



## Head's Update Michaelmas 2, Week 6, 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's exactly 2 weeks until Christmas and you'd definitely have 'that' feeling if you were in school today. Children, and adults, were decked in Christmas jumpers, eating turkey with all the trimmings (including brussel sprouts!) and a man in a special red suit was delivering presents. This was everyone's first socially-distanced Santa; one of many concessions made to keep school life as normal as possible whilst keeping everyone safe. There's lots going on in the real world but in school we keep calm and carry on.

### Nursery News

This week the children have danced and sung to lots of familiar Christmas tunes. On Wednesday, the children gathered around the Christmas Tree in the main school hall and recorded a song. It was magical! We hope you enjoy watching it next week. Thank you to Mr Fountain for the tasty dinner today, followed by a story from Father Christmas organised by the PTA. Our activities have made learning fun, especially put the buttons on numbered gingerbread men, decorating the Tuff Spot tree and vinyl snowflake chalking. We've also had a special visitor; he was completely white and had a carrot nose and inflatable.

### Visit to Church

A huge thank you to our friend, Reverend Canon Lesley, who led our service at St Peter and St Paul's church this week. It was the first and last time this term that the entire school could come together, indoors, in uniform. Although it was strange sitting in a mostly empty church, the children had smiles on their faces and there was magic in the air. We're the only school or group to use the church this year, which is sad, especially at Christmas. We took lots of photos and we'll be sharing this week's memories with you on the last day of term. I must especially thank Mrs Palmer for the beautiful music. It isn't easy rehearsing in bubbles and having no dress rehearsal but, like me, tears of joy filled her face when the sound of the school singing filled the rafters. The Church Wardens, who were so accommodating, commented on the impeccable behaviour of all the children. Our Reception children had never seen our older children reading, singing and praying together. You'd have heard a pin drop during the solos, impressive for such young children!

### Christmas Hamper Raffle winners

Congratulations to all of our lucky Christmas Hamper winners. Again, slightly different this year but just as successful. This year more than ever, your community spirit and generosity are incredible. The winners were Mr Fountain, Olivia in Year 1, Mrs Fray, Teegan in Year 6, Mrs Gillett-Backwood, Khamsin in Year 4, Maisy in Year 2, Molly in Year 3, Luca in Reception, Mariyah in Reception, Jacob in Year 4, Evelyn in Reception and Skye in Year 3. Well done!



## **Carol Singing**

I hope many of you will join us on Wednesday at 12pm for carol singing on the field. I'd recommend outside footwear, as it will be muddy, and bring umbrellas in case it rains. Subject only to snow, storms or gale-force winds, we'll be singing our way into the holidays. If you're collecting your child at 12pm from the Crescent gate, please let the School Office know beforehand.

## **Peripatetic Lessons**

Strings and Woodwind lessons will resume from 5th Jan 2020.

Vocal and Piano lessons will resume from 11th Jan 2020.

Although we're not quite at the end of this term, I should probably send some reminders for next term. We'll be back in full school uniform from January, apart from on PE, Games and Swimming days. We'll be changing children through the day if they have outdoor clubs. Please make sure your child has all the correct school uniform. Information about regulation school uniform can be found at <https://www.st-peters.org.uk/page/?title=Uniform&pid=87> and can be ordered via ParentMail. The atmosphere and feeling last Tuesday reminded us all of the importance of proper uniform. One school, one community, all together.

Please also remember parking permits if you're using the restricted bays; forms are available from the School Office and I must now insist that you drive down the Crescent, not up the Crescent. It isn't officially a one-way street but the congestion is becoming worse and our children's safety is the most important thing. It may take a few minutes longer but please help me keep everyone safe. Thank you.

Have a lovely weekend everyone. 3 school days to go, 14 more sleeps until Christmas and 3 weeks until 2021; I'm feeling optimistic for a very happy New Year for all of us.

Regards,

Mr Thomas

Headteacher