



## Newsletter 10

## 18<sup>th</sup> November, 2016

Happy Friday!

Now I'm not for a minute suggesting that Christmas is upon us, but this week the first strains of Nativity songs have been gently bubbling down the corridor towards my office and already they are sounding beautiful. I'm making sure I don't get too excited too early, but I am reminded what a special time of year this is. And as I am mentioning Christmas, a quick reminder of our traditional (does three years constitute a tradition?!) Christmas Jumper Day. This is the last day of term (16<sup>th</sup> December) and children are invited, if they wish, to replace their school jumper with a Christmassy jumper for the day. It doesn't have to be a bought jumper – we see some lovely home-decorated jumpers. We don't do this for charity as you kindly support so many good causes throughout the year; it is just a fun way to round off the term.

Thank you to the PTA and staff who made the Book at Bedtime so lovely last night, and to Ms Flynn's mum for making hundreds of biscuits! Again!

Have a brilliant weekend, Andy Bowman

St Stephen's CEVA Primary School

**Anti-Bullying week.....**The school was a sea of blue today to mark the end of Anti-Bullying week and to support Bullying UK's 'Wear Blue' campaign. This week, the children have been learning about Anti-Bullying and discussing ways to help each other to always be kind and respectful. Each class was also given an envelope containing ideas for five random acts of kindness which the children were challenged to complete. We formed our annual 'Ring of Friendship' this morning as a whole school to show that we are united against bullying.



**Clubs.....**Letters for January's clubs are now available from the carousel. The deadline for applications is **FRIDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER**. Applications will not be accepted after this date. We have some new clubs running for January, Tennis for Years 5 & 6 on Mondays at Lansdown Tennis club and Lucy Aston, who runs Yogadoo, will be running a Yoga Club for Years 3-6 on Tuesdays after school. (These clubs have a limit as to how many children can attend so please get your application in early to avoid disappointment.)  
**Please note there will be no Hockey for Years 5 & 6 on Friday 25th November.**

**Photos deadline TODAY.....** Please return any outstanding photograph orders today. After this, any late orders will need to be sent to Tempest direct and will incur postage and packing charges.

**School Christmas dinner....** is on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December and will be open to all pupils. If your child **does not** usually have a school dinner, please complete the attached order form and return it to the office no later than **Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November**. The cost of a dinner is £2.40. Please make your payment in advance via Parent Pay.

### CHRISTMAS DINNER MENU, 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER

Roast Turkey or Vegetable Roulade  
Pigs in Blanket  
Stuffing  
Roast Potatoes  
Selection of fresh Festive Vegetables

Mince Pie  
Fresh Fruit  
Yoghurt  
Or  
Christmas Biscuit

(PLEASE SEE CHRISTMAS DINNER MENU OPPOSITE)

Love

Courage

Creativity

Joy



**Trading cards and games....**This is just a reminder that the children are not permitted to bring trading cards and games (such as Pokémon) to school. Many thanks for your support in this matter. Ms Dangerfield

**IMPORTANT DATA COLLECTION SHEETS.....**Each child should have received one of these sheets, which are a new requirement from the Department for Education. If you haven't already done so, please complete and return it to us as soon as possible. If you have any queries, or if you did not receive a Data Sheet, please contact the office. Thank you.

**Newbarn Yr 4 residential visit 2017.....**Thank you to all those parents who have paid their deposit for Newbarn. If you have not yet paid your £60 deposit, the due date is **Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December**. If you have any difficulties with making this payment, please see Mr Bowman or Ms Flynn.

**Toy collection for vulnerable children....**Just a reminder that The Salvation Army is collecting toys to hand out as gifts to vulnerable children in Bath. If you would like to contribute to this project please bring new or unused toys into school and leave them in the boxes in the foyer. The toys should not be wrapped and can be brought into school any time up to November 27<sup>th</sup>. Thank you.

**From Revd Philip.....**The time came this week for one of my favourite events in the year: my session with Year 6 in which they can ask me anything they like. It's a challenging, gruelling and wonderful hour. This year we focussed mainly on the Genesis account of Creation - or rather, accounts (there are two!), and evolution and religion and science. The questions were, as ever, insightful, brave and honest - 'faith seeking understanding' came to mind. I explained that there is a whole range of Christian thought from those who believe the Bible to be literal, God making the universe in six days a few thousand years ago, to those for whom science, imagination and process (including evolution) are God-breathed and part of this incredible gift of life we have. (I'll leave you to gauge where I am on that continuum!) And I reflected on Jesus' teaching, that love is the most important thing: 'without love we are a clanging gong' says, St Paul. The whole of creation is in a covenanted relationship with God. 'And God saw that it was good!' is the mantra of the first creation poem. And Jesus is the seal on that agreement of unconditional love. One of my favourite parts of the communion liturgy which I use is 'Help us to see in the other what we need to be ourselves.' And this doesn't just mean humans! We are a part of creation, and God encourages us to look up and out and within to enable us to live well. This is what we seek to do at St Stephen's Church on a Sunday - like a pair of lungs, to be breathed in, given the oxygen of God's love, and breathed out to be that love in the world. Writing in the second century, Irenaeus said, 'The glory of God is a human being fully alive'. You are always welcome. And for those of you who find Sunday mornings difficult for any reason - we are starting a new service on **SUNDAY 27TH NOVEMBER AT 4PM**, called Scruffy Church. It'll last 45 minutes and there's a light tea afterwards. Sorry, turned into a bit of a sermon, but I hope it's good to get a feel for ways in which church and school are interwoven. Have a great weekend!

**This week's Mathletic superstars plus three Gold certificate winners all from F9!** Congratulations to the following children:

Cameron Gregg  
Alice Amphlett  
Kristian Goldaniga  
Ciara Galvin  
Finley Moor  
Freddie Renison  
Joseph Tarling  
Evelyn Hopkins  
Izzy Manoli (Silver!)  
Jasmine McKinstry  
Beatrice Peacock  
Lily Arndell  
Sofia Baxter  
Sophie Gittens  
Georgie Godfrey  
Vincent Lee  
Zack Dear  
Beau Holland (Silver!)  
Jasmine McKinistry  
Leo Wakefield  
Rose Taylor GOLD!!!  
Emily Willis GOLD!!!  
George Willis GOLD!!!  
Natasha Galvin  
Darcey Moor  
Leo Wakefield  
James Wakefield  
Phillippe Wright  
Eva Blanchard  
Jack Bowra  
Sinead Cox  
Patrick Dalgleish  
Nicholas Greensmith  
Louis Heighway-Alford  
Theo Helps  
Charlotte Willis (Silver!)  
Tommy Woodward  
Becky Baxter  
Heidi Doel  
Jasper Gittens  
Connie Hopkins  
Konrad Hucal  
Rosie Rees  
Oscar Taylor  
Ka-El Worrel Petteford  
Annabelle Yacoubian  
Lynden Bradley-Cong (Silver!)  
Ana Champion  
Ava Cory  
Callum Hogg  
Florence Peacock  
Babafemi Taiwo

