



**ST GREGORY'S SCHOOL  
LOVING AND LEARNING  
DECEMBER 2016 NEWSLETTER**



**Dates for December**

- Thursday 1 - Nursery and Reception Christmas Trip (Hatton Park)
- Friday 2 - Christmas Disco **Tickets are £2.50**  
**1.30pm to 2.45pm Reception and KS1**  
**3.00pm to 4.30pm KS2**
- Monday 5 - 9 - 'I Can Do it Week'
- Monday 5 - **10.00am** Choir Workshop at Abbey Infants School
- Tuesday 6 - **10.00am** Carol Concert (Invitation only)
- Thursday 8 - **9.30am** Foundation Stage Performance
- Friday 9 - Foundation Stage parties. Children can wear their party clothes all day
- Monday 12 - **2.00pm** KS2 Christmas Performance
- Tuesday 13 - **2.00pm** KS1 Christmas Performance  
**7.00pm** KS2 Christmas Performance

**Key Stage 2**

Places are limited to 200 so no more than two tickets per family at any one performance are available. Tickets will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. Tickets must be presented for the performance to ensure admittance. Children under 12 may not use tickets for the evening performance, nor will toddlers or babies be admitted to this performance. We trust that parents will not attempt to ignore this message as refusal of entry may cause offence.

- Thursday 15 - Years 2 to 6 'Wind in the Willows' visit to the Old Rep Theatre  
pm Class Christmas Parties. Children can wear their party clothes all day. **However, please ensure they wear their school jumper/cardigan at the theatre. This will assist staff in supervision.**
- Tuesday 20 - **9.00am** Mass in school  
**11.45am** Nursery closes (Morning and full time children)  
**There will be no afternoon Nursery session today**  
**1.30pm** School closes

**School re-opens on Tuesday 3rd January 2017**



**Dates for January 2017**

- Tuesday 3 - School begins
- Sunday 15 - **Closing date for Reception/Year 3 Admission forms**
- Thursday 19 - **9.00am** Year 6 Inspire
- Friday 27 - **9.00am** Year 3 Assembly

**MASSES AT CHURCH OVER CHRISTMAS**

- Christmas Eve - **5.00pm and Midnight**
- Christmas Day - **9.00am and 11.00am**



*The Governors and Staff would like to wish you a peaceful  
Christmas and a Happy New Year*

### **Christmas Cards**

Christmas Card posters will be put up in each classroom. This is to promote St Mary's Hospice as we are asking for a donation of at least £1 so that children can sign it to everyone in their class. Children are asked not to bring cards into school as we will not be providing any card delivery service.

### **Children in Need**

You raised the grand sum of **£215** for Children in Need. Congratulations!

### **Pupils Arriving in School**

Please ensure that your child is escorted to and from school especially during the dark mornings and evenings. Children are being dropped off/collected and running down the school drive unaccompanied. Please think of the children's safety.

### **REFLECTION FOR ADVENT - The Season of Advent: Anticipation and Hope**

Advent is the beginning of the Church Year. The word Advent is from the Latin *adventus* for "coming" or arrival and marks the four weeks of preparation for Christmas. The focus of the season of Advent is the celebration of the birth of Jesus the Christ in his First Advent, and the anticipation of the return of Christ the King in his Second Advent. Advent is marked by a spirit of expectation, an anticipation and of preparation.

### **CHRISTMAS REFLECTION**

Christmas is the time we think of the birth of baby Jesus born in a manger, with Mary and Joseph beside him. The first witnesses of Christ's birth were the shepherds who were considered poor and lowly but were chosen. The angels announced in glory the birth of the savior for the first time to the shepherds. God chose the shepherds and not the kings and powerful or rich people.

Christmas is not just a day to remember and commemorate, it is not just a season to celebrate ... Christmas is love. It is the time when the love of God is revealed to us and received by all people of goodwill, not only to the shepherds and the "magi" to whom the Lord has chosen to reveal, but also to us today.

Celebrating Christmas is celebrating God's love for us all. Christmas is the highlight of a joyful and hopeful time of waiting for the savior to come.

O God,  
bless our family this Christmastime  
bind us together by your love.  
Give us kindness and patience  
to support each other;  
and wisdom in all we do.  
Let the gift of your peace  
come into our hearts  
and remain with us.  
Amen.



### **Please complete the form below indicating your preferred Key Stage 2 Performance**

I require .....tickets for Year 3-6 performance on the afternoon of Monday 12th December at 2.00pm

I require .....tickets for Years 3-6 performance on the evening of Tuesday 13th December at 7.00pm

I have read and understand that no children under the age of 12, toddlers or babies will be allowed into the evening performance.

Name: ..... C lass: .....