

# St Martin de Porres Primary School

## December 2023



Dear Parents/Carers

### Year 4 Assembly

At the start of the month we celebrated Christingle with Year 4 leading an assembly. Their message was truly symbolic of what the Christmas season means and that God's greatest gift to us was Jesus. Also a huge thank you to all the parents who attended, it was lovely to see so many of you there.



### Carol Service

Thank you to all those parents who attended our Carol Service on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December, which, as always, was a great evening. Well done to the choir for singing so beautifully and the readers who reminded us of the importance of Christmas and its true meaning. A big thank you to Mrs Coombes and Miss Mulcahey for leading the choir and for preparing the readers. Many thanks to Mrs Dye for supporting Mrs Coombes and Miss Mulcahey with the choir.



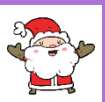
### Reception Nativity

We certainly got into the spirit of Christmas with the Reception Nativity. The children were amazing and celebrated the birth of Jesus in a very special way. We would like to say a huge thank you to all the staff in Reception and Nursery for all their hard work preparing the children so well and for everything they have done with the children since starting here in September.



### Christmas Lunch

On Wednesday the children and staff enjoyed Christmas lunch. It was great to see the children dressed up in their Christmas jumpers and they really seemed to enjoy the occasion. A big thank you to Grace and the kitchen staff for putting on a lovely meal. Thank you to Fr Christmas for taking time out of his busy schedule to visit the KS1 & EYs children.



### Pantomime

Key Stage 2 had a wonderful trip to see Jack and the Beanstalk, the Pantomime at the Grove Theatre on Monday. Years N, 1, 2 and 3 were all treated to Peter Pan the Pantomime in school. A great time was had by all..... Oh no it wasn't! Oh yes it was!

## Year 6 Activities

Thank you and well done to Year 6 for running the Advent Activities. £580 was raised and a further £315 raised from the non-uniform day. This will be used to improve the outdoor environment for the children.

## Medication in School

In accordance with our medicines policy, medication may be administered in school if it is required to be taken four times a day. Medication prescribed to be taken three times a day should be taken at home. If any medication does need to be administered in school, then an indemnity form must first be completed at the school office.

## School closure

We will always endeavour to be open, but we need to ensure that the school site is safe for children and staff. If it is necessary to close the school due to poor weather conditions then we will notify you by the following means. The most important of these is parentmail so please ensure your contact numbers/email addresses are up to date with us.

Parentmail text and email - if you are not yet registered, or your contact details have changed, then please contact the office ASAP.

Message on the school website - [www.stmartindeporesluton.co.uk](http://www.stmartindeporesluton.co.uk)

Message on LBC website - <http://www.luton.gov.uk/schoolclosures>



**Please do not call the school on the morning of a closure**

## Friends of St Martins

As mentioned in a previous parentmail We currently do not have a PTA, also known as 'The Friends of St Martins' which means that parental involvement, which is vital to help us to raise money, is not available to run events such as The Christmas Bazaar and year group discos.

We have had a few parent's show an interest in being part of this, however many more are still needed. We understand that many of you are busy with work, family and the daily commitments that come with being parents, however, if you feel that you would be able to commit to being part of our PTA in the future, then please do get in contact at [help@smdpluton.co.uk](mailto:help@smdpluton.co.uk) with your details and when we have a sufficient number of volunteers we will arrange an initial meeting.

Thank you in advance

## RHE TEN:TEN

We recently sent out a parent questionnaire about our new Relationship and Health Education scheme. Thank you to all of you who logged onto the website and watched the module videos before answering the questionnaire. This programme has been approved by **+Bishop David** and it is his chosen scheme to be used in all Catholic schools within our Diocese. All the lessons within it are underpinned by a Christian faith understanding that our deepest identity is as a child of God – created, chosen and loved by God and they are taught in accordance with Catholic teaching. A parent information session will be held in the new term regarding this.





## Goodbyes

As we end this term, there have been a few goodbyes to some members of staff who have left or will be leaving us. We would like to thank them for all they have done for the children and for the school in their time here and we wish them all the best in their future endeavours.

We say goodbye to: Mrs Keenan, Mrs Truman, Mrs Coombes, Miss McMahon, Mrs Sayed and Mrs Police.

## Christmas Masses

Please find below details of mass times at St Martin de Porres Church over the Christmas period

Sun 24th Dec 9.00am & 11.00am (as usual)

4.00pm 1st Mass of Christmas (Family Mass – children are invited to attend dressed as a character from the nativity)

12.00 Midnight Vigil Mass (carols from 11.30pm)

Mon 25th Dec 9.00am & 11.00am

## Dates for next term

Date	Event
3.1.2024	<b>INSET DAY – School is closed to all pupils</b>
4.1.2024	Pupils return to school
10.1.2024	Young voices
2.2.2024	Year 1 Candlemas Collective Worship
7 – 9.2.2024	Year 6 residential to Alton Castle
14.2.2024	Ash Wednesday Service
16.2.2024	Shine Bright, wear Bright – non uniform day
16.2.2024	<b>Break up for half term</b>

*'What can I give Him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;  
If I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; Yet what I can I give Him: give my heart.'*

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Governors, Parents, Staff and children for all of their support over the last term. We hope you have a holy and peaceful Christmas and we look forward to welcoming the children back to school on **Thursday 4th January 2024**

Kind regards

Mrs. A. Barnaville & Mrs. H. Gallagher

Co -Head Teachers

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2023

