

St Margaret's C.E.P. School

Newsletter

Inspire, Nurture, Discover

Learning as we grow, Growing as we learn, Rooted in Jesus

Thursday 15th Dec

Issue No: 5

Swimming

Bramley Class have now participated in 13, 45 minute swimming lessons since September and I am delighted that the following distances have been achieved:

10m Joseph, Zara, Oscar, Saribel, Arni, Letty and Issac

15m Joshua W, Archie B and Loughlin

20m Sophie M

25m Teddy

50m Eloise, Evie, Amelia, Sophie C, Matilda and Olivia

100m Alfie B, Archie F, Harris, Annie, Halo, Mason and Emilia

200m Harry A, Harry H, Freya, Robyn, Fran and Kris

400m Ned and Joshua S

Christmas Celebrations: Nativity

This year 'Mary's Knitting' was performed and what a success it was too. With clear narrators, enthusiastic singing and bundles of confidence from all the cast, each of the performances were a great success and I'm sure created some cherished memories.

Christmas Jumper Day

Many thanks for your contributions to Save the Children. A total of £145.25 was raised.

Christmas Tree

Thank you to the Elliott-Dunns for donating our Christmas tree.

Chocolate Tombola

Well, this was a highly competitive event and consequently, a HUGE amount of chocolate was donated, in fact 82.5kg, a 40% increase on

2021!! Well done to Bramley Class for winning.

Christmas Fair

With the freezing weather, it was particularly pleasing to have the fair back in the school. As ever, thank you for the many donations especially the cakes many of which were made by Rupert's grandma once again, the many draw prizes, bottles, soft toys and much more. Congratulations to Kelly Rigden and the committee for organising another great event. Well done to Sophie C for winning the rather large teddy...!!!!



Including the nativities, £2546 was raised. Finally, a reminder that everyone is most welcome to our [Carol Service in church tomorrow morning](#). Refreshments will be available from 8.45am. Please wrap up warm!

Development of the Grounds

The quotes have now been accepted for 2 major projects to proceed; the new growing garden which will be created between the main school building and the Garden Room and the ambitious plans for our spiritual garden which will be accessible from the far playground via a short path. This is going to include 6 zones and I am grateful for the involvement of

Elaine Mitchell and Emma Howard. More details will be provided soon.

However, there's a but! Recently the Trim Trail had its annual inspection and the drought conditions in summer have caused the tree roots to cause some substantial damage to the rubber matting as well as to the foundations of the equipment. We have taken advice and it appears the only option available to us is to have the 3 trees removed before they start damaging the two tarmac surfaces. I never like losing trees but last year we planted 9 new silver birch and we have been allocated trees as part of the Green Canopy initiative.

Attendance

As we approach the Christmas holiday, I would like to share some attendance with you. We have achieved 96.4% up to and including last Friday. This is a good outcome although there is a handful of children whose attendance is below 90%. New learning builds on prior learning and good attendance ensures children have the opportunity to do this. Please also remember that medical appointments should be avoided in school time. Sometimes this is unavoidable but we have seen an increase in the last few weeks. Thank you for your support in this essential part of school life.

Finally, on behalf of the staff and governors, may I wish you all a very happy and healthy Christmas. We look forward to welcoming everyone back on Wednesday 4th January 2023.