WHADDON NEWS

Advent

As a Church School, the most important time of year has arrived. The word Advent means 'arrival'. It is a time of waiting for the arrival of Christmas, the coming of Jesus to earth when he was born as a baby at Bethlehem about two thousand years ago. On Tuesday 1st December, we began preparations in school, which continued throughout the week. The children created decorations, we played and sang carols and dressed the classrooms, corridors, library and hall. We retold the nativity story as we set up the stable scene and imagined what some of the people would have felt like at the time, such as the shepherds and the kings.

We lit our first advent candle and reflected on the true meaning of Advent. Our celebrations continue on Sunday with the Christingle celebration at St Mary's Church.



Golden Awards

Well done to all the children who have achieved their Golden Award!!!

Week 1

- FS: Ella-Rose Wilsher Year 1: Ayla Williams Oscar Lenart-Stewart Year 2: Lachlan Thomson Tamzin Chandler Week 2 FS: Sammy-Jo Mongan
- Year 1: Daniel Mongan
 - Ella Harvey
- Year 2: Sophia Mitchell James Christie

Christingle Arrangements

The Christingle Service begins at 6:00pm this Sunday so please ensure your child arrives in uniform and in good time to come and put their costume on, should they need to. Once you have handed them over to their class teacher at the back of the church, please take a seat and enjoy the service. We have taken photographs of the children for you so you don't have to worry about taking any during the service. These are available for you to download on the school website in the Communication section. The children will return to you to have their Christingles lit. Please help them to remove their costume before lighting the candles. As you leave, there will be a box by the door to put the costumes in. We hope to see you all there for this very special service.



Foundation News

After an interesting (Ahem) discussion about who was taller, the children came up with ways they could compare their heights. This led to some interesting learning around comparing other types of measurements. So the children investigated the weights of different objects by holding them and seeing which felt lighter and heavier and by using balance scales. They made lines of cubes and lay them out to see which was longer and which was shorter and they made some tall

towers as well! Some great use of comparing language by all the children!



Year 2 Work to be proud of - by Bodhi



Christmas Arrangements

We are about to begin the final fortnight leading up to Christmas so here is some useful information for you.

9 Days to go – Wednesday 9th December Nativity Dress rehearsal

The rehearsal will begin at 2:00pm. This is the ideal performance to attend if you wish to bring a younger child with you. The Pre-school children will be watching this one so the children know to expect a bit of a noisier audience. If you are attending this performance, you are welcome to take your child home from the Village Hall at the end of the performance. All other children will go back to the school with their teachers and can be collected from there as usual.

7 Days to go – Friday 11th December Nativity Evening Performance

Please arrange for your child to be delivered to the Village Hall by 5:30pm at the latest. There will be an opportunity for photographs at the end of the performance but please ensure they are not put onto any social media sites. You are then welcome to have a minced pie and a glass of mulled wine after the performance while your children get changed. They will then join you.

2 Days to go - Wednesday 16th December Everything home

We will be sending everything home on this date: Book-bags, PE Kits, things floating around in the children's drawers, the odd sock etc. Please send in an empty carrier bag to make it more manageable to transport home. The children will not need their book-bags or PE Kits again until January.

1 Day to go - Thursday 17th December Christmas Party

This year, the Christmas Party will be combined with the Friend's Christmas Lunch. In the morning Postman Joe arrives and gives the children Christmas cards that have been posted into our postbox. At lunchtime, everyone shares a delicious Christmas lunch, lovingly prepared by our wonderful FOWS team (with hardly any sweat and tears). The children then party all afternoon! There might even be a very special visitor arriving. Keep an ear out for sleigh bells children! Everyone is welcome to wear party clothes on this day. They will still need a coat and sensible shoes for break times.

Last Day of Term – Friday 18th December Christmas Carols

Could all parents please arrive at St Mary's Church for 1:30pm. We hope this will be a celebration that will leave us all feeling Christmassy and excited for the holiday ahead. You are more than welcome to take your child home directly from the Church.

Note from Miss Nash

Christmas Craft club will finish on Tuesday 15th December. Club parents are invited to come to the Fayre at 3.45pm with crafts and mince pies for sale, and of course, the beautiful crafts the children have made.



| Dates for your Diaries | | | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------|------------------|--|
| Date | Event | Time | Venue | |
| Sunday 6 th December | Christingle | 6:00pm | St Mary's Church | |
| Tuesday 8 th December | Skip to be Fit | 3:10-5:45 | Buckingham | |
| | | | Secondary School | |
| Wednesday 9 th December | Christmas Play Dress-Rehearsal | 2:00 pm | Village Hall | |
| | Parents with younger siblings welcome | | | |
| Friday 11 th December | Christmas Play Evening Performance | 6:00 pm | Village Hall | |
| Thursday 17 th December | Children's Christmas lunch and party | 12:00pm | School Hall | |
| Friday 18 th December | Christmas Carols | 1:30 pm | St Mary's Church | |
| | Everyone welcome | | | |
| Friday 18 th December | End of Term | 3:00pm | | |

| Term | Open on the morning of Close on the afternoor | | |
|-------------|---|----------------------|--|
| Autumn Term | Thursday 3 September | Friday 23 October | |
| | Monday 2 November | Friday 18 December | |
| Spring Term | Tuesday 5 January | Thursday 11 February | |
| | Monday 22 February | Friday 24 March | |
| Summer Term | Tuesday 12 April | Friday 27 May | |
| | Tuesday 7 June | Thursday 21 July | |

*Schools will be closed on Bank Holiday Monday 2 May 2016

Inset Dates

Wednesday 2nd September 2015 Monday 4th January 2016 Friday 12th February 2016 Monday 11th April 2016 Monday 6th June 201