



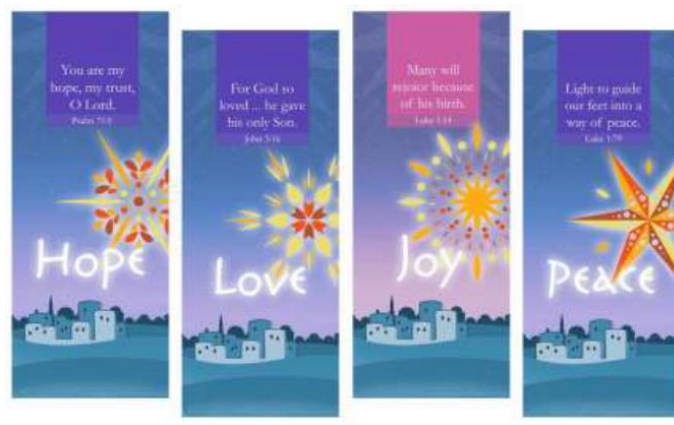
St. William of Perth Catholic Primary School

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NEWSLETTER NO 14: Friday 18th December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have reached the end of Term 2 and the children have enjoyed Christmas festivities within school. Thank you to all of the children, staff and families for your co-operation and support throughout the last two terms.

During these last weeks, every child has been involved in one of our virtual Advent preparations and celebrations and the response we received from these was overwhelmingly positive. EYFS and KS1 produced some very creative class bubble Nativities which have now been uploaded onto dojo. Our KS2 classes sang and narrated a Junior Advent Carol service in their class bubbles which have been edited and are now available to view on their class dojo pages. These performances were very reverent and uplifting in drawing this unprecedented and challenging term to an end. The children were all wonderful and we are so proud of them. My thanks also to the staff for their creativity and efforts in producing these performances in the current climate and for providing these important learning experiences to help the children celebrate Christmas in as normal way as possible under the circumstances.

As you know, our Year 3 class bubble are self-isolating and we look forward to welcoming them back to our school family when we return in January. Members of staff who are not physically in school are working remotely and are all still contactable. I am very grateful to the members of staff in school who are working hard within control measures to ensure the education of the children continues. We are delighted with the positive feedback and praise for our Remote Learning; thank you to the teachers, children and parents and carers for your support and understanding.

Contact Tracing Requirements Guidance for the Holidays

I have written to all Parents and Carers to inform you of the contact tracing requirements during the Christmas holidays. Please see below for key reminders.

- Where a pupil or staff member tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms more than 48 hours since being in school, the school should not be contacted. Parents and carers should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace.
- For the first 6 days after teaching ends, if a pupil or staff member tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms within 48 hours of being in school, schools will be asked to assist in identifying close contacts and advising self-isolation, as the individual may have been infectious whilst in school.
- Where pupils are required to self-isolate due to contact with a positive case after the first 6 days following the end of term, schools do not need to be informed about their absence until the first day of the new term.
- If your child tests positive and you believe they may have been in school 48 hours prior to symptoms please inform the school by contacting the following email: absence@stwilliamperth.medway.sch.uk





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Please state the following information in your email: Child's full name, Year group, Date and time symptoms started and which symptoms they are showing, date of test, date your child was last in school, Parent/Carer contact phone number in case we need further information.

- Please be aware that Staff responsible for contact tracing will designate a limited period in the day to receive notification of positive cases and advise close contacts to self-isolate.
- Please note that school staff are not asked to remain on-call or conduct any contact tracing more than 6 days after the final day of teaching.

Archbishop Blessing:

Today the children received a virtual message from Archbishop John Wilson who wishes all the families of our community and safe and blessed Christmas.

Christmas Appeal – The Friends of Wisdom Hospice

Traditionally at our Christmas events, we raise money for a charity as part of our Christmas appeal. We appreciate that this year is very different and you will not be able to donate in person however, we feel that it is very important that we continue to support our local communities through fundraising, especially at this time of need. This year we will be supporting the Wisdom Hospice and have created a Just Giving page for you to make cashless donations in order to support this charity while also keeping everyone safe. As part of our Christmas appeal, every child within the school community will have their name placed in a 'hat' in order to raffle a box of chocolates that will then be presented to one child from EYFS/Key Stage One and Key Stage Two. Please click on the link below for full details. At present we have raised £85 for this charity. Thank you for your generosity.

[St William of Perth Virtual Nativity](#)

Poppy Appeal:

We would like to announce that this year we raised a record amount of money thanks to all your generous contributions towards the poppies and other merchandise. £330.21 was kindly donated. Without your help The Royal British Legion would be unable to continue to do their vital welfare and benevolent work.

Christmas Dinner: We all enjoyed a special Christmas lunch in our bubbles on Wednesday. The staff enjoyed serving the lunches to the children in their bubbles and many thanks to Mrs Kearney and her team. The children looked lovely in their Christmas jumpers and enjoyed celebrating with their classmates.

Celebration Certificates: Well done to those children who received a certificate from their teacher for their hard work this term. These certificates were presented in class and recognised the children's academic achievements, attitudes to learning, resilience and politeness and manners.

Proposed Admissions Arrangements

We are required to consult with regards to our admissions arrangements for September 2022. A parentmail has been sent round with the proposed admissions arrangements. The proposed admissions arrangements have also been made public on our school website in the admissions section. The consultation period will end on January 22nd.

Wednesday Word – The Wednesday Word is currently available free online to families. This is a wonderful resource which explores the Gospel of the week as well as providing opportunities for family prayer. Please click on the link for more information. <http://www.wednesdayword.org/>

Coronavirus School information Page

Please click on the link below to find out information about services that can support families during the current crisis as well as the latest guidance with regards to Coronavirus. <https://www.stwilliamofperth.org.uk/Coronavirus>

New Addition to our School Uniform

As mentioned previously, we have added a navy fleece zip jacket to our school uniform list. This **non-compulsory** fleece is to be worn **over the top of** school jumpers/cardigans **not in place of them**. The fleece is available to purchase for £12.25, directly from our school uniform supplier Brigade, and can be viewed and ordered via the following link: http://www.brigade.uk.com/content.php?page=select_school&for=parents Please note that the fleece will include the embroidered school logo.

Until further notice, all other items of school uniform will remain available to purchase from the school office.





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Cashless School

It is our ambition to become a cashless school. If you need help accessing your ParentPay account or need a reminder of your activation code please contact the school office.

Primary Admissions 2021 / 22

Applications for those children who will be 4 years of age before 31st August 2021 are now open and close on **Friday 15th January at 5pm**. School tours are currently suspended until further notice.

Catch up lessons

The Government is providing funding to cover a one-off universal catch-up premium for the 2020 to 2021 academic year it aims to support pupils to catch up for lost learning during lockdown. These lessons will resume in the new year. We will update you with information when we return. **There will be no catch-up lessons on Monday 4th January.**

Tuesday morning SEN appointments

Should you wish to make an appointment to discuss any SEN related issues please speak with the office and they will arrange an appointment for a Tuesday morning after 9:30am. Alternatively, you may email Mrs Ward directly on sen@stwilliamperth.medway.sch.uk . Phone consultations are preferable.

Safeguarding

Please find below useful links to help keep children safe.

<https://www.childline.org.uk/>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/>

<http://www.msrb.org.uk/>

To view or download a copy of a parent guide from NSPCC about 'PANTS' and how to keep your child safe from abuse click the link below: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/globalassets/documents/advice-and-info/pants/pants-2018/pants-parents-guide-online.pdf>

E-Safety

<https://www.net-aware.org.uk/> The site is produced by the NSPCC and provides lots of parental resources and guides for apps, games and social media sites.

St John Fisher Parish Christmas Mass Times & Events:

Please find below the times of church Masses over the Christmas period. Please be aware that numbers are limited and you will need to book should you wish to attend.

Christmas Eve Mass 6:00pm (By booking only), 11:30 Listen to Carols, 12:00am Midnight Mass, Christmas Day - 10:30am Mass (By booking only). To book for Masses, please email or sign up on the sheets available at the church. For more information please see the Parish website

[Catholic Church - St John Fisher Catholic Church](#)

Next term

Children return to school on Monday 4th January 2021

As a school community we keep in our prayers all families who have lost loved ones or whose family members are suffering with illness. We pray to God that he will bring them comfort at this time.

On behalf of the staff, I thank you for all the cards, presents and Christmas messages that we have received.

I hope you all have a Happy, Restful and Healthy Christmas and New Year!

Yours sincerely,

J. Willis

Mr J. Willis
Headteacher

