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**THIS HALF TERM WE ARE FOCUSING ON THE CHRISTIAN VALUE OF TRUST**

# AUTUMN (2) 2019 HEADTEACHER’S NEWSLETTER

# Introduction

#  I hope you all enjoyed a relaxing half term break with your children. As you know, school does not authorise holidays in term time. We are aware of the high cost of holidays taken during school holidays. If you are planning a holiday for 2020, we have deliberately added two days holiday to the end of the Whit half term break. This means the children start back on Wednesday 3rd June. We hope that some families will be able to get cheaper flights and holidays eg; if you travel Tuesday to Tuesday. The second half of the autumn term promises to be very busy, culminating in our Christmas celebrations. I hope you find the following dates and information useful.

# Staffing

# Mrs Harrild, our deputy headteacher, has decided to take early retirement at Christmas. Mrs Harrild has taught at St Andrew’s for almost thirteen years and has made a massive contribution to our school, not least as SEND co-ordinator. I know you will join me in thanking Mrs Harrild for her loyalty, hard work and commitment to our children and wish her every success and happiness in the future. Following a rigorous recruitment process, I am pleased to inform you that governors have appointed Mrs J Plant as the new deputy headteacher from 1st January 2020. Mrs Plant is currently the deputy headteacher of an infant school in Trafford and is very excited about joining St Andrew’s. Mrs Plant will be teaching the Year 1 class.

# I am delighted to inform you that Mrs Hall has given birth to a beautiful baby girl, Olivia Rose. She looks just like her mummy! Miss Storey commences her maternity leave on 2nd November. Reception class will be taught by Miss S Chohan for the remainder of the school year.

# Charitable Activities

Our September coffee morning and cake sale raised £230 for Macmillan cancer relief. The Y3 Roald Dahl Day raised £23 for his children’s charity. Thank you to all who baked and bought cakes, dressed up and made donations.

# Diary Dates

* The Pupil Right’s group will visit The Mustard Tree food bank on 8th November.
* Y6 are visiting Crucial Crew on 20th November.
* There is a Bags 2 School recycling collection on 15th November. Please send in any unwanted clothes, shoes, or soft toys in a plastic sack.
* Y6 are doing the Bikeability training from the 2nd December. There will be a bike ‘Fix it’ day on 29th November.
* Y6 children will visit the Houses of Parliament in London on11th December.

**Pupil Led Worship** (Families welcome to attend **any** of these)

5th November: Year 4 Worship

15th November: Group of Year 6 pupils

22nd November: Year 5

29th November: Group of Year 6 pupils

5th December: Year 2

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**Parents Evening and Book Fair**

You will shortly receive a letter regarding parents’ evening. The date for this is 12th November. Please use this opportunity to meet with your child’s teacher and teaching assistant to review their progress. The Book Fair will be on in the hall, the week commencing 11th November until Thursday, immediately after school, and until 6pm on the Tuesday. Tea and coffee will be available on the Tuesday evening.

**Family Learning Workshop**

On 3rd December, at 9am, the teaching assistants are running a Christmas Craft Workshop for families of Key Stage 1 children. Adults are invited into school to do Christmas craft activities alongside their children. Further details will be sent out nearer the time.

# Christmas Raffle

Tickets for the raffle will be available in December from the school office. The prizes will be luxury Christmas hampers donated by the staff. The raffle will be drawn on the evening of the disco on 16th December.

# Carol Service

The KS1 children are leading the School Carol Service in Walkden Methodist church on Friday 20th December at 9.15am. Please feel free to join us.



# Christmas Lunch

The kitchen staff will be serving Christmas lunch on 12th December. If your child is on packed lunches, they have the option of buying a Christmas lunch. The office will be sending out forms to book and pay for the lunch in advance.



**Church Christingle Service**

There will be a special Christingle service at Walkden Methodist Church on 12th December, immediately after school at 3.30pm. Rev Garfield has invited all our families to attend. The last Christingle service in 2017 was a very beautiful and special occasion and I am really looking forward to attending it this year.

**Christmas Production**

This year, our KS2 children will present a performance of the Nativity story. It will feature children from years 3, 4 and 5. There will be an afternoon performance on the 17th December at 2pm, and an evening performance on 18th December at 6pm. Mrs Shepley will send out tickets prior to the shows as there are a large number of children (100) involved in this year’s production.

**Nursery Xmas Singalong**

The Nursery children would like to invite their families and friends to a Nursery Christmas Singalong on 18th December in the school hall. Coffee and mince pies will be served from 9am and the children will join our visitors at 9.30am.

# Party Day

Party day will be on the 19th December for all the children. Class teachers will send out further details nearer the time.

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**Christmas Choir**

A School Choir will sing festive songs at the Ellesmere Centre in Walkden on 12th December 2pm. This is part of the Rotary Club of Worsley’s Christmas fundraising event. I know many of you enjoy supporting them whilst out shopping!

**Disco**

The Christmas Disco is on 16th December from 6-7.30pm. Please note the disco will finish promptly at 7.30pm and ensure you make arrangements for your child to be collected on time.

**Theatre Group**

School fund has paid for a theatre group to come into school on 9th December to present a production of “The Elves and the Shoemaker.”

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# Finally School breaks up for the Christmas holiday on 20th December at 3.20pm and starts back on Monday 6th January 2020. Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs. A. Barker

Headteacher