

St. Andrew's C of E Junior School Newsletter

Newsletter 4th December 2020
Issue 7

Head Teacher: Mrs K. Smith
admin@standrews.calderdale.sch.uk



Diary Dates

Weds 9th Dec

Last day to buy raffle tickets!

Friday 11th Dec

Christmas Jumper day
Christmas Raffle

Weds 16th Dec

Christmas Dinner Day

Thurs 17th Dec

Year 3, 5 & 6
Christmas Parties

Fri 18th Dec

Year 4 Christmas Parties
**School closes for
Christmas**

Headteacher's Message

Please be aware, we are noticing that COVID is presenting differently in our children. Be vigilant, if your child complains of a **sore throat or nausea/sore tummy KEEP THEM OFF SCHOOL and get a test.** As you are aware, we have had more than one confirmed positive case now and symptoms were these rather than the top three symptoms reported by government. Thank you for your continued support.

St Andrew's Shines

Your child will bring home a star which they have made in school. We ask that these are displayed in their windows during Advent to spread a little joy this Christmas.

We hope that seeing these stars will bring light, and give people hope, at the end of a dark year.

For many people, Christmas will look a little different this year. It will be hard for friends and families to meet up, and some of us may even find ourselves in isolation or quarantine during a season which usually brings people together. We want to try and spread a little joy and remind people they are not alone.

You can of course make extra stars and join with us to brighten every street by making a star to display in your window. It can be as big or small as you like, and you can use anything you have handy: paints, crayons, lights, glitter... the limit is your imagination!

We've chosen the symbol of a star because for us as Christians it reminds us of the star that the wise men followed to find the Christ child who came to bring joy to the world. But it's also a symbol that holds meaning for people of other faiths and none. Stars can represent hopes, dreams, wishes... all things we all need more than ever this year. We hope looking at these stars will bring light and hope to all at the end of a dark year.



IMPORTANT MESSAGE



Due to unforeseen circumstances there will be no lollipop man outside school for the rest of the term. Please can all parents and children take extra care when crossing at the beginning and end of the school day as this is a particularly busy time.

Remote Learning at Home

In order to ensure that learning can continue when a bubble closes, St. Andrew's Infant and Junior Schools have developed the following plan.

For further details please follow the link below:

<https://standrews.calderdale.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/FINAL-FEDERATION-REMOTE-LEARNING-PLAN.pdf>



*God, our Father, we pray
that you will protect our
children.*

*Keep them safe from harm
and help them to grow
healthy in mind and body.*

*Give them strength to
keep their faith in you,
and keep alive their joy in
the birth of Jesus at
Christmas time.*

Amen

Christmas Cards & Teacher Gifts

At this time of year, many children like to bring in Christmas cards for their friends and gifts for the teachers, handing them out or posting them in our school post box. However, due to the COVID-19 restrictions we will be doing things a little differently this year.

Children can bring Christmas cards to school from Tuesday 1st December until Friday 11th December but **only for friends in their year group**. There will be a dedicated box for the cards in their classrooms.

We will then quarantine the cards and send them home week commencing Monday 14th December.



Fun for All

Last week both children and adults were lucky enough to use virtual reality to be transported to different places and have their learning brought to life by the Prime VR Company.

Year Three teleported all the way back to the Stone Age to revisit their history learning.

Year Four were whizzed to the Rainforest as a hook to their geography learning.

Year Five travelled into space to assist with their science learning of the planets.

Year Six delved into the circulatory system to support their science lessons about the human body.



Year 4 Swimming

If the swimming baths are open and COVID-19 restrictions allow we are hoping that swimming lessons will start again in January. Further details will be sent to parents nearer the time. Your child will need the following:

Girls - Swimming suit

Boys - Swimming shorts (fitted style not the Bermuda type)

Goggles

A swimming bag

A towel

It's party time!



For their class Christmas parties the children should come to school in their uniforms and bring their party clothes to change into after lunch.

Years 3, 5 and 6

Thursday 17th December

Year 4

Friday 18th December

We keep our children safe...

by asking parents to read and understand the ratings for the video games they may be buying for their child.

Video games in Europe are rated by PEGI. This rating gives an idea of what sort of content is included. PEGI also lists a number of reasons for their rating, including drug use, discrimination or violence. Additionally parents need to be alert to the new and emergent problems with some games such as simulated and real gambling and online gaming with strangers.

It is really important to take the time to talk about the games your child is playing. Talking to your child about the games can help you understand more about their content and voicing your concerns ensures that your child understands the risks. It is important that your child feels that they can come to you if something happens that worries or frightens them.

Christmas Raffle

Thank you to everyone for your kind donations for the Christmas Raffle. The Friends of St Andrews have been very busy making up some fabulous hampers for you to win.

It's still not too late to buy your raffle tickets.

The deadline is Wednesday 9th December and tickets are still available from the school office.

The raffle will be drawn on Friday 11th December during our Golden Book Zoom assembly.

Take a look at just some of the lovely hampers you could win.....and that's not all of them!

