

## ISSUE

4

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The  
Holy Family  
R.C. PRIMARY SCHOOL

# Newsletter

### RECEPTION WELCOME ASSEMBLY

On Friday 16th November the whole school gathered to formally welcome the new Reception children and their parents to our special Holy Family. This was a beautiful occasion where we enjoyed watching a quick-moving video of a typical Reception Class day and we sang and prayed together. In the words of one of our favourite songs... 'Consider yourself one of the family, consider yourself one of us'.

### CHRISTMAS SEASON...HAS OFFICIALLY BEGUN IN SCHOOL!

In amongst all the fantastic work that is going on around the school, staff and children have begun preparing for Christmas. KS2 are under way with their carol singing whilst EYFS & KS1 are turning their attention to Nativity plays. The lead up to Christmas is always such a special time in school and we have lots of exciting things ahead. Please see the reverse page for all the key dates.

### ADVENT ...A TIME OF PREPARATION

This coming weekend we celebrate the first Sunday of Advent and so we begin our special time of waiting and preparing for the birth of Jesus. Advent is a very special time of contemplation and prayer; a time when we look ahead and make our new promises to be more like Jesus. We will be holding special morning prayer & reflection session in The Space on Friday 14th December at 8.30am. Everyone is welcome to join us for a period of calmness, stillness and peacefulness at a very busy time of the year. Please do come along.

### PA XMAS WONDERLAND...A HUGE THANK YOU TO EVERYONE!

Thank you to our amazing PA team for staging a wonderful Christmas Wonderland in the school last Saturday. The Space was transformed into Santa's Grotto and the man in the red suit arrived on time from the North Pole to sprinkle some magic yuletide stardust on the occasion. Business was brisk at all the stalls and we were certainly kept very busy in the kitchen...where we sold all the hotdogs and all the bacon sandwiches! Totals are still being tallied up but the word on the grapevine is that takings have exceeded those of 2017. Thank you very much to everyone involved, particularly the small band of brave souls who set everything up on Friday evening!

### ADVENT CHARITY COLLECTION IN SUPPORT OF THE KINGSTON HOMELESS

As part of our excellent working partnership with Grass Roots, we are supporting them in their charitable efforts to help the homeless in Kingston this Christmas. We have committed to providing a donation from our collections at the EYFS and KS1 nativities. This money will be given to Grass Roots to buy suitable gifts for the homeless and together we will then wrap the presents in school before distribution to the homeless people. We believe this is a wonderful, worthy cause to support so thank you for your kindness—we will really have a positive impact on those less fortunate members of our society. Thank you very much.

### OUR 2018 ADVENT CHARITY WORK

This year we have decided to focus our main fundraising efforts in support of Mary's Meals, Save The Children and The Chertsey Foodbank. Mary's Meals are a Catholic based charity that support children all over the world with a particular focus on feeding the poor children of Africa. Children can fill backpacks with gifts and we will be collecting donations of money at all our Advent events. We can really make a HUGE difference to the lives of these children—it is staggering to realise that £13.90 will give one child in Africa a nutritious hot lunch in school EVERY DAY FOR ONE YEAR. **There will be a special 'theatrical' performance in school to support Mary's Meals on Friday 21st December at 9.15am. We are suggesting a minimum donation of £1 per child to enjoy this extravaganza of music, dance and comedy. If every child contributes £1, we will be able to feed half a class of African children with a school lunch for one year...£2 per child will feed an entire class of 30 for one year!**

Please visit the school's website at: [www.holy-family.surrey.sch.uk](http://www.holy-family.surrey.sch.uk)

Along with the schoolcomms, notice board and newsletter, it is the School's way of keeping parents up to date with events going on in and around our School.

## **ADVENT ACTIVITIES...**



With the season of Advent about to begin, our school will be transformed in colour. We will celebrate **Advent Mass** for the whole school in the church on **Friday 7th December @9.15am**. **Reception Class Nativity** will take place in the hall at **9.30am on Thursday 6th December** and the **KS1 Nativity** will take place in the hall at 2pm on **Wednesday 12th December**. **The KS2 Advent Carol Service will take place in church at 7pm on Wednesday 19th December**. Christmas Lunch for staff and children will be held on Thursday 20th December. All are welcome to join us...except for the big feed on the 20th I'm afraid :-)

## **CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY IN SUPPORT OF SAVE THE CHILDREN**



**On Friday 14th December** we are asking all children and staff to come to school in a Christmas jumper in support of the Save The Children charity. Your jumper can be home made (ie an ordinary jumper decorated in a Christmassy way) or a patterned Christmas theme jumper from one of the many stores currently selling them. You may also top off your style with appropriate headwear such as sparkling antlers, Santa hat or tinsel scrunchies etc. **We are suggesting a minimum donation of £1 for the privilege looking festively fabulous**. Above is a picture of a woman encouraging her dog to get ready for Xmas jumper day.

**OFSTED**—Thank you to everyone for your support, commitment and unity during our recent Section 8 inspection. It was an excellent outcome and everyone should feel rightfully proud. We now move onwards with our action plan. Inspectors will return to the school to carry out a section 5 inspection within the next 2 years.

## **PANATHLON TEAM SHINE YET AGAIN...THIS TIME AT THE NATIONAL FINALS!**

Congratulations to Miss Quinn, Miss Hunter and our fabulous panathlon team on their sensational performance in the national finals held at The Copperbox Arena last week. We stormed to victory in Group 1 and our excellent total saw us pick up the overall silver medal, missing out on being national champions by only 1 point! Over 1,000 schools across 37 counties in England entered panathlon competitions this year so to finish 2nd is a truly staggering achievement for a small school. **If we work hard, prepare well and believe in ourselves, we can achieve anything!** Well done to Harry L, Riley, Olivia E, Harry P, Poppy P, Lola, Joshua, Elijah, Javi and Conor on 3 amazing performances in 2018...we're all very proud of you!

**NETBALL TEAMS IN SPARKLING FORM THIS TERM**—Congratulations to our netball teams who have been playing superbly against other schools this term. Our Under 10 team have won 3 out of 3 matches whilst Under 11 have won 2 out of 3. Keep up the great work girls! Results v Thorpe Lea—Under 10 won 10-7, Under 11 won 11-1, results v Cobham Free School –Under 10 won 8-1, Under 11 lost 0-8, results v St Charles—Under 10 won 16-2, Under 11 won 7-3.

**CAR PARKING AND DRIVING OUTSIDE SCHOOL**—Please can we remind you all to take the greatest of care when driving to/from school and when parking on Ongar Hill and in the church car park. We had a very near miss recently where a child and parent were almost hit by a reversing car whilst standing on the pavement outside the top gate.

**EXTRA CURRICULAR CLUBS FOR SPRING 2019**—This list will be published and emailed out to all parents in the next couple of weeks. Please sign up to take part in at least one of the many wonderful clubs we have available...they are all guaranteed to be great fun!

**PLEASE NOTE THAT SCHOOL WILL BE CLOSED ON MONDAY 3rd DECEMBER FOR A XAVIER CET IN-SERVICE DAY.**

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THE SCHOOL TERM ENDS AT 12pm ON FRIDAY 21st DECEMBER AND WE RETURN TO SCHOOL ON MONDAY 7th JANUARY 2019**

**NEXT EDITION OF THE NEWSLETTER...** Will be a special Xmas edition on Friday 21st Dec.