday 3 Dec

**Wednesday 9 December - Panto**

Keeping up with true St. Thomas More tradition the whole school will be walking through the town to the Mercury theatre for a morning performance of Cinderella. Once again, thank you for your support with this. Please try to send any outstanding payments in at the beginning of next week. Thank you.

**Thursday 10 December - KS1 Christmas Dinner**

**No KS2 dinners please provide packed lunch**

**Tuesday 15 December - Choir**

Choir performance of 'It's a Miracle' 6pm. Children should arrive at 5.45pm

**Wednesday 16 December - Carols by Candlelight**

25 members of the choir will be singing Carols in the town centre at 5pm. Please come and listen.

**Friday 18 December - Carol Service**

Term ends with the Carol Service at 11am in St James the Less Church. You are all very welcome to join us.

**School closes at 12pm for Christmas Holidays.**

Very best wishes,

Bridget Harris