



## School Newsletter

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2018      Academic year 2018-19      Number 11

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we draw this term to a close, I'd like to reflect on the outstanding term we have had. The Autumn Term is a long one, and I think the children and staff are due a well-earned break for a week or two. I hope you also get a good break. Your support for us as parents never fails to be amazing and I'm so lucky to be the head of such a fine school.

In assembly this morning the children reflected back on some of their high points of the term. They had so much to say about what they had enjoyed, it was hard to stop them and I feared that assembly would last until lunchtime! Learning at Margaret Roper is about more than worksheets and 'chalk and talk' and the children were able to identify many times that they had become excited about their learning; whether it be in lessons, on trips, or in the varied sporting and other activities that we engage in.

Our PTA have made great efforts this term to organise excellent events and I'd like to thank them too for their huge commitment. As I always say, fundraising has never been more important than it is right now, but also the sense of community that the work of the PTA supports. On behalf of the children and all our families, thanks to Louise and the committee for all the hours you spend.

Finally, may I thank you for all the kind gifts and cards that you and your children have given to staff, including myself, over the last week or so. I know you appreciate that the staff at Margaret Roper are very committed and hardworking and gifts and cards are never expected but to go to show that you value their work. On behalf of everyone – thanks – you are so generous.

School finishes for the term in about an hour and I do hope you have a happy and holy Christmas and a lovely start to 2019. 2019! I feel very old!

I look forward to seeing all the children when they return on the 7<sup>th</sup> January. School starts at 8.30am as usual.

Have a lovely break.

### **School Christmas Dinner on Tuesday**

We had a lovely Christmas Dinner on Tuesday. The children really enjoyed it. Thanks to Mrs Howard and her team in the kitchen for the delicious food and to Mrs Jennings and her team of 'elves' who made the hall look so pretty. Thanks also to you for collecting your children so promptly and allowing the staff to sit down together for a well-earned meal at 3.45pm.

### **Carol Service**

Our Carol Service took place on Thursday evening at 7pm. Thank you so much for supporting your children and attending in such great numbers. It really was a joyous evening with lovely enthusiastic singing and thoughtful reading. All the classes did us proud and I do hope you enjoyed it and found it prayerful. I was very very proud of our children.

### **Parent Governor Election**

Thanks to Ms Appleby, Mr Sabesan, Mr Gonsalves and Mr Reeves who stood for election in our Parent Governor. The count was carried out yesterday and I am pleased to inform you that Mr Alex Reeves has been duly elected as Parent Governor. We welcome him to the board. Thanks to all the candidates for their commitment and preparedness to stand. I think it speaks volumes of our school that we had four excellent candidates who were prepared to give their time and effort to help develop and support our school. As you know, it's voluntary and not for the company care or share options! Thank you for sending your ballot papers in.

### **Special school choir for Christmas Eve Mass at St John the Baptist – please send your children if you can**

On Christmas Eve at 5pm, St John the Baptist parish are holding their Children's Christmas Eve Mass. Mrs Hession has all the actors and readers she now needs, but places in the choir are still being sought. If you think your child is able to attend and join the choir, please bring them to church on the 24<sup>th</sup> by about 4.50pm. I think that, following our lovely Carol Service yesterday, it is apparent that we have many children who sing enthusiastically and who can add to the music liturgy. Any age is appropriate, not just Juniors. Thanks to the parents that have already notified me, but we still need many more. It's only an hour or so and shows support for the parish.

### **Save the children Christmas jumper day**

We raised £359.71 for Save the Children through our Christmas Jumper day. That's amazing and will do so much to help needy children at this time of year. Thank you so much.

	<b>Stars of the week - 21 Dec</b>
<b>Red Class</b>	<b>Jack &amp; Edmund</b>
<b>Orange Class</b>	<b>Jacob &amp; Felix</b>
<b>Yellow Class</b>	<b>Phoebe &amp; Joziah</b>
<b>Green Class</b>	<b>Harry &amp; Valentina</b>
<b>Blue Class</b>	<b>Chanelle &amp; Elaina</b>
<b>Sapphire Class</b>	<b>Isabelle &amp; Lianne</b>
<b>Indigo Class</b>	<b>Jasmine &amp; Tom</b>
<b>Violet Class</b>	<b>Dominic &amp; Ben</b>

House of the week: St Teresa. House of the term – St Bernadette. Well done!  
Attendance award: Red Class. Well done parents.

School Recommences on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January at 8.45am – children can come into school from 8.30am.