



"Starting children off through God's love and Jesus' teachings"

Christian Value: Hope

British Value: Tolerance & mutual respect

Living out the School Vision this Week (Y2):

Curiosity: "I have liked finding out about The Trinity in RE," shared Archer.

Compassion: "I looked out for my sister at the Christmas party," said Margot.

Resilience: "I worked hard on my Christmas activities," reported Zach H.

Worship quote: "Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength..." *Isiah 40:31.*

Remember in our prayers: Jewish children and families who have been affected by the attack, during Hanukkah celebrations, in Bondi Beach, Australia.

Christmas Events in the Last Week

We have had a lovely, festive week, beginning with Carols & Coffee on Monday morning and crafts in the afternoon. Thank you for supporting these events. In the morning, it was lovely to hear such varied performances, including singing in French and Spanish. The brass and ukulele players also did very well. Thank you to the PTA and kitchen staff who helped with refreshments and to Alberto's mum who made the wonderful Italian biscuits!

Christmas crafts, in R, Y1 and Y2 was also well attended and the children loved showing off what they were making.

The children have enjoyed their parties. Thank you for your contributions to the party food and party drinks. Santa's helpers visited, leaving sacks of gifts for all classes.

Santa sends special thanks to his PTA elves for the children's Christmas gifts!

The Christingle service went very well, despite the change of venue due to adverse weather conditions. The Y5 children led us through the meaning and significance of the Christingle itself. Rev'd Lisa gave the opening welcome and final blessing and it is always lovely to see so many Y5 parents attending too. Thank you for your donation for The Children's Society.

Gifts and Cards for Staff

We have received lots of lovely cards and gifts. On behalf of the whole staff team, we thank you for

your thoughtfulness and generosity. It is never expected but always very much appreciated.

Christmas Card Competition

Our finalist was Mila (Reception). Sadly, we were not the winners this year. It was a pupil from St Margaret's CE Primary School, Blackfordby. However, all our entries were highly commended.

PTA Christmas Raffle

The final Christmas hamper winner was drawn today. The winner was Georgia's mum (Y3). Thank you to the PTA for organising this and to parents for providing donations and buying tickets.

St Paul's Church Carol Service

This is taking place on Sunday 21st December, at 6pm. All families are very welcome. We are hoping that children who attend will form a choir to sing the first verse of 'Away in a Manger'.

Rev'd Lisa has also asked me to let you know about the Crib Service, on Christmas Eve at 2pm. All are very welcome.

Challenges Over Christmas

The children are understandably very excited at this time of year. However, Christmas can also bring its challenges, especially around managing household budgets and expectations. Below are two useful links with tips and advice:

[How to manage expectations of children at Christmas - Family Action](#)

[Celebrating Christmas with family - CBeebies Parenting](#)

School Diary

- Mon 5th Jan: back to school
- Mon 5th Jan: new Planet Play finishing time begins (5.30pm Mon-Thurs)
- Friday 9th Jan 3.20-5pm: 'Stay & Play' sessions begin with Football & Fitness, replacing Planet Play on Fridays
- Fri 16th Jan 2.40pm: Golden Worship Y3-6
- Fri 23rd Jan 2.40pm: Golden Worship R, Y1 & Y2
- Fri 30th Jan: 2.40pm: Golden Worship Y3-6
- Fri 6th Feb 2.40pm: Golden Worship R, Y1 & Y2

Have a very happy
Christmas,
Mrs Gilchrist

