



St George's C of E Primary School

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Dear Parents/Carers,

As we come to the end of the Autumn term, we would like to take this opportunity to celebrate the fantastic work and effort from all involved in school life here at St. George's. The Advent period is an extremely important time in our Church School, full of creativity and generosity of spirit. Our school has been a hub of community activity during this time of light and hope.

Lots has been happening over the last few weeks:



The Christmas Play- Away in a Manger

Year 1 and 2 treated the whole school and our families to a stunning performance of 'Away in a Manger'. The students spoke clearly with expression, and they all sang with enthusiasm and skill. Congratulations Year 1/2, we hope you are proud of yourselves and keep the nativity story close to your hearts over Christmas. A huge thank you to all the staff involved in making such a special play for us all to enjoy.

Singing in the Community

Our children love to sing carols at this time of year. It is a wonderful opportunity to reach out to our local community and spread some Christmas cheer. Thank you to Year 5/6 for singing carols at the Jubilee Centre. Year 1/2 sang some of their favourite songs from their show to the Luncheon Club at St George's Parish Hall.



Violin Concert

We are lucky to have a peripatetic violin teacher in school, Catherine Porter, who gathered her students for a fabulous Christmas concert for the school and parents. They all performed beautifully and should be commended for their musicality. If you are interested in your child taking this opportunity for violin lessons, please contact school for further information.



The Christmas Fair

We had a wonderful fair and raised the grand total of £470. Thank you so much to our amazing PTA group and school staff who worked so hard to make it fun and successful. Thank you to all our families who came to join in and support us. The money raised goes towards school funds and is used to improve the education of all our pupils. We were so lucky that Santa could take time out at this busy time to visit too, thanks Santa!

The PTA

The Parent and Teacher Association is a vital part of our school. This year, so far, they have funded: Christmas gifts, the pantomime for the whole school, sports kits and equipment, equipment for forest school and guided reading non-fiction books for Key Stage 2. They also contribute towards the cost of school trips in order to enable us to offer affordable educational opportunities in the wider community. The treasurer is Michelle Owen, and they are a fabulous team. If you would like to get involved, please get in touch as all are welcome.

Advent Service



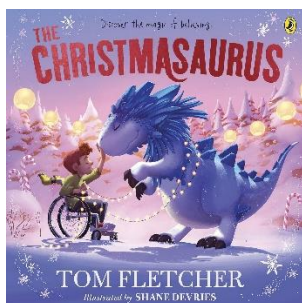
The children joined with the choir and organist from St George's Parish Church for a very special Advent Service with the theme of 'Light and Hope.' Year 5/6 performed readings with clear, confident voices and the whole school joined with the choir to sing hymns about light. This theme is central to our Christian ethos as we remember at the beginning of each worship in school that Jesus is 'the light of the world.' A special thank you to our lead governor, Jen Rackstraw, who planned and led this special service.

Reading Events

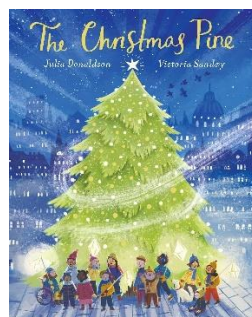


Here at St George's, we have regular reading events to promote a love of books and stories. Reading is the cornerstone of the curriculum and brings educational success, good communication skills and wellbeing to all our pupils, now and throughout their lives. Thank you to all the parents who have come along to family story times. If possible, please try and join your child for a story in the Spring term, see the calendar below for dates.

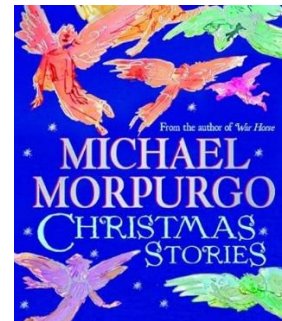
We had a cosy, Christmas read as a school in which the classes had a quiet time to enjoy Christmas stories with their friends. Some of our favourite reads are below if you would like a recommended Christmas read:



EYFS



Key Stage 1



Key Stage 2

If you want to buy reasonably priced books this Christmas, our local bookshop 'High Street Books and Records' are a popular choice. They have supported school with high quality new and used books this term.

<https://highstreetbooksandrecords.com/>

Eco Club

Miss Dawson runs an Eco-Club in school at lunchtime. This term they have made and put out bird feeders.



Big RE Day

As a Christian school we are keen for our students to understand that Christians in other countries may celebrate Christmas in different ways. We had a wonderful afternoon in our four colour teams exploring how Christians celebrate in Italy, Mexico, Bethlehem and Syria. We enjoyed making fruit kebabs, singing carols, making firework pictures and listening to the story of the first nativity. When we gather in our colour teams it is a chance for all the classes to work together in a mix of ages, which promotes the skills of communication and empathy. Thank you to our RE coordinator, Mrs. Redfearn, for organising this event.

Dates for your diary:

20/12/24 9:30 am, Christmas service in church, last day of term.

6/1/25 Spring Term begins

13/1/25 2:45-3:15 Parent Storytime

3/2/25 Football final at Derby

10/2/25 2:45-3:15 Parent Storytime

13/2/25 Disco 3.15-4.30pm

14/2/25 Half-term

24/2/25 Return back to school

4/4/24 Easter service in church 9.30am Finish

If you have concerns or questions, please don't hesitate to contact us. May we take this opportunity to wish you all a happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year. We would like to extend our gratitude to each and every one of you for entrusting us with the privilege of educating and nurturing your children. Happy Christmas!

Best wishes,

Sarah Craig- Executive Headteacher

Fiona Hall- Head of School