



ST. BEN'S BULLETIN: 8th December 2023

Please see our PTFA Facebook Page

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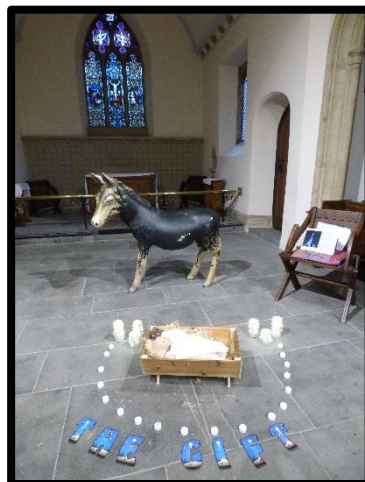
St. Ben's School Christian Values: *Community, Resilience and Kindness*

WORKSHOPS REMIND US OF THE TRUE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS

On Monday and Tuesday this week, every pupil got to learn about the true meaning of Christmas as they visited St. Benedict's Church for Christmas Story workshops.

Run by members of the local congregation, including our Visiting Christians, the sessions marked the five stages of the Christmas Story. With all the marketing and money involved in a modern Christmas it is sometimes difficult to remember the root of this celebration and this was a timely reminder to all pupils of what Christmas is really about.

A HUGE thank you to the team of volunteers that delivered the workshops – we are so grateful to you all.



ATTENDANCE

We are really proud of our strong attendance (currently 95.6% as a school). Please help us to keep it this way by ensuring your child does not miss any school, other than emergencies or genuine illness. Please be aware that we may fine for holidays taken during term time.



YEAR 5 PIANO STAR



Isabelle in Year 5 has been working really hard to learn Silent Night on the piano. Miss Holt is extremely proud of Isabelle's efforts and invited Mr Ranger to watch her perform at the end of Isabelle's lesson. Her rendition was flawless! Well done, Isabelle; your hard work is paying off!



NO SMOKING OUTSIDE SCHOOL OR PHONES IN SCHOOL

It has come to our attention that some parents (or adults collecting pupils) are smoking outside school. Please refrain from doing this immediately outside school. It is unacceptable for children to have to breathe in smoke or walk through it as they leave school. If you must smoke while waiting for your child, please go further away from the entrance.

Also a reminder that we are a mobile phone-free zone – please put your phone away as you enter the school grounds. Many thanks.

YEAR 4 RELISH MULTI-SPORTS FESTIVAL

On Tuesday, Year 4 braved the weather to travel to Strode Sports Hall for a fabulous morning of sport. Led by the SASP team and their brilliant Strode College Sports Leaders, the children were put through their paces in a number of different physical challenges.

Leaders Alex and Curtis were thoroughly impressed with Year 4's behaviour and energy levels. Well done, everyone!



What are you up to?



Our weekly focus on what our wonderful pupils are up to out of school hours. This week, we feature Year 3 Libby, who has bagged herself a Star of the Month award for her fabulous 'can do attitude and incredible effort' at Griffin Trampolining. We also feature Sam from Year 6 who has achieved his yellow belt at Kickboxing; Sam is now working towards his orange belt. Well done to both of you!

Do you have a skill or hobby you would like us to showcase? Would you like us to feature you in the newsletter? Simply Dojo Mr Ranger to let him know.



ACHIEVEMENTS and AWARDS

<u>Class:</u>	<u>Headteacher's Award</u>	<u>Teacher's Award</u>
Cats:	Paisley: for writing great instructions on how to trap a stone age dog.	Carmen: being so enthusiastic in our nativity practise and during learning time.
Unicorns:	Charlie A: for working really hard to learn his lines.	Charlie R: for being a resilient tortoise and not giving up in their learning.
Chameleons:	Leo: a brilliant well-bring champion and organising the advent calendar activities.	Tallula: for super contributions in maths and clear explanations.
Owls:	Faye: for independent leopard, working hard in all subjects.	Derek: for working really hard on his English news report independently.
Spiders:	Flora: for always being a kind, positive and resilient member of Spider class.	Shahala: for working so hard on her biography writing this week!
Tortoises:	Oriella: for always having a positive and cheerful attitude to school.	Blaize: for fantastic sentence writing.
Leopards:	Mya: for being a resilient tortoise in maths.	Eyed: for always having a focussed and positive attitude towards his learning.
Peacocks:	Alfred: for excellent effort and perseverance with his handwriting.	Freddie: for excellent effort and concentration in class.
<u>Class Dojo Champs</u>	This week's champions are Unicorn Class with 21.2 points per child and they get an extra break next week. Well done, Unicorns!	
<u>Attendance Champs</u>	Our attendance champs this week are Spider Class with 99.2%! Well done, Spiders, you get a well-deserved extra break next week.	
<u>Book Battle Champs</u>	<p>This week the following % of children managed to read 4 x a week at home:</p> <p>Cat – 100% Unicorn - 80%, Owl - 78%, Chameleon - 66 %</p> <p>Tortoise –88%, Spider – 72%, Leopard - 78%, Peacock - 84%</p> <p>Meaning that this week's champs are Cat class with an unprecedented 100%! Congratulations to Cat Class who are top class this half term and earn themselves a mufti day next Thursday (14th December).</p>	
<u>Other awards:</u>	Accelerated Reader Target Master awards for Ruby, Nahla and Paisley (Y3) and Reggie N (Y4). Millionaires' Club: Dulcie (Y6). Values awards for Harry (kindness), Nam (resilience) and Akishar (kindness); well done, lads! Bronze awards: Louis, Paisley and Cave (Y3); Derek (Y4); Thea, Dulcie, Brandon and Nam (Y6).	

Dates for your diary:

Date:	Event/Activity:
Tues 12 th Dec	Year 3 Nativity at St. Benedict's Church – 2pm afternoon performance to school, 6pm to parents and carers (please bring your child to school at 5:50pm, then take your seat in the church.
Tues 13 th Dec	Wear your Christmas Jumper to School Day (please bring in a donation towards Save the Children – recommended £1). Cutting of the Holy Thorn – Year 6 School Christmas Lunch Christmas Carols Service – 2pm: at St. Benedict's Church
Thurs 14 th Dec	Cat Class to come to school in mufti – they are this half term's Book Battle Champs – Well done, Cats!
Fri 15 th Dec	Class parties – children to come in in party clothes (remember usual rules about jewellery, make-up and heeled shoes apply).
Fri 15 th Dec	Break up for Christmas Holiday
2 nd January '24	Return to school after Christmas Holidays.

