

St Alban & St Stephen Catholic Primary School & Nursery

More Festive Fun!!



Friday 11th December 2020



School Games—Santa Dash

Today, we all had great fun taking part in the School Games Santa Dash! The children and adults in the school took part in a fun filled session in this national sporting incentive. The weather didn't dampen our festive spirit as we got fit in our festive gear!



Reception News

This week, Reception have had a lot of fun preparing for Christmas. In RE, we have been learning all about Advent. During CIL, the children have been making their own Advent Wreaths using a wide range of materials. The children have also been making their own Advent promises and have thought carefully about ways that we can show our love as a gift to our family and friends.

The children have also been rehearsing and performing their Christmas Play, which we are excited to announce will be available to watch by Nursery and Reception parents from Tuesday 15th December (link will be shared via Tapestry after school). The children will be attending a special premier of this show during the day and then performing the final song to some very special visitors. The children have enjoyed learning about the Nativity story and the meaning of Christmas.



In Year 2, we prepared for Christmas by making Advent promises and recorded these on paper holly leaves, which we made into an Advent wreath display. In RE, we have been studying Advent which is a time for self-reflection and thinking about how could be better in the coming year. To augment our display, the children made angels to signify the heralding of the good news of Jesus' birth and the Annunciation of the Angel Gabriel to Mary.

2T's door was decorated with a theme from the Inuit tale 'The Polar Bear Son'. We took a scene from the book where an old woman adopts an orphaned polar bear as her son.

2B's door was decorated using an illustration from a story called 'Winter's Child' about a friendship between a boy and winter which prevented Spring from coming.



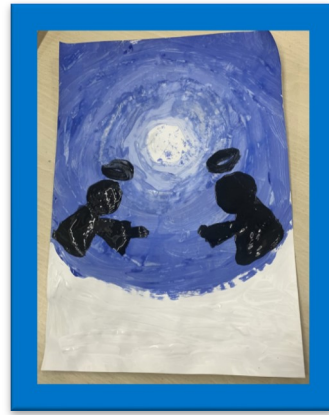
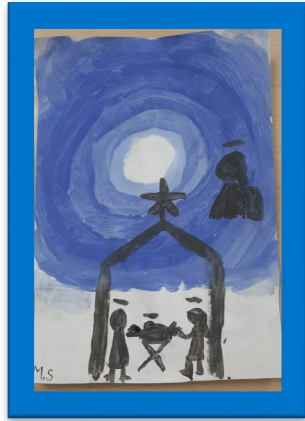


Year 2 have also made stained glass windows and snowflakes from paper to decorate our windows. We're all really looking forward to Christmas!



Christmas Art

Year 5 blended blue and white paint together to create a wintry backdrop and then painted nativity silhouettes on the top.



In Nursery , we have been getting super festive! The children have been making Christmas bauble suncatchers, playing in a snowy small world and keeping an eye on our cheeky classroom elf.



IMPORTANT NOTICE

The Department for Education informed schools on Tuesday 8th December that Public Health England has agreed a 6 day window AFTER the final day of teaching, in which schools are asked to remain contactable so they can assist with contact tracing where necessary. This will allow enough time for positive coronavirus (COVID-19) cases to be identified and confirmed by a test, and for relevant contacts in the school to be traced.

For St Alban & St Stephen Catholic Primary School & Nursery this would mean that some staff would have to work on Christmas Eve. Schools have therefore been given the option to close a day early so that school staff do not have to work on Christmas Eve.

Following the letter that was sent yesterday, please be reminded that school will close for the Christmas Holidays at the end of the day on Thursday 17th December at normal time. Owls and Badgers after school clubs will run as normal until 6pm. The school will not be open for the half day on Friday 18th December.

Children will be given home learning to do on the Friday morning and this will be submitted to the teacher when we return in the new year.

The following advice has been provided to schools by Public Health England:

*Where a pupil or staff member tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms **more than 48 hours** since being in school, **the school should not be contacted**. Parents and carers should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace.*

*For the first 6 days after teaching ends, if a pupil or staff member tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms **within 48 hours** of being in school, **the school is asked to assist in identifying close contacts** and advising self-isolation, as the individual may have been infectious whilst in school.*

School staff are not asked to remain on-call or conduct any contact tracing more than 6 days after the final day of teaching. Where a school's last teaching day is on Thursday 17 December, there should be no pupil contact tracing asks beyond Wednesday 23 December.

What does this mean for you?

If your child develops symptoms and subsequently tests positive for Coronavirus **within 48 hours** of being in school, we ask that you contact the school as soon as possible, up until and including, **Wednesday 23rd December 2020**, using our new Covid-19 email address: Covid19@ssas.herts.sch.uk

Please do not use the Office email address as this will not be manned during the Christmas period after Thursday 17th December 2020.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend.

God bless.

Mrs Moore, Mrs Porter, and all the staff of SSAS.