



St Bartholomew's CE Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Rachael Kilmister

Executive Headteacher: Mrs Katy Kent

December 2018

Dear Parents

VALUE OF THE MONTH

The Christian Value that we are exploring this month is Compassion. We will be linking this to the birth of Jesus and the compassion shown at this time. We will also be exploring the fact that Jesus was a refugee and the modern plight of those forced to flee their homes due to war and conflict, seeking sanctuary and compassion in other countries. With this in mind our Worship Council have organised a refugee awareness day in the New Year. We will be sending more details of this closer to the time.

FOND FAREWELLS

At the end of this term we will be saying a very fond (but sad) farewell to two members of staff. Mrs Fletcher will be leaving St Bart's in January to take up a new role as an Early Years Consultant for Sandwell Council. Mrs Fletcher has been a dedicated and much loved teacher and leader at St Bart's for many years and we will be very sad to see her go and I am sure you would like to join me in saying a huge thank you for the many excellent contributions she has made to the school during her time here; she has enriched the lives of so many children and been an asset as a senior leader and Deputy Head teacher. We would all like to wish her much success in her new role where she will be able to positively impact on the early education of so many children.

We will also be saying goodbye and good luck to Mr Batty at the end of this term. Mr Batty leaves to take up a new exciting career as a financial advisor. Having worked at St Bart's for over 10 years Mr Batty has been a dedicated Teaching Assistant, supporting the education of countless children. We would all like to wish him lots of luck in his new venture!

WARM WELCOMES

We will be welcoming two new members of staff in the New Year. Mrs Faye Walker, a highly experienced teacher, will be joining us as Reception 2 teacher, job sharing with Mrs Tooth. We also welcome back Mrs Dawn Hurdis who will be working as a teaching assistant across school. We are excited that they will be joining the team in January.

CHRISTMAS FAIR

Thank you to everyone who visited the Christmas Fair last Saturday - I am sure you will all agree it was a lovely event with so many stalls and activities. I would like to say a huge thank you to our wonderful PFA who continue to work tirelessly to raise funds for the school to enhance the equipment, resources and opportunities that we are able to provide for your children.

CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCES

We are very much looking forward to our KS1 and KS2 performances next week. The children (and staff) have been working really hard and we can't wait to see their shows! Each performance starts at 6.00pm and we would ask that children arrive at St Bart's Church at 5.30pm when the doors to the church will be open for parents and carers. Due to health and safety regulations, parents, carers and family members (including siblings) must have a ticket to watch the performance.

CHURCH SERVICES

We would like to invite you all to our end of term Christmas Service on Friday 21st December at 9.30am which will be held at St Bart's Church. In addition, please find attached details of Christmas Services being held over the festive period at St Bart's and St Anne's.

THANK YOU

I would like to say a massive thank you for your continued support this term. It has been a very exciting, successful and happy term in many ways; I think the true family spirit of our very special school community has shone through on so many occasions and was most perfectly shown during the recent cake sale (the proceeds of which now stand at nearly £800). Your kindness, generosity and support are truly appreciated and also help your children to thrive.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the coming performances and church service; however I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy and peaceful Christmas. We look forward to continued success and happiness in the New Year.

Yours sincerely

Rachael Kilmister
Headteacher