

Friday 3rd December 2021

'Love your neighbour as yourself.' Mark 12:31

Our Christian Value for the term: Caring

Dear Parents,

We are heading into the last two weeks of the Autumn term and Christmas has arrived in school. The naughty elves are back in Reception, there are Christmas decorations appearing and children are practising their plays and singing. I am very sorry that parents are unable to come in to watch the performances, but we will be filming them for you to watch in the comfort of your own homes.

Children will still have lots of Christmas fun in school despite the restrictions we are working under. We are planning to take the children to the Goods Shed to watch a Christmas Film, there will be class parties in the hall and the PTfA have very kindly paid for Virtual Panto Performance. We have Christmas jumper day and Christmas Lunch on 15th December and we are planning to do some Christmas singing outside. A big thankyou to the Lowsley-Williams of Chavenage House, for the beautiful Christmas tree which has arrived today - with thanks to Mr King from Kings Tree Services for cutting down the tree and bringing it to school. We are looking forward to a busy two weeks!

Mrs J Woolley
Headteacher



Please remember to bring your Raffle tickets back to school by Wednesday 8th December



Christmas Jumper Day
Bring a gold Coin on
Wednesday 15th December



Christmas School Lunch
Wednesday 15th December

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Upton Mill – Bonfire Art competition

Upton Mill would like to thank everyone who took part in the Bonfire Art competition, it really made the residents smile, which is priceless.

The winners of the competition were:

EYFS/KS1 – 1st Prize – Florence P, 2nd Prize – Eliza M, 3rd Prize – Max G

KS2 – 1st Prize – Lily M, 2nd Prize – Hallie B, 3rd Prize – Dorothy H

Upton Mill will be returning the art work to the school and as soon as we receive it we will give it back to the children.



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Christmas Tree Decoration Competition

Tetbury Town Council would like to thank all the children that entered the Christmas Tree Decoration Competition, Mayor Ann Pearce has never seen so many fantastic pieces of art work. The children deserve a huge round of applause for their hard work. All decorations will be displayed on Tetbury Town Councils Tree at St Saviours Christmas Tree Festival from the 4th of December and entries will be returned to school after the Christmas period for collection.

The winners have been informed and they will be switching on the lights on Friday evening. They are:

Elsie C
Graham H
Izzy P
John K

Once again Thank you St Marys!

From Tetbury Town Council

back by popular demand

Best Christmas Lights in Town Award

The Big Town
SWITCH ON

Lets achieve a huge town Christmas light switch on
so that no matter where you are
the magic can be seen and enjoyed from the comfort of your own
home and community.

Friday 10th December

Switch on your festive Lights at 6pm

To enter or nominate a neighbour
email : reception@tetbury.gov.uk

All participants will help create
a fantastic Christmas Light Trail around Tetbury

Winners will be announced on 17th December
Judged by a group of local school children



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Clubs

Coming soon New Club



Dear Parents,

Lego After School Club at St Mary's CofE VA Primary School (Tetbury)

We are pleased to be able to offer our Lego after school club running from **3.15-4.15pm** every **Thursday** for **6 weeks from 13th January 2022**. This club is open for **Years 2-6** and there are a maximum of 15 places available. The club is organised, administered and supported by Kids With Bricks Ltd, an external provider who deliver after school clubs across the whole of the UK.

As well as completing a range of exciting educational challenges, students will have the chance to work both individually and to work in teams.

As an added bit of fun, students from the club will also take part in a weekly inter-school LEGO competition where parents can vote for their favourites and points are won for the national leader board.

BOOK ONLINE!

The club costs £3.99+VAT per child per session and is paid for termly in advance. All club places are reserved and paid for online. Just go to www.kidswithbricks.com to book your child's place.

Bookings will go live on the 8th December at midday

Any problems please contact us on 01633 383211 or bookings@kidswithbricks.com

Kind regards,

John Gallacher

Friday 3rd December 2021

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Extended deadline for the Special French Christmas Club – book asap



Noël
SPECIAL FRENCH CHRISTMAS CLUB

Thursday 9 December
3.10pm - 4pm
open to children in KS1
£6.50 includes take home craft

Book your child's place
by 1 December
admin@clubs4kids.com
07375 306 881

Come and have a fun
French lesson with
Christmas craft, songs
and games



FRENCH CLUBS
learn a language
whilst having fun!

**FRENCH CLUBS TO INSPIRE
CHILDREN'S LOVE OF LANGUAGES
AND BUILD THEIR CONFIDENCE
THROUGH STORY-TELLING, GAMES,
SONGS, COOKING, CRAFT &
FUN ACTIVITIES**

ST MARY'S FRENCH CLUB
Thursday
after lunch at school
for yrs 1 & 2

Wednesday on Zoom
years 1-3 at 4.15pm
years 4-6 at 5pm

Term time school clubs
packed full of fun activities!

Club de Cuisine - learn
to cook real French dishes
- weekly zoom lessons.

Holiday Clubs - spend the
day immersed in French with
cooking, craft, sport & drama

Zoom French clubs - for
those who prefer to
continue learning from
home

**Book a taster session
or for more information
contact Anna-Kate on
07375306881
admin@clubs4kids.com**

KS1 (Yr1/2) - French Club with Madame Fuller (this club has a weekly charge please see details) there are still places available – please contact Anna-Kate direct and she will be happy to give you more information about her French club.

Friday 3rd December 2021

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Christmas Raffle

Don't forget to follow @wearestmarys on Facebook to see the generous prizes many local businesses have donated.

- If you would like more raffle tickets, please ask at the school office
- Please return all unwanted raffle tickets to the school office as soon as possible
- Ask family, friends and neighbours if they'd like to buy some tickets to be in with a chance of winning!

Please return all completed raffle ticket stubs and money to your class teacher by **Wednesday 8th December**. Everything will need to be returned in an envelope to be Covid secure, thank you for your understanding.

If you would like to donate a prize to our raffle, please contact us: ptfa@st-marys-tetbury.gloucs.sch.uk

Raffle tickets will be drawn on Friday 10th December - Good luck!!!

Let's get festive!

On Wednesday 15th December you are invited to dress festively for the day!

In exchange for a gold coin, payable in cash to your class teacher or by ParentPay, you may wear festive clothes. This could be: Christmas colours, winter patterns (snowflakes, reindeers, snowmen etc), ribbons or hairbands....

- No fancy dress costumes
- Clothes must be practical for a day at school.

Ice Cream Fridays – volunteers needed

We desperately need volunteers to help sell ice-creams after school on a Friday. This only takes half an hour of your time (3-3.30pm). It is a quick and easy way to support us as well as being a great way to meet other parents.

Friday 3rd December 2021

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Even if you are only able to help out once this year, that is still great.

If you are able to help, please contact us on ptfa@st-marys-tetbury.gloucs.sch.uk

Thank you.

Amazon Smile

Please consider choosing us as your chosen Amazon Smile charity. If you select your St. Mary's Primary School as your chosen charity **Amazon will donate 0.5%** of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases at **no cost to you!**

Please be careful to select: St. Mary's Primary School Parents Teachers and Friends Association (Tetbury)

Family and friends can also support your children by choosing us as their charity.

For information on how to set up AmazonSmile please visit:

<https://www.aboutamazon.com/news/community/how-to-sign-up-for-amazonsmile>

Easyfundraising.com

Don't forget if you are doing any shopping online, click via Easyfundraising.com to support St Mary's school without it costing you a penny.

Do your online shopping via <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stmarystetbury/> and the retailer pays a percentage of your total without any charge to you.

Textile Recycler

The bin is located in the carpark by the Yr3/4 playground and all your donations are gratefully received. Please keep filling it up. The items are collected every week, but if you find the bin full when you use it please let us know in the School Office so that we can arrange for it to be emptied.



Friday 3rd December 2021

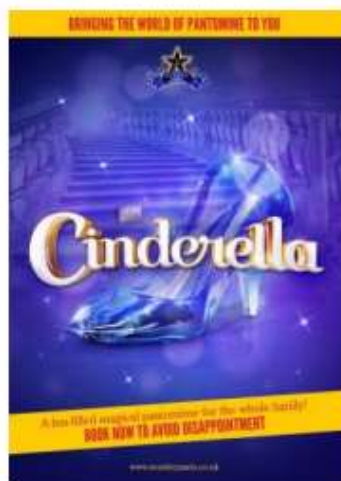
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Community News

TETBURY GOODS SHED ARTS CENTRE

Get swept away by one of the most enchanting fairy tales of all time, as Wonder Pantomimes brings to Tetbury Goods Shed, the most loved pantomime of them all - Cinderella.



This classic rags to riches story tells of a beautiful young girl who is cruelly treated by her jealous ugly Step-Sisters. If she's to meet her Prince Charming and find true love before the clock strikes midnight, she'll need all the magic her Fairy Godmother can muster up, along with the help from her best friend Buttons.

Will Cinderella get her fairy-tale ending? Book your tickets before the clock strikes midnight to find out.

Tickets cost £10 for adults and £8 for under 14 years of age.

www.shed-arts.co.uk 01666 505496



Friday 3rd December 2021

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TETBURY LIONS CHRISTMAS TREASURE HUNT

Twelve of our lion cubs are hiding in Tetbury shop windows with the Christmas presents below. Can you find all 12 and write in the spaces where you found them?

Make sure you take Mum or Dad with you on the treasure hunt.



- 1 **A PARTRIDGE IN A PEAR TREE**
- 2 **TWO TURTLE DOVES**
- 3 **THREE FRENCH HENS**
- 4 **FOUR CALLING BIRDS**
- 5 **FIVE GOLD RINGS**
- 6 **SIX GEESE LAYING**
- 7 **SEVEN SWANS SWIMMING**
- 8 **EIGHT MAIDS MILKING**
- 9 **NINE LADIES DANCING**
- 10 **TEN LORDS LEAPING**
- 11 **ELEVEN PIPERS PIPING**
- 12 **TWELVE DRUMMERS DRUMMING**

When you have found the twelve lion cubs, colour the picture of Winnie the Pooh and his snowman before submitting your entry.

1st PRIZE
Stocking full of
Christmas goodies

Entry form

NAME AGE*

SCHOOL/ CLUB

CONTACT No.

*Competition open to 5-11 years

PLEASE FEEL FREE TO PHOTOCOPY THIS ENTRY FORM



Friday 3rd December 2021

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Don't forget to claim your State Pension!

In years past you would have received your State Retirement Pension automatically. You may not be aware but this is no longer the case, so you will have to claim it to receive it! At Citizens Advice, we have been contacted by an increasing number of people who did not realise that this was the case.

You should get a letter from **the Pension Service** no later than 2 months before your 66th birthday (which is the current State Pension Age) telling you what to do to claim your pension. If you do not receive this letter you can still make a claim in the 4 months up to reaching your state pension age.

It is important to claim your State Pension as soon as you can, as there may be delays in payment if you leave claiming it too close to your 66th birthday, which could lead to financial difficulties for some people.

How to claim The quickest way to get your State Pension is to apply online at www.gov.uk/get-state-pension but if you don't have access to the internet you can request a form by calling **the Pension Service on 0800 731 7898**.

You can check your State Pension age online at www.gov.uk/state-pension-age

Get a forecast of how much money you might get at www.gov.uk/check-state-pension

Further information on the State Pension is at www.gov.uk/new-state-pension or see our website – www.citizensadvice.org.uk.

Some of our clients have experienced delays after claiming which has caused them financial hardship. If you need any help to claim your State Pension or experience problems with claiming, contact one of our friendly advisers at **Stroud and Cotswold Citizens Advice**. Please call **0808 800 0510** or **0808 800 0511** Monday to Friday 10am to

Friday 3rd December 2021

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4pm (calls are free from landlines and most mobiles).

or use our online email page at www.citizensadvice-stroudandcotswold.org.uk/stroud-cab-email-advice.php

We are now able to see a limited number of clients whose problem cannot be dealt with on the phone in person at our Cirencester office. Due to Covid, we cannot offer drop in sessions but if you need face to face advice you can be seen by appointment only. We are planning to open our outreach sessions gradually from December onwards.

Holiday Activity And Food Programme

#HAF2021

What?

The Holiday Activity and Food Programme (HAF), funded by DfE, is returning this December for children aged 5-16 years eligible for free school meals.

When?

The programme will be running for 4 days from: 20th - 23rd December.

How?

You will be able to sign up to our Children Activities Booking Site (CABS) from November.

Activities will be available to book from 1 December.

What is available?

We will be offering a variety of face-to-face activities with your local providers:

- ✓ exciting activity packs for all ages
- ✓ an opportunity to claim your own winter food hamper to enjoy over the holidays
- ✓ tickets to local events and more!

To find out more and stay up to date, you can follow us on social media @GlosCC or visit www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/haf



To stay up to date on all things HAF, email us at:

HAFParentEnquiries@gloucestershire.gov.uk

to join our newsletter where we will have updates, insights, recipes and crafts from November.



Gloucestershire
COUNTY COUNCIL



Department
for Education

Friday 3rd December 2021

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Holiday Activity Programme

What?

Using grant funding, this year we are extending our holiday activity programme for December to all children in Gloucestershire.

Open to children of any age, this makes sure all children can access holiday activities locally.

When?

The HAP programme will be running for 4 days from 20th -23rd December.

How?

You will be able to sign up to our Children Activities Booking Site (CABS) from November.

Activities will be available to book from **1 December**. You will be able to book any activities marked HAP in the title.

What will be available?

- ✓ Face to face activities for children to socialise and play
- ✓ Ticketed activity schemes to your favourite venues
- ✓ A large online video activity library and more!
- ✓ A potential free meal at your local activities (Please contact providers directly for more details on this).

To find out more and stay up to date, you can follow us on social media @GlosCC or visit www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/haf



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St Mary's Christmas Tree Decoration Competition

Design and make a Christmas tree decoration!

Every decoration will be displayed on a special tree within the
Christmas Tree Festival in St Saviours Church

There will be two Lucky winners and 3 runners up selected from EYFS/KS1 and KS2

Christmas Decorations no bigger than 12cm by 12cm

All entries to be handed in to the school office by Thursday 25th November

The two winners will be invited to help switch on the Tetbury Christmas Lights
on the 3rd of December

All winners and runners up will be the judging the Best Lights in Town Award
between the 10th -17th December

So get the glitter, paint, glue out and get creative!



Good Luck!!!

Friday 3rd December 2021


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The iSING POP TEAM invite you to

Christingle with us

Come and make your own Christingle and
enjoy some singing around the fire!



4pm on Sunday 5th Dec
@ St Marys' Parish Church

Friday 3rd December 2021

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The Posada

Exciting news!

Mary and Joseph are once again preparing to travel around the Tetbury Benefice this Advent.

This year they will travel from one family to another. When they arrive, you can gather as a family, set up the scene, light a candle, read the story, say a prayer and arrange to take it on to the next family on the list.



If you would like to take part in this, please send the reply slip below to: office@tetburychurch.co.uk by Wednesday 1st December.

The journey will start from St Marys Church at 10am on Sunday 5th December and finish back at St Mary's church at 10am on Christmas Day. You are welcome to join us for one or both services.

If you would like to receive Mary and Joseph on a particular date do please let us know. No promises but we will do our best, first come first served!

When you receive the Posada, you will be asked to contact the next person on the list and arrange a time to hand over the Posada family to them the next day. Don't forget to sanitise your hands first to keep everyone safe!

Reply slip:

Name:

Phone number:

Preferred date:

I give permission for my Phone number to be shared among the participants during December as the Posada travels round the Tetbury Benefice.

Looking forward to hearing from you
Sarah Parton (St Mary's Church)

Friday 3rd December 2021

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COME AND JOIN THE FUN

COME AND JOIN US FOR AN ACTION-PACKED CHRISTMAS CAMP, FROM ONLY £24 A DAY

★ ARTS & CRAFTS ★ SPORTS ★ NERF WARS ★ TALENT SHOWS ★ DODGEBALL ★ MINI-GAMES

atlas camps

CHRISTMAS CAMP

★ FACE PAINTING ★ TREASURE HUNTS ★ MUSICAL GAMES

BOOK NOW 📅

ATLASCAMPS.CO.UK
INFO@ATLASCAMPS.CO.UK
0800 772 0743

📱 @ATLASCAMPS

CHILD CARE VOUCHERS

Ofsted Registered

👤 👤 4 - 14 YRS OLD