

CHRISTMAS
IS AROUND
THE CORNER

Wow, how are we in December already? The Christmas magic has arrived in school with elves in classrooms and decorations popping up around school. Many children have also reliably informed me that their decorations are up at home.....you're far more organised than me if they are!

Please make sure you are aware of all the Christmas dates coming up, so you and your children don't miss anything happening as it is a very busy time of year. Next week, the children are taking part in a 'Santa Dash' and we also have Christmas dinner & Christmas Jumper day.

Tuesday 6th December - SANTA DASH

Wednesday 7th December – Christmas Dinner Day

Friday 9th December – Christmas Jumper Day

Monday 12th December – MOVIE NIGHT

Friday 19th December – 1:30pm KS2 CAROL SERVICE – Parents are welcome to join us and can take children home straight after the service. Foundation 2 & KS1 children will also be attending the service.

Monday 19th December – School closes to pupils for the Christmas Holidays

Tuesday 20th December – INSET Day (Staff Only)

**DATES TO
REMEMBER**



This week we marked the beginning of the season of Advent. We discussed in assembly the symbolism behind the Advent wreath and lit our first candle 'hope'. We also shared the many ways we prepare for Christmas in our homes and in school. Advent is an exciting time of getting ready: for Jesus' birthday at Christmas, and also for when Jesus will come again! We thought about the ways we can be ready for Jesus and how we prepare our hearts and ourselves on the inside. Advent helps

us to get ready for Christmas. It is a time to make an extra effort to be more loving towards God and our neighbours. During the week, the children have been making Advent promises in their classrooms.

We have been preparing for Christmas in lots of different ways this week.

A group of very helpful Year 5 children prepared our 'Travelling Crib' for our EYFS and KS1 children to take home.

They explained the bag of items to each asked the younger children to share

them enjoying the Nativity story at home with their families.

Our Year 6 class joined classes of children from our neighbouring Catholic schools for a special Advent Service. We have not been able to join as school



communities over the last two years due to Covid so it was lovely to all be together again and join in music and prayer.

Today, the whole school shared in a special retreat day focusing on Advent. The children took part in a variety of activities focusing on the meaning of Advent, the Advent wreath, The Annunciation and how we can welcome Jesus into our own lives as Mary did.



class and
through a picture



ATTENDANCE – Well done to Year 6 who had the best attendance this week.

Foundation 2 – 76.9%

Year 3 - 92.9%

Year 6 – 94.4%

Year 1 – 87.6%.

Year 4 – 90.3%

Year 2 – 89.4%

Year 5 – 86.5%

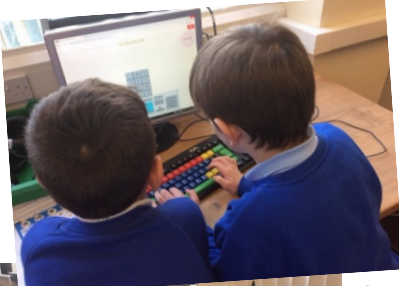


This week in school.....

Nursery Class have been reading 'Postman Bear'. They have been writing letters, posting them in



PIC-COLLAGES



their home-made letter box and wrapping presents in the post office.

Foundation 2 have been busy in their outdoor provision, working collaboratively in teams. It is always lovely to see them working so well

together!

This week is the first week of Advent. Two Year 4 children planned and led class prayer time. They read a Bible reading from Matthew Chapter 15. They asked the class to think about people who help those who don't have enough food.

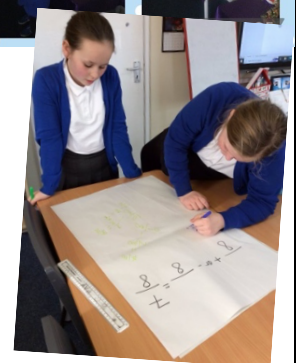
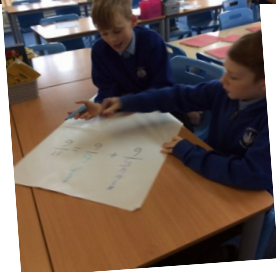
In computing, Year 5 have been perfecting their typing skills using both hands and all fingers. It's quite challenging!

There were some great discussions and explanations in Year 6 maths when they were some investigating.



MATTHEW 15:29-37

ADVENT



Our new school value for December is LOVE.....

This is definitely one of my favourite school values! It is a very important value to us as a school. Love is more than just words. It underpins everything that we do. It is very much 'the why' of who we are. Love is evident in our relationships with each other and in our actions to support our community

and our world. We believe as Christians that the greatest love story ever told, is the story of God's love for each of us. **Love is a gift:** a gift from God. At Christmastime, we believe that God's greatest gift of love was Jesus, the Saviour of the world. God loves us so unconditionally that he sent Jesus to show this love. So there is no better VALUE for December because at the heart of this Advent season we have love; love that is freely given and love that accepts unconditionally.



Enjoy the weekend, Mrs Ralph