



## Bishop Wood C of E Junior School

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Mr G Stanley, Headteacher

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023

### **Collective Worship – Advent**

It was my pleasure to introduce the period of Advent to the children. It was incredible to hear about the variety of Advent Calendars on the market place. We even heard about one family whose cat has their own Advent Calendar! I showed the children the Bishop Wood Advent Calendar which comprises 5 candles which are lit in stages as we approach Christmas. The candle for this week stood for Hope which is always an excellent start as it fits in so perfectly with our school vision. The candles will be lit in every collective worship between now and the end of term.

### **Christmas Events at Bishop Wood**

Christmas is always a busy time in schools and there are lots of events happening over the next few weeks in school. We hope that the children, staff and parents will all enjoy these events as we head towards the Christmas Break.

- Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Lunch at School – Children may wear Christmas Jumpers all day.
- Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm – Christmas Service in Church of St Peter and St Paul – all welcome!
- Monday 18<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Jumpers may be worn in school on all days.
- Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Golden Time in School for the children!
- Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December at 9.30am – Final Collective Worship of the term in Church of St Peter and St Paul – all welcome!

### **Ms Hill**

After many years of supporting children and families at Bishop Wood, Ms Hill has announced that she will be leaving us at the end of the term. As you can imagine, the role of a pupil and family support worker can be very challenging and Ms Hill has decided that the time is right to take a break from the therapy workplace. Many schools do not have such a valuable in-house resource but we are committed to finding an able replacement for Ms Hill in time for there to be an effective and efficient handover. This will ensure that the children continue to receive the excellent care in the New Year. I am sure that many of you will want to say farewell and thank you to Ms Hill. She will be talking to the children she works with about the situation in the coming weeks.

### **Attendance**

Good attendance at school is clearly very important. We have noticed an increase in holidays being taken during term time, this year. Whilst we understand that the cost of holidays can be a challenge, schools are not allowed to authorise term time trips. These holidays may well impact your child's academic progress. We have also seen a pattern of children having the day of their birthday off school. These will also be logged as unauthorised absences. If you are concerned about your child's attendance and would like to discuss it, please book an appointment via the office.

### **Netball - Bishop Wood v Galley Hill**

Our netball team braved the showers for our home match against Galley Hill. After a slow start, our team soon gained focus and worked well to secure a lead. It was lovely to see the team of Year 5s and 6s work together. Player of the match was Tilly who demonstrated her skills in defence as well as being our top scorer of the game.

### **Netball – Bishop Wood v Kings Langley**

Bishop Wood Netball team travelled to Kings Langley Primary School for their first away match. It was a strong start to the match as the team worked well together. Our passing was good with great defending and lots of goals scored. The final score was 9-3 to Bishop Wood.

Well done Team!

### **Happy Lunchtime**

We were very pleased to welcome Steve Harris to school on Tuesday to help us shape a new approach to our lunchtimes which will be more structured and engaging for the children. We are busy working through all the info to build a plan ready for a launch in January!

### **Buddies Christmas Fair and Wreath Making**



Thank you so much to the Buddies for their great efforts this week. They have organised two fantastic events in school which will help their fundraising for school. The Buddies really are a fantastic team of volunteers who put so much energy into these events. We really are very grateful!

#### **Author Visit**

Sadly, the visiting author (Iona Rangeley) was unwell this week and did not come to school. This visit has been rescheduled for 11<sup>th</sup> December.

#### **Christingle**

The Tring Team Parish are holding two Christingle Services this year. They are happening at the following times and ALL are welcome:

- Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December – Tring Church at 3.00pm
- Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December – Aldbury Church at 10.00am

#### **Behaviour for Learning Champions**

Congratulations to the following children who were the Behaviour for Learning Champions last week!

3I - Bethany C  
3S - Seb NV  
4A - Alfie JP  
4H - Lucia L  
5DR - Aubree T  
5H - Dylan H  
6C - Sam W  
6M - Chelsea T

#### **Celebration**

This week we celebrated the following pupils in school:

3I – Joshua R and Ellis R  
3S – Zach T and Aoife C  
4A – Charlie S and Bella DS  
4H – Sophie M and Fin T  
5DR – Ava A and Liam R  
5H – Edie M and Mia D  
6C – Finlay S and Lola E  
6M – Isobel C and Evie T

#### *Other Honours*

Platinum Reading – Jack T  
Pen Licences – Jack S and Billy K  
George M – Player of the Week TTJFC  
Elise M, Aoife C, Ava T and Ada W – Gymnastics  
Melody B – Player of the Match (football)

#### **Around School**

The highlight for Year 3 this week was their trip to the Natural History Museum in Tring. Year 4 also had an offsite visit this week. They went to the BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir in Neasden. Year 5 have had some very productive sessions on what it means to be a good friend and how to root their play in kindness. Year 6 have been investigating refraction in Science.

Next week, Year 3 will be writing speeches linked to their work on fables. Year 4 will be looking at food chains in Science. Year 5 are going to be tackling fractions and Year 6 will be starting a Christmas sewing project.

#### **Diary Dates**

Please find below a list of key dates for the Autumn Term. We will add to this as we progress through the school year. New dates will be highlighted.

Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> December	Open Morning - New Y2 Parents
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Lunch Day – Available to book now!
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Pupils can wear Christmas Jumpers

Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> , Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Pupils can wear Christmas Jumpers in school
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Nativity – Evening Performance 7pm in St Peter & St Paul Church
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	9.30am – Christmas Service in St Peter & St Paul Church
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	1.30pm – School closes for Christmas

Thank you and best wishes

Mr Stanley