

Friday 17th December 2021

Our Christian Value for the term: Caring

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

Dear Parents,

We have had a very jolly Christmassy end of term in school. The children in Reception and KS1 really enjoyed putting on their performances and didn't they do well! I hope Reception and KS1 parents have received the link and have been able to enjoy the shows too. Thank you to all the staff who worked hard with the children rehearsing over the last few weeks and to Katie Rowlett for filming.

We had a delicious Christmas lunch on Wednesday with a fantastic display of Christmas jumpers and festive party hats. The children also decorated their classroom doors and the best festive door was awarded to Rowan Class for their display of carrots and sprouts. We also had a very loud Christmas sing song in the playground today along with a bit of dancing!

School will close for the holidays this afternoon and will re-open for the children on Wednesday 5th January 2022. I am not anticipating anything different but if there are any changes to the planned opening of schools, I will let parents know by email. I hope you all have a happy Christmas and you are able to enjoy time with friends and family.

Mrs J Woolley
Headteacher



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Advent



To mark the beginning of Advent, our Dolphin Room children made a visit to St Saviour's Church to decorate our school tree. We decided to theme our tree around the three C's! We learnt all about how courageous Mary was to be the mother to the Son of God, how curious the shepherds were to see the angels in the sky and the baby laying in the hay, and how caring the 3 Kings were when giving gifts! We made our decorations over the last 2 weeks and then we all went together to hang our decorations on the tree. Once we had looked at all the other trees in the Church, we walked to The Priory where we had hot chocolate with cream and marshmallows! Mrs Calabria and all the Dolphin Room staff were so proud of how well the children represented our school! If you would like to see the Christmas Tree Festival then St Saviour's Church is open every day until the 3rd January.



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EYFS and KS1 Christmas productions



A huge thank you to Katie Rowlett for videoing our EYFS and KS1 productions so everyone can enjoy them! The links have been sent out to parents and hopefully the children in KS2 will be able to watch in class too.

Reception

It has been a busy week in reception.

We have enjoyed our first school Christmas dinner, made party hats...



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.....and sang to Wednesday club, watched a pantomime, and had a classroom cinema!

The children have been fantastic and adapted to short notice changes extremely well.

We wish you all a Merry Christmas 🎅



Thank you

Thank you to the Imperial Chinese Cuisine in Tetbury for their very generous donation of £300 to St Mary's. We are most grateful for this and it will be used to enrich the children's lessons.

Great News!

This year, we decided to give you all the option to donate to Gloucestershire Bundles rather than (or in addition to) presents for teachers. Thanks to your kindness, we have raised an amazing £484.50, which will go a long way to supporting families across Gloucestershire. Thank you again. One of our 'Three Cs' is CARING, and this clearly demonstrates that in abundance.

Poppy Appeal

Amount raised this year £576.22 Thank you!

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Asante Sana

Thank you for all your generosity

You have helped raise

!!! £370 !!!!

Every £2 spent on buying an angel keyring means a vulnerable child can have a special nutritious Christmas meal. You have made a huge difference to the children in Kibera. Thank you.



Wishing all our
friends at St Mary's
a very happy
Christmas



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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

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Clubs

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.



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

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

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

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

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With your help, we have raised £2,200 so far this year.

Our children have benefitted directly by the PTFA paying for the recent Cinderella pantomime and contributing towards the Key Stage 1 courtyard make-over which is looking great. We will be supporting more important projects in the New Year.

We would like to say a special thank you to our helper's group, teachers and support staff, who have all played key roles in making sure vital fundraising events were able to happen this term.

Thank you again for all of your support.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!! St. Mary's PTFA

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



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Community

Christmas at St Mary the Virgin & St Mary Magdalen Parish Church, Tetbury

ALL ARE WELCOME!

- **Sunday 19th December 6.00pm Nine Lessons and Carols**
- **Thursday 23rd December 4-5.30pm Journey to Bethlehem**
- **Christmas Eve 4-5.30pm Journey to Bethlehem**
- **Christmas Eve 11.30pm Midnight Mass**
- **Christmas Day 10.00am Family Holy Communion**

Find us:

Website www.tetburychurch.co.uk

Facebook www.facebook.com/St.MarysTetbury

Address Church Street, Tetbury GL8 8JG



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Community News



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

THU
30

30 December | 2:00 pm - 4:15 pm

Cinderella

We are delighted to welcome back Wonder Productions bringing their performance of the timeless and much loved story of rags to riches and good over evil - Cinderella



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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.



Please hand in your entries no later than 23rd December to The Tetbury Hardware Store.

This is open to all primary school children aged 4 and up.

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



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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 a 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 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.

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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



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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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COME AND JOIN THE FUN

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

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[INFO@ATLASCAMPS.CO.UK](mailto:info@atlascamps.co.uk)

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  @ATLASCAMPS

CHILD CARE VOUCHERS

Ofsted Registered

 4 - 14-YRS OLD