Issue 14 9th December 2024



# St Mary's, Swanage Newsletter



#### News from across the school

#### **Christmas Performances**

What a wonderful selection of performances have been enjoyed by our pupils, parents, families, volunteers and friends. A wonderful Nativity play performed by Reception and key stage 1 and spectacular Christmas concert, that kept everyone entertained, from years 3 and 4.

A very special thanks must go to all the staff who work very hard and put in so much effort to ensure these special events take place.

Don't forget there are still opportunities to come to our Carol Service, Christingle or School Mass for the last Sunday in Advent – see dates below.

### **Clifftop Carol Singing**

Year 6 spent Friday morning sharing carols with the residents of Clifftop Care Home – they were delighted to see the children, with the beautiful Christmas bunting and I think are hoping we will pay them a return visit before too much longer – I suggested maybe a springtime visit to play board games – or even to plant a few summer bulbs?

#### Las Posadas -



We have had a wonderful response with donations for the food bank and I have already dropped off several bags of goodies – thank you. I will make another delivery next week so, if you are still to host Mary and Joseph or would like to make a donation, please leave them in the foyer.

I have also had some wonderful photos – Mrs. Nash has been putting them on social media, and I am putting them all together so Mr. Frame can make them into a film – I will send a link out with next week's newsletter. Again, thank you for taking the trouble to send in your pictures.

**Christmas Lunch and Party Day** 

On Friday, some festive fun was had by all! Each class enjoyed party activities making party hats, singing, art and party games were just some of the activities going on – Reception were having a great time playing musical chairs in the hall (I was very tempted to join in but thought I was a little large for the chairs!)

One of the highlights of the day was the delicious Christmas Lunch provided by Cumulus. A huge thank you to them for cooking up such a treat, providing crackers for everyone and supporting our lunch staff serving 163 lunches! I should add our lunches are delicious every day, and we consider ourselves very lucky to have them as our school lunch provider.



#### **Parish News**

The parish were delighted with the beautiful Advent collage made by year 2. As you can see, it looks very effective on display at the church.

Minibus – reminder that there will be no minibus service next week from Tuesday 17th – Friday 18th inclusive.

#### Dates:

<u>Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December – Year 5 and 6 Carol Service – 6pm @ St Edward's Church</u>

<u>Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December – whole school film - Mowlem - afternoon</u>

<u>Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December – Year 3 and 4 Christingle Service – 2pm @</u>
All Saints' Church



Friday 20th December - Whole School Mass - 9am in School Hall - Advent 4 - All Welcome

**News from the classes** 

I.	
Reception	Reception were such superstars in their nativity! We have started looking at friends of 5 in maths and investigating which numbers add together to make 5. We also had a wonderful Christmas party with a disco and games of musical statues and musical chairs! We have been thinking about Advent and have been making our class Advent wreath.
Year 1	Year 1 has had another busy week! They put on amazing Nativity shows for the school, friends and family. In RE, we have been thinking about the story where Angel Gabriel told the Shepherds the good news. They drew some amazing pictures to represent this. They enjoyed a well-deserved Christmas Day on Friday where we did Christmas crafts, played some games and made a Christmas list. Well done Year 1, keep up the amazing work.
Year 2	Year 2 was amazing in their three Nativity shows this week and proudly performed in front of the school, friends and family. Mrs. Norman and I are extremely proud of them! Well done, Team 2.6! In RE, we have rewritten the story of the birth of Jesus according to the Gospel of Luke. In Art, we have made some amazing Christmas cards while in Maths we have been revising complements (number bonds) to 100 and using number facts to add tens. Keep up the great effort, Year 2!
Year 3	Wow, what a week for year three! The children were all absolutely amazing in their Christmas concert. We were so proud of all the effort that they put into the performance, and we hope that you all enjoyed it.  In our English lesson we read some more of our class text, 'Stone Age Boy' and then we all had a go at some instructional Stone Age writing. The children wrote instructions using imperative verbs of how to make a fire in the Stone Age times.  We all had so much on our Christmas party day. We crossed off some Design Technology learning outcomes and used a recipe to bake some Christmas cookies and used our creative skills to make some wooden Christmas tree decorations.  Well done Year 3!
Year 4	Goodness, like everyone else, what a busy week in year 4! All the rehearsals for our Christmas concert certainly paid off. What a wonderful show. We are continuing to read our play – The Emperor's Head – taking on the different parts as we find out a little more about Roman Britain; we are looking forward to finishing it off next week.
Year 5	Year 5 has had another productive week. It was lovely to see their Design and Technology project up and running where they are learning about CAMS.  In Maths, we have been revisiting the written methods of multiplication and division.  In PE, we have again really shone with our netball skills completing two lessons.  Well done to the boys of 5 & 6 football team who competed so well at the County Finals in Bournemouth on Wednesday. Results didn't go their way, but the experience will leave them in good stead for the Purbeck Cup. Talking of which, the team got off to a great start beating Swanage Primary 15-1.
Year 6	We have had another enjoyable week in Year 6. Pupils have created a Christmas scene using 'Tinkercad' with Mrs Nash. In English we have started writing Christmas stories based on Elmer but using the 'Bear and Hare' advertisement as a stimulus. In Science we have learnt about the impact of a heathy lifestyle on our circulatory system. We have also thoroughly enjoyed the Year 3 / 4 Concert, and Nativity shows by the other Year groups, and we look forward to our own Carol service next week.  Hope to see you all there!

# PHOTOGRAPH TO FOLLOW

# Stars of the Week

Mollie & Georgia

Indie & Connor

Sonny & Ezmay

Kit & Pixie

Martha & Parker

Zach & Matilda

Jonah & Lilly

# Whole Class Stars for

Reception/ Year 1/ Year 2/ Year 3/ Year 4 for their wonderful Christmas performances

Year 6 for beautiful carol singing at Clifftop.