



## ST. BEN'S BULLETIN: 16th December 2022



*Please see our PTFA Facebook Page*

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**St. Ben's School Christian Values for this term: Community and Peace**

### HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

It's been a long and busy term, full of adventures in and out of the classroom. Now it's time to relax for a few weeks and have a wonderful Christmas. Thanks to all our pupils and parents and carers for their hard work since September; it is really paying off, as you can see in your child's mini-report. Thanks, too, to our wonderful staff who have kept smiling throughout and, as ever, made your child's learning engaging and fun.

Best wishes to you all for a peaceful and happy Christmas.  
See you back at school on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January.

### Choir Sing at Cathedral

On Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December, our School Choir, led by Mrs Coton, had the opportunity to sing at the Cathedral with 400 other singers.

See page 3 for Florence, Holly, Dulcie and Charlotte's report...

### YEAR 3's STAR IN NATIVITY

On Tuesday this week, Year 3 produced two magical nativity performances to enraptured audiences. In the afternoon, they entertained the whole school and in the evening they performed to parents and carers. Thank you to the Year 3 team for their hard work and to St. Benedict's Church for allowing us to use the church. The children were magnificent and melted many hearts with their singing, acting and dancing.



## ACHIEVEMENTS and AWARDS

<u>Class:</u>	<u>Headteacher's Award</u>	<u>Teacher's Award</u>
<b>Cats:</b>	Darcie: Trying really hard with her presentation in English.	Mark: For his beautiful handwriting in English.
<b>Unicorns:</b>	Isaac: Great improvement in his handwriting.	Sofia: Beautiful presentation.
<b>Chameleons:</b>	Daisy: Beautifully presented diary writing.	Mason Tr: Fantastic improvement in his handwriting.
<b>Owls:</b>	Elsie: Beautiful presentation writing a diary entry.	Jamie: Super effort to improve his handwriting.
<b>Spiders:</b>	Emily: Working hard on her presentation and handwriting.	Ethan H: Improved focus in class.
<b>Tortoises:</b>	Rosalee: Creating a beautiful Tudor portrait.	Ethan W: Consistent hard work and focus this term.
<b>Leopards:</b>	Austin: Working hard in all areas, including presentation.	Lilith: For beautifully presented history.
<b>Peacocks:</b>	Orson: Making lots of progress with his handwriting.	Ned: For putting extra effort into his handwriting.
<b><u>Dojo Points Champs</u></b>	Chameleon Class were this week's winning class with an average of 23 Dojo points each. They win an extra break! Well done, Chameleons!	
<b><u>Attendance Champs</u></b>	Owls scoop the attendance award AGAIN this week with 97.5% attendance. They win an extra break! Great work, Owls!	
<b><u>Book Battle Champs</u></b>	This week's Book Battle Champs are Tortoises – 67% of them read 5 X per week; more than any other class – they get an extra break and are one step closer to their very own non-uniform day; great reading, Tortoises!	
<b><u>Other Awards</u></b>	<p>Target Masters for: Darcie, Nellie, Tallula, Raphael, Taran, Isaac, Prudence, Willow and Sam (Y3); Archie (Y4); Corey (Y5); Noah, Lily, Aimee, Rhiley, Lucas (Y6). Star Pointer awards for: Thomas, Reggie, Jack C, Austin, Isaac, Charlie (Y3); Zander and Daniel (Y6). A HUGE well done to Spencer who is now a double Millionaire and has also hit 300 AR points! WOW!</p> <p>Bronze Behaviour Awards: Willow, Mark, Jack C, Sophia (Y3); Amelia, Sophia, Megan MJ, Hartley, Shahala, Jessica, Solomiia, Orrin, Owen, Talia, Megan, Reuben, Raphael, Jasmine (Y4); Mya, Max, Luka, Corey, Bessie, Florence (Y5); Aaron and Sophie (Y6); Silver awards: Sam (Y5). Very well done, everyone!</p>	

## Christmas Story Workshops remember the true reason for the season

On Wednesday and Thursday this week, members of St. Benedict's Church ran workshops for children that revisited the real reason for Christmas as they re-enacted the stages of the Nativity Story. Every year group participated in the sessions and the children really enjoyed the peace and calm amidst the frenzy of a modern Christmas. Huge thanks to Annie, Phil, Mike, Roger, Di and Maggie.





# CHOIR TAKE PART IN CATHEDRAL EVENT

**Report by Florence, Holly, Dulcie and Charlotte; Year 5**

On Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December, the school choir went to Wells Cathedral to perform for a concert. After Mr Lintell dropped us off at Wells we entered the Cathedral Green to find Wells Cathedral. As we entered the Cathedral there were a couple other schools practising so we had to be quiet. After we put our bags away it was time for lunch. We ate our lunch in the Cathedral Green. After lunch we went back inside to practise. Two of our songs were Hark the Herald Angels Sing and Oh come all ye faithful. After those songs we started practising our own songs. Our song we sang was Sing a Song of Christmas Cheer. After practising our song we were getting ready to eat our tea. Then we walked to the Blue School to have our tea. After tea we went back to Wells Cathedral for the concert. There were over 400 people performing and over 500 people watching our performance. There was a lady talking for a few minutes to start the concert. The county youth choir started off the concert. Next we did

a round of Christmas songs. Firstly it was Deck the halls with boughs of holly, second it was Jingle Bells, then it was Good king Wenceslas. Last of all it was our song and a different school Silent Night. After a few songs later all of the people sang Hark the herald angels sing. Then we sang Oh come all ye faithful and everyone sang it. Then we started to sing our individual school songs it was our time to shine we sang Sing a song of Christmas Cheer we sang the song beautifully and after a few songs and one of them was 12 days of Christmas and all the primary schools sang and a partridge in a pear tree all the schools sang the last verse of the 12 days of Christmas. After we sang we wish you a Merry Christmas. Then we went to grab our bags and coats to go home.



## MIDDAY SUPERVISOR ROLE VACANCY

We are seeking a new member of our lunchtime team. If you are interested in applying, please see the application form on our website. The closing date for applications is 5<sup>th</sup> Jan 2022.

# What are you up to?

**Our weekly focus on what our wonderful pupils are getting up to out of school.**

This week we feature Harry in Year 6 who represented the school at the Advent Service last Sunday. Harry is a member of the local cub group and stood up at St. John's Church on behalf of the cubs and the school. Thank you, Harry, and well done!

We also celebrate Faye in Year 3 who has been horse-riding since she could walk. Faye continues to work on her equestrian skills.



**What have you been up to? Send Mr Ranger a Class Dojo message or contact your child's teacher. You could be the star of next week's newsletter!**

# CHRISTMAS LUNCH IS A FESTIVE TREAT

On Wednesday 14th December, pupils, staff and governors enjoyed a delicious Christmas lunch courtesy of Glastonbury Festival. The tasty meal was cooked up by our usual food provider, Beech Catering and set taste-buds tingling! A huge thank you to staff and governors for serving up the delicious feast and to the Eavises for funding the lunch each year.



## Dates for your diary:

Date:	Event/Activity:
Tues 3rd January	Return to school after Holidays DASH and Ben's Den start on Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January.
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 4 begin swimming – please bring kit!
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> January	A clubs letter will go out for other clubs in the first week back; Spring Term after school clubs will begin on <b>Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January.</b> Drama Club will run once again, starting on Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> January.



## NURTURE GROUP MAKE FESTIVE DECORATIONS FOR CARE HOME

Our wonderful Nurture Group, along with group leader Mrs Tidball, have been creating some magic for local Care Home residents. This week they delivered their festive decorations for Care Home residents to adorn their rooms. The Care Home responded with Christmas cards for the pupils written by residents.



## PUPIL PREMIUM GRANT

We are aware that circumstances are always changing for families, particularly with the hardships many of us face at the moment with rising food prices and energy costs spiralling. Please don't forget that your child may be eligible for the Pupil Premium Grant which could help you with their school costs. More than 1 in every 3 of our pupils are already in receipt of the Pupil Premium Grant and they are benefitting from opportunities that may include:

- Subsidising trips,
- Subsidising uniform,
- Eligibility for Free School Meals,
- Accessing other opportunities such as cultural experiences.

It is very simple to apply and it may offer you, and your child, some much needed support. Please contact our office on 01458 831811. We look forward to helping you.

## THE START OF THE DAY

Part of our Positive Behaviour Policy is that teachers will greet pupils as they come into school. We believe this is a really important interaction and starts the day in a positive way, helping to build relationships between staff and pupils. For this to happen, pupils must be at school on time, and teachers must be free to greet the children.

I am aware that some parents of pupils are keen to speak to teachers at the beginning of the day, but this is having an impact on teachers meeting and greeting their class, so, from Monday, I would respectfully request that if you need to communicate a message to teachers, please do this through Class Dojo or make an appointment to meet your child's teacher.

A reminder that we shut the back gate at 8:45am, so if you are arriving at school later than this, please go to the front of school. Please remember that the playground is open from 8:30am, so if your child is frequently late, why not drop them off earlier. Mr Ranger will be contacting parents and carers of pupils who are regularly late to discuss the impact of this on their learning, relationships and wellbeing.



# Getting your child to school on time matters. Did you know...

**If in a school year your child is late every day...**

5 minutes  
10 minutes  
15 minutes  
20 minutes  
30 minutes

**Your child would have lost approximately...**

3.5 days from school  
7 days from school  
10 days from school  
14.5 days from school  
22 days from school

**Or they would have missed approximately...**

20 lessons  
41 lessons  
55 lessons  
82 lessons  
123 lessons

**You should not take your child on holiday during term time.  
Please encourage punctuality to maintain school attendance.  
Remember Absence = Lost Opportunities**



# Getting your child to school really matters. Did you know...

**If your child's attendance during the school year is...**

95%  
90%  
85%  
80%  
75%  
70%  
65%

**Your child would have lost approximately...**

9 days  
19 days  
29 days  
38 days  
48 days  
57 days  
67 days

**Or they would have lost approximately...**

50 lessons  
100 lessons  
150 lessons  
200 lessons  
250 lessons  
290 lessons  
340 lessons

**You should not take your child on holiday during term time.  
Please encourage punctuality to maintain school attendance.  
Remember Absence = Lost Opportunities**