

Advent Term 2023 Newsletter 12

# St Mary's Catholic Primary School Newsletter

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"With Christ as our guide we let our light shine."

# A Message from Mrs. Blincow...

Dear Parent/Carers,

Despite the hustle and bustle of another busy week, we still found time to think on the true meaning of the season. In our Gospel reflection this week, we were reminded that with all the exciting things that are happening in the weeks before Christmas, we can get so distracted that sometimes we can forget about Jesus and His commandment to look out for and love others. As we prepare during Advent, to remember that first Christmas and anticipate the second coming, Jesus tells us all to be ready. While reflecting on this, we agreed that the best way to do this was to, as our Mission Statement says, is to use Christ as our guide, and let our light shine, thus we will always be ready.

Preparations continued with a beautiful Advent Reflection at Northampton Cathedral, with the children leading the service and on Friday, the whole school took part in an on-line reflection, 'The Peace Maker.'

Next week, we look forward to the Reception / KS1 Nativity, followed by, on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December KS2 and Carols Around the Tree.

Have a lovely weekend Mrs Blincow



**Aspiration-Resilience-Awareness-Compassion** 







### **PTFA Christmas Fair**

Last Friday, we had our very successful Christmas Fair. With visiting stall holders, donated books and toys, a raffle and a very busy tombola, there was something for everyone. Father Christmas and his very important elf helper even made an appearance.

Thank you to everyone who donated or volunteered to help out, without you, the event would not have been the success it was, raising £520 which goes towards helping to subsidise trips and events for the children.





# The Peace Maker – Advent Retreat





On Friday afternoon, the school took part in a second on-line retreat entitled 'The Peace Maker'. Through, prayer, song and activities, this was a wonderful way for the children to prepare for the coming of The Prince of Peace during this truly blessed time of expectant waiting. When much focus for many people can be on Christmas itself, this retreat was a perfect way of preparing for the birth of Jesus.

## **Travelling Crib**





The first of our children, in Reception, have taken home our 'Travelling Cribs'. Families will play host to the nativity characters for the night, reading the Christmas story together, then pass it on to another family to do the same. The journey is symbolic of Mary and

#### **Term Dates**

**Term Begins** Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October Staff INSET Day Children off Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November 1st Sunday of Advent Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December EYFS / KS1 Nativity Performances Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December KS2 Carols Around The Tree Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December Term Ends Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December

3.15PM

### Advent Reflection



On Wednesday evening, the Northampton OLICAT schools joined together at the Cathedral for a beautiful Advent Reflection. With Readings from both the Old and New Testaments and a fitting selection of carols and hymns, the children reminded us of the promises and prophecies made long ago and how they were fulfilled.

#### Jack And The Beanstalk



On Wednesday the hall was transformed into a West End stage, as the company from M&M Productions performed the popular pantomime, 'Jack and The Beanstalk.' With lots of audience participation from the children, the performance went down a storm.

**Aspiration-Resilience-Awareness-Compassion** 

