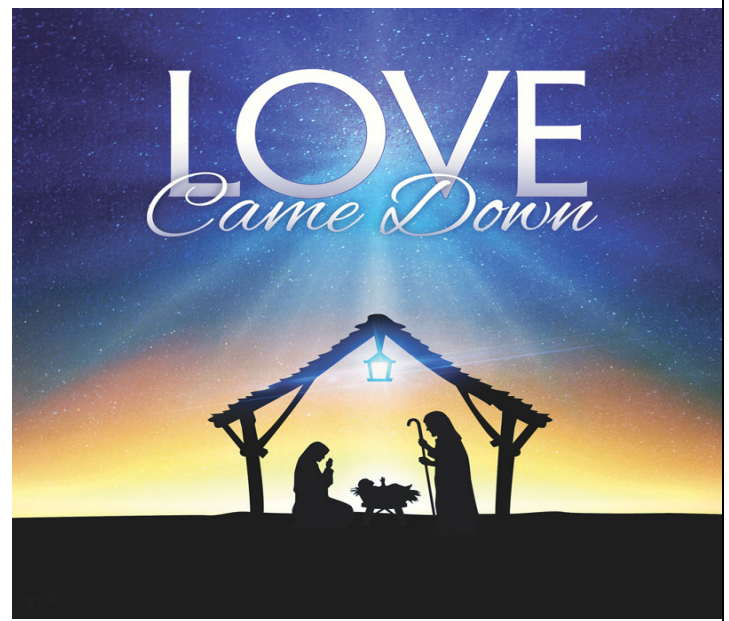


Well everyone, 15 weeks of the year are complete and what a challenging but successful term it has been. The children have shone this term. They have worked their socks off and been incredible. We are so grateful to have got to the end of term and kept everyone as safe as possible and we recognise this is because you as parents have supported the new rules and procedures and for that we are thankful. I cannot let the end of term pass without thanking you all on behalf of all the staff here for your kind words, gifts and messages this week. We are always so humbled but hugely appreciative of the kindness and appreciation you show to us during the festive period. Honestly, for every single one of us, it is nothing but a privilege to work with, support and love the opportunity to enjoy your children on a daily basis.



A Prayer for the Fourth Sunday of ADVENT

Mother Mary, pray for us, that we might be inspired by the way you received your life and God's. Draw us close to your Son, that we might trust Him with our lives, as He learned to trust His Father by His trust in you. Amen.

This weekend we celebrate the fourth Sunday of Advent which is when we look to Mary the mother of Jesus. In the Gospel on Sunday, the Angel Gabriel announced God's will and Mary accepted it and put her trust in God. Mary is a perfect example for all people – someone full of love and kindness. During this Christmas period, let's take the example of Mary and think about how we can share love and kindness. Pope Francis said 'Let the model of Mary be reflected in our lives.'

IMPORTANT DATES & REMINDERS

FRIDAY 18th DECEMBER – School CLOSES for Christmas

MONDAY 4th JANUARY – STAFF INSET DAY

TUESDAY 5th JANUARY – SCHOOL RE-OPENS TO PUPILS

When the children return to school in the New Year

- Staggered start and drop off times will continue.
- Children should continue to attend school in sportswear on PE days.
- All children need to wear BLACK shoes for school – this is our school uniform policy.
- When children return to school – no makeup, jewellery (apart from plain stud ear rings) or nail polish is allowed.
- We will keep you posted on Extra Curricular Clubs which we hope to start again after February half term.

Wirral has started symptom free testing.

Anyone who lives or works in Wirral and does not have Covid-19 symptoms is eligible for symptom-free testing at the following sites:

- ***Floral Pavilion, New Brighton***
- ***Birkenhead Market***
- ***Greasby Library***
- ***Eastham Library***

PLEASE, please stay safe over Christmas. The Government announcements are changing on a daily basis as the virus continues to spread at alarming rates. It is lovely to know there is a vaccine now in place but don't be tempted to forget all the hard work we have put in as a community to keep each other safe over Christmas. Stick within the guidelines so that we can hopefully enjoy a happier and healthier 2021. Surely nothing can ever compare to this last 12 months.

Please take a look at our Twitter and Facebook pages where you will see all the lovely activities the children have taken part in over the last couple of weeks.

Today we have had a very special visitor who has brought a very special treat for every child in school. This is our way of saying **THANK YOU** to all our wonderful children.



Fundraising Events - It's been a busy few weeks in terms of fundraising events and I'm always well aware that we are asking for your support at one of the busiest and most expensive times of the year. However, I wanted to firstly thank you all so much for supporting the school, I really do appreciate it.

Today we say goodbye to Mrs Hughes in Year 5 who is leaving for pastures new. We are so sad that she is going but understand that she wants a slight change in career direction and more time to enjoy the things she loves. Mrs Hughes was one of my first appointments as a Headteacher at St Michael's and she has been on a huge journey with the school during that time. She is loved by everyone for her calm, intuitive and creative ways and we have been truly blessed to have her working here. We will miss her lots and lots but wish her luck and happiness for the future and look forward to hearing about her future endeavours.



#227170104

Not a day goes by when I don't look at the staff in school and think how wonderful they are. They never fail to go the extra mile for the children they teach and this last term have kept me going when times have been tough. I know you will all agree that they have well and truly earned a well-deserved rest to recharge their batteries and enjoy some quality time with their families. Thank you so much for your continued support as parents, it makes such a difference each and every day. Please everyone, stay safe, relax and enjoy this special time. We look forward to seeing you all back here on **Tuesday 5th January.**

I am feeling quite emotional writing this final newsletter of 2020. It really has been a year to forget but at the same time this year has shown the very best of mankind and for that I will be grateful. The way the community has pulled together has been inspiring to see and the kindness and love people have shown each other has demonstrated that in the toughest of times we must remember our blessings and the wonderful things and people we have in our lives.

Attendance

Well done to Year 2 for having the best attendance this week.

F1 – 95.4%

F2 – 94.1%

Year 1 – 92.8%

Year 2 – 97.5%

Year 3 – 96.2%

Year 4 – 95.9%

Year 5 – 95.2%

Year 6 – 94.8%

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Mrs Ralph