

Friday 18th December 2020

Our Christian Value for the term: Caring

'No act of kindness, no matter how small is ever wasted'. (Aesop)

Dear Parents,

We have come to the end of a very unusual and different term at St. Mary's School. I am so relieved that we have got through the last 16 weeks with no confirmed cases amongst our pupils and staff. As with many communities around the world, the pandemic has truly brought out the best in our school community and so many individuals and groups have been such shining lights at this often dark time. Our pupils, your children, have been amazing at coping with all the changes and the different ways of working, our support staff, teaching assistants, cleaners, caretaker, office staff and helpers have gone above and beyond to keep our school safe and our pupils happy. The teaching staff have come into school every day with a smile on their faces and a determination to help the children recover from the lost learning and the time away from school.

The local community has also demonstrated their care and concern for others in need. We have distributed over 60 food hampers from our school catering provider to families eligible for free school meals. We have also successfully distributed food hampers donated by the staff at Dyson as well as Christmas presents from local individuals and businesses. The Lions have worked with us to provide food parcels from Jessie Smith's butchers and the parents/staff have donated over £800 for the charity Crisis as parents donated to Crisis rather than giving teacher gifts this Christmas time.

I would like to say a huge thank you to the Governors and parents who have been so supportive of the school during this time. The governors continue to be a strong and guiding presence in the background supporting me and the Senior Leadership Team and the number of emails I have received from parents thanking staff has been such a boost.

End of term activities

We have managed to have lots of fun this week despite the restrictions. The whole school came together to sing Christmas songs on the field, we have had Christmas parties, Christmas Nativities, a virtual Christmas panto and a Christmas decorated door competition. We also had a fantastic hot Christmas dinner cooked for us yesterday which was really yummy!

Reporting positive cases before Christmas

I have sent out an email to parents explaining what to do if your child tests positive for Covid-19 before Christmas. If your child has a positive test result this weekend please email: covidcases@st-marys-tetbury.gloucs.sch.uk. After this weekend please email: COVIDschoolenquiries@gloucestershire.gov.uk.

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Return to school in January

We have rearranged some of our systems and protocols for January. Please note the changes below.

Year group	Drop off	Pick up
R	08.40	15.00
1	08.55	15.15
2	08.40	15.00
3	08.40	15.00
4	08.55	15.15
5	08.55	15.15
6	08.40	15.00

We are planning to reinstate hot dinners midway through January, however until then we will continue to give a choice of ham, cheese, tuna or egg sandwich/baguette, prepared by our kitchen, bookable on parent pay, or you can bring your own packed lunch for the first couple of weeks, please remember to book your child's school packed lunch ready for the first week back after Christmas, as this really helps with the administration time during registration. We will keep parents updated regarding lunches and will get hot school lunches rolled out as quickly as possible. I appreciate how important hot lunches are particularly during the winter months.

Please remember children from Year 1 upwards still need to provide a named pencil case with pencil, eraser, ruler, coloured pencils and glue stick if possible. Children must also have a named water bottle in school containing only water - not juice. Thank you.

And finally...I hope you all have a peaceful and fun Christmas and a happy new year. School re-opens for pupils on Tuesday 5th January. We look forward to seeing you then.

Mrs J Woolley
Headteacher

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Christmas festivities through-out the school



Festive hats for the Christmas lunch!



Lovely festive forest school session creating beautiful natural nativity scenes along with a toasty warm fire where they toasted marshmallows before turning them into yummy s'mores



Christmas Singing on the school field

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Journey to Bethlehem
St Marys' Churchyard and Church
Come any time
4-6pm, Tuesday 22nd December
4-6pm, Wednesday 23rd December
4-6pm, Thursday 24th December

Walk through beautiful scenes, lit up to tell the Christmas Story. With carols playing, bring all the family to celebrate the coming of Jesus at Christmas, and journey to the candle-lit Nativity.

All are welcome. Wrap up warm. Children are invited to dress up!

Covid-secure guidelines apply, keeping 2m distance between family groups. Everyone aged 11+ will need to wear a face covering inside the church. Please tell us if you have a medical exemption.

Bethlehem

St Marys' Churchyard and Church

Come any time

4-6pm, Tuesday 22nd December
4-6pm, Wednesday 23rd December
4-6pm, Thursday 24th December

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With your help, we have raised a spectacular **£3525.51** so far this year.

Our children have benefitted directly by the PTFA paying for new reading books (£966) and book storage for the new Reading Glade (£89). As well as us contributing £500 to the overall cost of repainting the Key Stage 1 playground which is looking great.

We would like to say a special thank you to our helper's group, teachers and support staff who have all played a key role in making sure our necessary fundraisers go ahead this term.

Thank you again for all of your support.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!

Match-funding

We are very fortunate that Barclays bank are going to give St. Mary's PTFA **£1,000** as part of their match-funding initiative.

If you work for or know of a company that would be willing to offer us match-funding or a charitable donation please contact us on ptfa@st-marys-tetbury.gloucs.sch.uk

Thank you

Christmas Raffle

Mrs Woolley and two year 6 children drew the Christmas Raffle Winners this week watched (virtually) by the whole school at Collective Worship.

Our lucky winners were:

Jonathan N - Dyson hairdryer

Chris F - Steepleton lunch

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Adele – Henrietta House voucher

Kelly B - PT Sessions

Jo T - PT Sessions

Anna N - Online fitness

Gemma W – Tetbury Fish & Chip shop

Becky S - Usborne books

Lorraine K – £50 Tesco voucher

Cathryn B – Adelle Beauty voucher

Sarah V – Brownies

Shelley H – Ipad holder

Gemma W – Little Bird Photography

Vanessa M – Brownies

Joanne D – Highgrove Garden Tour

Jehanne H – Flower display

Malgorzata G – Moloh scarf & wine

Everyone who won has been contacted to arrange collection of their prizes.

The Christmas Raffle raised an amazing **£1,621** thanks to your support.

We are incredibly grateful to the generous local businesses that donated prizes.

Thank you.

Christmas Jumper Day

It was lovely to see so many smiley children in the playground this morning wearing Christmas jumpers.

Thanks to everyone's festive spirit we raised **£264** for our school.

Christmas Competition

We also drew the winners for our Christmas competition this week and have sent prizes home with:

EYFS Myla (Lime Class)

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Year 1 Evalyn (Plum Class)

Year 2 Harry (Holly Class)

Year 3 Harper (Beech Class)

Year 4 Jack (Maple Class)

Year 5 Amelie (Ash Class)

Year 6 Edward T (Roman Class)

This fun activity raised **£138** for our school.

Easyfundraising.com

Please remember to use easyfundraising when you do your Christmas shopping this year (<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stmarystetbury/>).

Over 4,300 shops and sites will donate to our school for FREE when you use easyfundraising to shop with them. This means you can raise donations for the benefit of our children, at no cost to you, when you buy anything from decorations and festive food, to gifts and experiences, and much more!

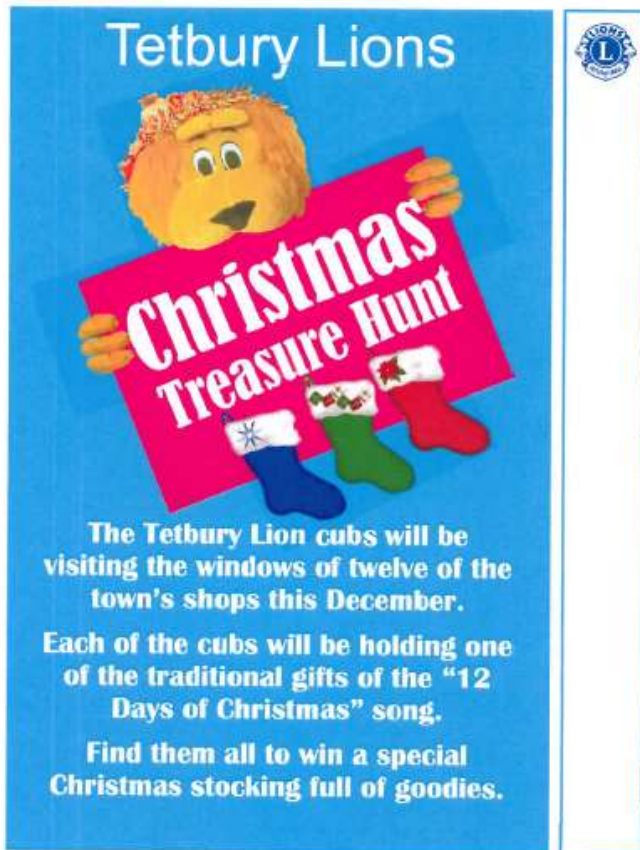
You can also install the Donation Reminder to give you an alert whenever you visit a shop or site that donates. You can then activate the donation in one click! It's completely FREE, please install it now to make sure you never miss a donation! <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/donation-reminder/>

Easyfundraising is a great way for family and friends to support the school as well.


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Tetbury Lions




Christmas Treasure Hunt

The Tetbury Lion cubs will be visiting the windows of twelve of the town's shops this December. Each of the cubs will be holding one of the traditional gifts of the "12 Days of Christmas" song. Find them all to win a special Christmas stocking full of goodies.



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 12 LION CUBS
COLOUR THE PICTURE FROM FROZEN
BEFORE SUBMITTING YOUR ENTRY

1st PRIZE
Stocking full of
Christmas goodies

Entry form

NAME _____ AGE* _____

SCHOOL/ CLUB _____

CONTACT No. _____

*Competition open to 4-11 years

PLEASE FEEL FREE TO PHOTOCOPY THIS ENTRY FORM



The Tetbury Lions Christmas Treasure Hunt is a free competition open to all children with a Tetbury address or attend a Tetbury school, aged 4 years to 11. The competition runs from 1st December. Entries will be accepted on the Lions entry form only, available from participating stores or your playgroup or school. Deadline for bringing into school was **Monday 14th December, however – the competition deadline is 19th December and you can hand in your completed forms into Tetbury Hardware store before the deadline date. Winners will be contacted by the Tetbury Lions by telephone.** A special Christmas stocking will be awarded to a boy and a girl with the correct answers and the best colouring challenge. Judges decision will be final.

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Few days to go.....

atlas camps

TETBURY

Monday 21st - Thursday 31st December
9.00am - 4.00pm (8.00am - 5.00pm extra)

GAMES & ACTIVITIES:

- ★ Arts & Crafts ★ Face Painting ★ Dodgeball ★ Talent Shows
- ★ Ultimate Frisbee ★ Football ★ Nerf Wars ★ Musical Bumps
- ★ Cricket ★ ★ ★ There's something for everyone! ★ ★ ★

COME AND JOIN US FOR AN AMAZING TIME OVER THE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS, FROM ONLY £24 PER DAY!

WEBSITE atlas-camps.co.uk
EMAIL info@atlas-camps.co.uk
PHONE 0800 772 0743

4 - 14 YRS OLD

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Dear Parents

We are extremely excited about our French Christmas zoom club. Please see the flyer attached. We will meet on the Monday 21st December- Wednesday 23 December morning for a fun French lesson learning with Père Noël et le petit Lutin. I will send a craft package to you as well as email activity sheets for the children to do outside of our lessons. On the Wednesday, we'll have an extended lesson to include cooking together.

Do let me know if you'd like more information or to book a place. I will order the Christmas craft next week.

A bientôt

Madame Fuller



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CHRISTMAS

Crafts & Cake Decorating

Wednesday 23rd December

Dolphin Hall, Tetbury

1-4pm

Come along to the Dolphin Hall for our Christmas Craft workshops, there will be 3 workshops where we will be making:

Peppermint Creams,
Christmas Cupcake Decorating
Christmas Gift Tags

You will have 1 hour for all 3 workshops, they are free but booking is essential.

Book online at
www.worldjungle.org.uk



Tetbury
Town Council

supported by Tetbury Town Youth Committee

**world
jungle**

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Families
Gloucestershire

FREE

IN THIS ISSUE
Everything Christmas!

Win Toys for Christmas!
Micro Scooter + LOTS MORE!

Families See inside T&Cs apply

November/December 2020 Familiesonline.co.uk

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https://issuu.com/familiesonline/docs/famnov-dec_gloucester?fr=sYTZmZDIyNTkyNTk



As we're in lockdown I've been online shopping. I'm a bit concerned about buying goods without seeing them first. What happens if something goes wrong, or if I change my mind after seeing something in reality? I don't have money to lose right now.

You're not alone being cautious about shopping online. Over the last year Citizens Advice Consumer Service has dealt with just under 123,000 cases in relation to online shopping.

Most of the time, when you buy something online you automatically get a 14-day 'cooling-off period' which starts the day after you receive your order. There doesn't need to be anything wrong with the item for you to get a refund. Many online sellers may offer more time, so make sure you check the terms and conditions before purchasing.

If you do decide to return your item, you need to tell the seller you don't want the item within 14 days of receiving it. Once you've told the seller, you've got 14 days to send it back. The seller has to pay you the refund within 14 days from when they receive the item.

If you buy something online and the product is faulty (i.e. it's broken, unusable or doesn't match what was advertised), you have 30 days to ask for a refund from when you receive it. However, you can choose to accept a replacement or repair. After 30 days (and before six months) the seller must offer you a repair within a reasonable timeframe. If this isn't possible, they must offer you a replacement or a refund. Ask the seller for the easiest way to send the item back. You shouldn't have to pay.

If you order something and it doesn't arrive, it's the seller's responsibility to make sure the item is delivered to you. If the seller used a courier, they should chase the courier to find out what's happened to your order - it's not your responsibility.

Check out <https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer/> for more information or contact the Citizens Advice Consumer helpline on 0808 223 1133

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You can also get advice and information from your local Citizens Advice office, Stroud & Cotswold Districts by contacting our freephone number – 0808 800 0511

Tip of the Month I'm dreaming of...



Buying a real tree,
to recycle or grow on.



Using my artificial tree,
(over and over again!)



Renting a tree, to
borrow and return.

For more ideas, see:

www.greeningtetbury.org

<https://www.cotswold.gov.uk/bins-and-recycling/>

 **Greening Tetbury**


**Merry
Christmas**

Say "No" to:

- New tinsel
- Shiny paper

