



WINTER

18th December 2020

Nurturing each and all. Guiding, Trusting, Inspiring and Celebrating

Dear Parents/Carers,

This year, we are approaching the end of a strange and difficult term and what will be a very different Christmas and New Year for us all. In school, we have tried our very best to keep the essence of Christmas alive within our bubbles and, I know that whilst I am writing this letter, the children are busily preparing for Christmas lunches and parties. Classrooms have been decorated, festive music can be heard, cards made and, if you look on our website, you will find a final Christmas treat from everyone at St Kenelm's.

Thank you for your continuing support and also for your kind festive wishes and generosity. This year, we owe you our thanks considerably more than ever. We always recognise that you are putting great trust in us, both to care for and to educate your children. This year, this couldn't be more true. So thank you for continuing to trust in us through this turbulent time.

On a personal note, I must say an enormous thank you to all the staff. I am incredibly proud of them and all that has been achieved. In my absence, the school has been kept extremely safe and very well run in the capable hands of Mrs McConville and Mrs Clapham, who have both risen to the task so capably; I am incredibly grateful to them both. I am also enormously grateful to our amazing staff, who have also stepped up, supporting each other and ensuring the children in our school are looked after, kept safe and continue to receive high quality education and care. Our school community has never felt stronger and our school vision; *Nurturing each and all. Guiding, trusting, inspiring and celebrating* has never been so apt.



CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

This year, we have not been able to welcome you to our Christmas performances. However, the staff and pupils, (kindly coerced and managed by Mrs Bradshaw on my behalf!), have put together a Christmas celebration, "Bethlehem News," for the website, which we hope you will enjoy. We will send you a text alert when it has finally uploaded. The licence for this is supporting the children's Forget-Me-Not Hospice. Please can I remind you, as I do every year, that this is for your personal enjoyment and not to upload it onto any other social media platform.

Respect, Honesty, Friendship, Compassion, Thankfulness, Wisdom

SAFEGUARDING CONCERNS:

If you are concerned about a child's safety at home, over the festive period, please contact the Oxfordshire Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub on 0345 050766.

If you think a child is in immediate danger, call the police on 999.

OTHER USEFUL INFORMATION:

West Witney Food Bank (01993) 890000

info@witney.foodbank.org.uk

Witney Community Fridge, Witney Community Service, Moorland Road, Witney, OX28 6LS

Email: witneyfridge@gmail.com

Young Minds (Children's mental health charity)

www.youngminds.org.uk 0808 800 222

Gingerbread (Single Parent Helpline)

www.gingerbread.org.uk 0808 802 0925

Oxfordshire Mind (Mental Health Support for all)

oxfordshiremind.org.uk 01865 247788

Childline (support for young people)

childline.org.uk 0800 1111

BOOKS FOR SCHOOL: Thank you to those of you who have very kindly made a donation towards the purchasing of new books to support our reading drive in school. If you wish to make a contribution, please contact the school office.

WINTER WEATHER: Just to remind you that should we have heavy snowfall and need to close the school, we will send you a text alert. We will always try to open the school, but safety is paramount.

SPRING TERM: Starts on Monday 4th January 2021.

CHILDREN IN NEED: Our non-uniform day for Children in Need raised £144.80. Thank you for your support.



I very much hope that 2021 will bring us all health, happiness and peace. On behalf of all the staff at St Kenelm's, we wish you all a very happy and peaceful Christmas and look forward to welcoming you back in the new year.

Best wishes.

Catherine Souck