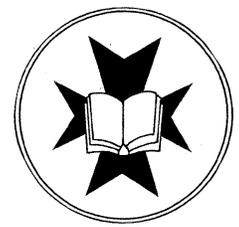




**St John's Primary School and Nursery**  
**- Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2016 -**  
Aiming high; proud to learn together.  
[www.st-johns.warwickshire.sch.uk](http://www.st-johns.warwickshire.sch.uk)



**Week 5: 30.11.16**

December is nearly here and with it comes panic as I realise that I have done absolutely nothing to prepare for Christmas yet! I am usually so organised, so I'm not quite sure how it has come around so quickly!

That said, school preparations are well under way. Mr Lee, Mr Sharp and Miss Eggleton have been spotted trying to choreograph a dance routine with metre sticks! Miss Cossins has been working the choir hard (with several public performances booked) and the school Christmas dinner has been booked (much to the delight of Mrs Neale in the kitchen).

Much to think about for everyone at the moment, but we are all in good humour and bracing ourselves for the last three weeks of merriment and business...

Have a very good week,

**Mr D Barrow**  
Head Teacher



**Christmas Tree Festival**

I really wanted to say a huge thank you for the hearts that have come in this week. We have had such a vast amount this year; I am completely overwhelmed. Thank you so much.

You have put such care and effort into each one; they will look beautiful. We have had hearts from all parts of our community: parents, children, relatives, Ready Rangers at the Children's Centre, and staff relatives too!

Thank you also to Mr and Mrs Symonds at Brooke Farm for donating the tree for the festival and the magnificent tree in the hall again. Christmas is indeed coming!

Don't forget to go and vote for our tree at St Nicholas Church - dates and times as follows:

<b>Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December</b>	<b>2.00pm - 4.30pm</b>
<b>Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December</b>	<b>10.00am - 8.00pm</b>
<b>Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December</b>	<b>10.00am - 4.30pm</b>

The winners will be announced and prizes awarded at the 10.00am morning service in St Nicholas' Church on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December. The church will then be open for viewing until 2.30pm.

**Christmas Fair and Non-Uniform Day**

It is our popular Christmas Fair on Friday! Santa will be there and there are lots of stalls to tempt you with those festive treats.

There is another non-uniform day on Friday. As detailed in the letter sent home on Monday, it is in return for a cuddly toy, bottle of any description, or cakes. It can be a combination of one, two or three of these items. We fully appreciate that this is an expensive time of year, but please do not feel obliged to go out and buy something new. Have a look through cupboards, toy boxes and recycled present drawers and send in what you can.

The Fair is at 3.30pm this Friday. We will look forward to seeing you there. Thank you for your continued support. The new PTA and I really appreciate it.

**Quick Reminders...**

*As Years 5 and 6 are off to their science lecture on Friday, they can bring their non-uniform to school to change into when they get back.*

***Entrance to the fair is £1.00 per adult,***  
*which will also get you entry into the raffle for prizes including a hamper, a night in a hotel, a meal for two, a Clarins gift package and more!*

***Entry to the fair is via the side Hall door.***  
*Please pick up as normal and then go round to the Hall. Mr Barrow and Mrs Baker will be there to sort out entry and tickets.*

**Spotty Dress-Up Day**

Thank you all for your participation in our Children in Need Spotty Day. We raised £288! The children looked great. Thank you for making such an effort and supporting this worthy national cause.

**Junior Leadership**

This week, we have been focussing on anti-bullying. We have looked at making the new policy easier to understand, and we have taken time to understand what bullying means.

The children are being proactive and are making anti-bullying posters, which will be displayed inside and outside very soon!

## Diary Dates

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE WILL BE NO CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY ON FRIDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> OR 16<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER.**

**Birthdays will be celebrated on the final Friday afternoon of term within school.**

Thu 1 <sup>st</sup> – Sun 4 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christmas Tree Festival at St Nicholas' Church
Fri 2 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	<b>PTA non-uniform day (in return for bottle, cuddly toy and cake donations)</b> pm: Year 5/6 trip to Warwick University Christmas science lecture <b>3.30pm-5.00pm: PTA Christmas Fair</b> <i>Note: After-school dodgeball session postponed</i> 6.30pm: KS2 Choir performing at Hatton Country World
Tue 6 <sup>th</sup> Dec	pm: KS2 choir singing Christmas songs at Newlands Care Home – <i>details to follow</i>
Sat 10 <sup>th</sup> Dec	3.00pm-7.30pm: Singing Playgrounds song leaders' celebration concert (All Saints Parish Church, Leamington Spa)
Mon 12 <sup>th</sup> Dec	9.15am: Reception Christmas performance - "Away in a Manger" 10.00am: Nursery Christmas Singalong
Tue 13 <sup>th</sup> Dec	2.15pm / 6.00pm: KS1 Christmas performances - "Whoops-a-Daisy Angel"
Wed 14 <sup>th</sup> Dec	2.15pm / 6.00pm: KS2 Christmas performances - "When Sasha Got Stuck Up the Chimney"
Thu 15 <sup>th</sup> Dec	PTA non-uniform day and Christmas disco – <i>details to follow</i> Whole-school Christmas lunch
<b>Fri 16<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	am: "Aladdin" <b>Break up for Christmas holiday</b>
<b>Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan 2017</b>	<b>Bank Holiday – SCHOOL CLOSED</b>
<b>Tue 3<sup>rd</sup> Jan 2017</b>	<b>INSET day – SCHOOL CLOSED</b>
<b>Wed 4<sup>th</sup> Jan 2017</b>	<b>Back to school</b>

## Parking

This is becoming a regular feature now in the newsletter. Please remember;

- Do not park on the yellow zigzag lines or double yellow lines
- Do not park across residents' driveways
- Please use the school crossing to cross the road

This is not meant to be a moan, but children's safety concerns all of us.

I have recently had a meeting with the Safer Routes to School Group about how we can improve road safety, particularly in Mortimer Road. I will keep you updated on this.

## Pantomime Performance

As you know, we have booked a much more cost-effective way of taking the children to a pantomime this year - the panto is coming to us. Please make sure that you send in your voluntary contribution of £2. This is a fraction of the cost of taking the children out and it looks set to be a very enjoyable experience.

## Christmas Cards

The children love writing Christmas cards and enjoy this tradition, which has been around for a long time. Please make sure that cards have the recipient's first and last name on, along with the class name.

I ask this every year and thank you so much to those that do this, but please could you also put whole classes together either with an elastic band or in a freezer bag as otherwise it can take ages for our Year 6 elves to sort!

## Governors' Corner

Sadly, Toni Derrick's term of office has come to an end and she has decided to move on after a long-standing association with St John's. I would like to thank her for all of her hard work and commitment to the school; she will be missed. She has, however, kindly agreed to help us with health and safety, which is much appreciated. Toni and Anne's health and safety walks are now legendary!

Anne Brough will also have a change of role as she moves to the role of Associate Governor for this academic year. This means that she will be able to balance all of her community commitments with school.

Therefore, we are welcoming two new Parent Governors:

- Ms Ruth Cooper (parent to Luke and Alex in Years 3 and 6)
- Mr Richard Owen (parent to Jacob in Reception)

Their appointments were ratified at the recent full Governing Body meeting.

## Baby News

Congratulations to Mr and Mrs Fenner, who welcomed baby Harrison on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November weighing a healthy 8lbs 10oz.



## PTA Disco

The PTA disco will be held on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December. It will be the same format as before; a separate letter will come out with details soon.