JOY TO THE WORLD!

Advent season is well under way and we have lit candles on the Advent Crown for the past two weeks. This will be completed with all candles lit at our final collective worship event at the Parish Church on Tuesday 18th. In worship we have been practising singing for the service and Rev Pete last week spoke about Advent as a time for hope. Reverse Advent calendar gifts have gone to the local Food Share project and the charity we are supporting with our Christmas fundraising this year is Daisy’s Dream. The PSA Christmas Fayre this year raised a record-breaking £6,286 for the school. Wow! Thank you so much for all who organised, led and supported the event.

House Singing

Today is Christmas lunch and House singing. A lovely range of Christmas jumpers and seasonal, festive dress has been worn. The lunch from Aspens went down well and we enjoyed Christmas music while we munched. House singing this year – themed ‘Here we go again’ – challenged us to prepare one Abba song and one Christmas song. Standards seem to improve each year and it was a tough job for our judges, Rev Pete and Mrs Hopkins. Columba ran out winners with their versions of “I have a Dream” and “Carol of the Bells”. Congratulations to Mr. Fabian and Mrs Smith and all who took part or helped prepare students in each House for the event.

Advent Carol Service

The Advent Carol Service is of course next Tuesday afternoon at 2pm St John the Baptist Church High Street Windsor (next to the Guildhall). All parents are welcome to join us – do leave plenty of time to park and get to the church on time. Students are dismissing directly from the Church at 3pm as previously advised. The service includes several musical items, instrumental solos and the choir who warm up the previous evening by singing as part of the Living Advent Calendar programme in a solicitor’s office opposite the same Parish Church (Windsor High Street) at 6.15pm on Monday 17th December. Do come along and support if you can.

Reading Assembly

Our special ‘Reading’ assembly on Wednesday showed exactly how we have brought joy to the world by celebrating our support for the Lizalex School in Ghana. Donations of books from our school, students and parents have been sent to this school and we enjoyed seeing film of the African students unpacking them and stocking the library shelves. They look SO happy! The assembly also celebrated our Millionaire readers, Honours Readers, Lexia Levels, reading buddies and shared recommended reads and summer reading challenge rewards too. A special award went to Martha Arnold of 6/1 for raising £1,398.00 for a sponsored read. Thanks to Mrs Winter for organising this event and to Miss Williams for assisting and the librarian team for all their work.

Parents Evenings and Communications

There was a good turnout of Year 5 Parents at the Information Evening and most parents rated it 5/5 – good to know it was useful.

Year 7 parents met teachers on Wednesday this week and Year 5 get the chance to do likewise after Christmas (9th January). Look out for letters home shortly regarding appearance and uniform guidelines, regulation haircuts and trainers. While some students wear different shoes with permission for temporary medical conditions, everyone else is expected to be wearing plain black school shoes, not sports or leisure shoes.

Goodbye and Good Luck

On Wednesday it is the end of term and we finish at 2pm that afternoon. We will sadly be saying goodbye to Mrs Ferrari who has been running our afternoon reception desk for the past 7 months and Mr Tackney who has been helping out with our sports and PE programme this term. We wish them both well with their changes and Mr Tackney good luck with the sponsored degree course he will be starting shortly. We have sent best wishes for a speedy recovery to Mrs Bruce-Carter who finished on Monday ahead of a hospital appointment. We have in turn welcomed Mrs Usher on her induction visits for the past two weeks ahead of joining us in January taking on Mrs Hughes' timetable and classes.

Winter Weather

We finish at 2pm on Wednesday – the last day of this Term 2. School resumes on Thursday 3rd January 2019 at the normal start time of 8.35am. In the event of heavy snow, icy conditions or problems with heating or access at this time of year we will publish notice of any closures on our website and via text message. We will publish as soon as a decision is made and as early as possible to help families make arrangements. However, it is always our aim to stay open and we do not rush to decisions when the state of the weather is not certain;

Windsor Food Share

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our Reverse Advent Boxes. The pupils wanted to do them again this year to reflect our school values of service, respect, excellence and faith. They really are a great way to live out the gospel message of loving each other and treating others as we would like to be treated. The boxes have been taken to Windsor Food Share and will be distributed to families in time for Christmas.

Some of the Pupils enjoying Christmas Lunch today

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please be patient. We have rarely closed at any point in the last ten years and have sometimes been open for business while others have not. We always try to do our best. We wish you a very merry Christmas and a happy new year! God Bless Us Every One!

Trudie Morgan, Sienne Knowland and Leo Curtis with a Reverse Advent Box

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 17th December
Windsor Living Advent Calendar—6.15pm

Tuesday 18th December
Carol Service 2.00pm

Wednesday 19th December
End of Term—2.00pm

Thursday 3rd January
Pupils return to School

Monday 7th January
PSA Meeting at School 7pm

Wednesday 9th January
Year 5 Parents’ Evening 4.00pm

Accelerated Readers—Congratulations go to:

**Millionaires:**
Gracie Dale 7/4, Martha Beswick 6/4, and Bryony Gaskell 7/1.

Collection of Children for Appointments
If you need to collect your child for an appointment during school hours, please allow extra time for parking outside school, walking through the pedestrian gates and coming to Reception. Unfortunately, we cannot have children “ready and waiting” as this means taking them out of the class and them waiting for parents who can sometimes run late. We thank you for your support.

Hot Chocolate with the Heads
16 pupils were invited to meet and drink hot chocolate with our Co-Head Teachers this week. Once the whippy cream was consumed, the discussion in the meeting focused on pupils’ views of our school uniform.

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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>PE</th>
<th>Games</th>
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<tr>
<td>5/6</td>
<td>Dance</td>
<td>Netball</td>
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<tr>
<td>7/8</td>
<td>Dance</td>
<td>Contact Rugby (Except 7/2 - Football, 7/3 - Netball, 8/1 - Football)</td>
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Please ensure all pupils have the correct PE kit for the activities above including gum shields for contact rugby and shin pads for football.

This Girl can Competition
Ladies over Christmas we would like you to create your own THIS GIRL CAN posters to go up on display in the PE department. We are aiming to show how active girls are within our school as well as show off all the amazing sports you participate in. You have until Friday 18th January to get your entries in. Please follow the link below to create your own poster. When completed tap on the image to save and print. We look forward to seeing all of your entries.

http://www.thisgirlcan.co.uk/

NSPCC and O2 - keeping children safe online
O2 and the NSPCC have teamed up to produce a website supporting parents with understanding the different online apps and games that their children may be using.

It provides student and parent reviews, covers the content of each of the apps and also what the risks are.

Please see the link below for further information.
https://www.net-aware.org.uk

NSPCC

REMINDER
Year 6 Liddington, Wiltshire trip – the next payment is due 3rd January

Sports & PE Update
Next term pupils will be changing sports in PE and Games lessons. Please see the table of activities below.

- **PE**
  - 5/6 Dance
  - 7/8 Dance
- **Games**
  - Netball
  - Contact Rugby (Except 7/2 - Football, 7/3 - Netball, 8/1 - Football)

Please ensure all pupils have the correct PE kit for the activities above including gum shields for contact rugby and shin pads for football.

Wearing Glasses in P.E.
We have recently reviewed our policy on pupils wearing glasses in lessons and we have taken the decision to no longer allow pupils to wear ‘regular’ glasses when participating in school sport. From the start of next term, regular glasses must now be removed during PE / games and for sports clubs / competitions.

‘Sports’ glasses may be worn for the majority of topics with the exception of rugby. Guidance suggests that wearing sports glasses or contact lenses significantly reduces the risk of injury. We appreciate your support with this matter.

PSA NEWS ** ** PSA NEWS ** ** PSA NEWS ** **

Thank you to all the parents (and others) who helped in the build up to the fayre and on the night. We couldn’t organise it without your help, and it’s much appreciated. I think you’ll agree it was a fun night for the children and the adults seemed to be enjoying themselves too! Thank you too to the all the teachers who gave up their classrooms to, amongst other things: mole whacking, ping pong throwing and wild west targets; and also to the many members of staff that helped on the night too.

Thank you too for the Matched Giving donation from a parent that works at Vodafone, we received £350. We are very pleased to report that we raised (including the matched giving) a total of £6,286. This is being used for the benefit of all our children on extras to help them with their learning.

Some of the books donated that weren’t sold were added to the school library and others sent to the school in Ghana that the library supports. In recognition of their appreciation of our regular giving – the library in Ghana is called “Sterf Library”.

Congratulations to the winner of our first prize in the raffle (£100), Ann Winch - grandmother to Jimmy. The winner of the December 50:50 to be announced in the next issue of Serifboard.

We also had another fantastic disco last week, so thank you to the parents who came to help; we raised another fantastic sum of £1,014. If you want to see how the funds are spent, come to our next committee meeting on Monday 7th January 2019.

Thank you again from the PSA, we wish you a Merry Christmas and look forward to more fundraising next year.