



Tarleton Holy Trinity Church of England (Aided) Primary School

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Value...Dream...Achieve...

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Advent

Today is the 1st December, which many people see as the first day of Advent (see today's 'Did you know'... for more details). Advent is the countdown to Christmas with the word "Advent" being derived from the Latin word *adventus*, meaning "coming." Advent is also seen as a period of 'waiting'. The 1st December is the first day in the 'New Year' of the Christian Church Calendar. During many of our Worships we will be saying our Advent Prayer. It is enclosed at the end of this Newsletter if you would like to use it at home.

Children in Need 2020

Many thanks for all those who donated money during our Children in Need Day on 13th November. Mrs Sudworth counted the donations at the end of last week and a cheque for £256.20 is on its way to 'Pudsey's Piggy Bank'...thanks everyone!!

Celebration Worship

Well done to all the children who made it to my 'Virtual Bench' last week...and as always, there is a link on ClassDojo if you would like to watch the Celebration Worship!! The children on the Virtual Bench were:

Reception	Regan
Year 1	Izobel D
Year 2	Alfie
Year 3	Ronan
Year 4	Ella
Year 5	Theo
Year 6	Anabelle
Headteacher's Choice	Jamie in Year 2

Our Worship Theme for this Week is...

Advent - the first candle on the Advent Wreath - Hope

Team Points

Last Time's Winners - Douglas

Current Team Point Leader - Ribble

Letters to Santa

Don't forget that Father Christmas is waiting to hear from you, and would love for you to send him a letter!! If parents/carers could complete the attached form and email to santaletters.tht@gmail.com by this Friday (4th December). A payment of £2.50 per child is needed (made via Parentpay) to pay for the postage, (the North Pole is quite a distance from Tarleton).

Friends Christmas Chocolate Raffle

Our Christmas Raffle to win a 'Chocolate Hamper' has already started, trying to raise some much needed funds for the school!! Raffle tickets are available to purchase from your child's class teacher at 50p a ticket with 3 chocolate prizes to be won in each class. Money should be placed in a sealed envelope with your **child's name** and **amount** clearly written on the front and passed to their class teacher. Tickets are already on sale and the draw will take place on Wednesday 16th December in class. See the flyer at the end of this Newsletter for more details and to see a photo of what the hampers look like.

Christmas at THT 2020 - A reminder of the Christmas activities we are 'getting up to' at THT this year...

School Choir Performance:

A small, socially distanced Year 4, 5 and 6 choir will be performing 3 Christmas songs on 11th December, on the Junior Yard at 2.40pm. Come and watch if you can - but don't forget the 2 metre rule!!

Christmas Production / Service:

We will be putting together an End of Term Presentation where each class will 'perform' an item. It won't be the 'full on' Production that we usually have, but might be a selection of poems, dances etc...These will be published on Facebook and links put on the website and ClassDojo for all to enjoy. The links will come to you towards the end of the term.

Christmas Dinner:

Despite COVID 19, we are still offering a cooked Christmas Dinner (Turkey with all the trimmings) for the children. Our Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children will eat together on the 8th December, our Year 3 and 4 children on the 9th and Years 5 and 6 will have their Christmas Dinner on 10th December. On the days where the children are not having a Christmas Lunch, Janet will be providing a Christmas Party Picnic for the children to eat in class. Lunches are of course free to our Infant children and are £2.30 each for Years 3 to 6.

For Years 3 to 6 just go to ParentPay and select 'Hot Meal' on the relevant day for the year group given above. (Reception to Year 2 will already be booked in as they receive a 'universal free school meal').

On the day of their Christmas lunch, the children can wear a Christmas T Shirt / Jumper etc on their top... but school uniform on their 'bottom half' please.

The bookings for this are now closed...but if you have forgotten, and you speak to Mrs Lee nicely, I'm sure we can arrange a late booking or two!!

Children's Christmas Parties:

The teachers are going to organise a party for their own individual 'bubbles' separate to each other's. On the day, the children are invited to come to school in their 'Party Clothes' and more information will come to you later regarding Party food.

To find out when your child's party is...see below:

Reception	14 th December afternoon
Year 1	18 th December morning
Year 2	16 th December afternoon
Year 3	18 th December afternoon
Year 4	15 th December afternoon
Year 5	16 th December morning
Year 6	15 th December morning

As you will have seen from my Celebration Worship last Friday, we have arranged for Father Christmas to secretly visit the school beforehand to drop the presents off for the children (if they are good!!).

Children's Pantomime:

M&M Productions will once again be providing a pantomime for Years 1 to 6. As our school hall is so big, this can be very carefully organised into 3 productions where two bubbles can watch at the same time.

The production cast is kept to a bare minimum, and extra special effects are used to enhance the performance for the children. This will take place on the 17th December 2020.

Wear What You Want Day - as long as it's 'Christmassy':

On 11th December we will be inviting the children to come to school dressed in whatever they want (something 'Christmassy'). In return all we ask for is a donation for school... is a minimum donation of £1 per child OK?? More if you afford it...

As Friends are not being able to hold as many events this year, and we haven't been selected as one of the Co op's chosen charities, money to pay for the usual activities is becoming a bit tight... to cover the cost of the parties, new decorations, the pantomime, soil for our new garden etc.

Monies can be sent in an envelope on the day - or buckets will be available for 'loose change'. You can also pay via ParentPay if you prefer. Mrs Sudworth has already set this up and is now 'open' and will be until 3pm on Monday 14th December.

A Message from Church - Christingle Service

Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic we are unable to host a Christingle Service as usual this year. So we are encouraging you all to join the national service on line [Here](#) on Sunday, December 13th.

The church has provided kits for us to make Christingles in school for the service, and the children will be making Christingles in school.

[To Donate to the Children's Society](#)

Waterproof Coats in School

Yesterday was a horrible day 'weather-wise', and we had that drizzly rain for nearly the whole day...drizzle that doesn't look much but soaks through after a while!!

We are trying to get the children outside as much as possible...even in the wet weather, but some children only had fleece-type coats yesterday...and we were concerned that they would get too wet and cold.

Please send your child with a waterproof coat every day, so that we can play out at break times - even in the drizzle.

Of course we will stay indoors if the rain is really heavy!!

As always...thanks for reading...yours sincerely,



Stephen B. Smith
Head teacher

Did you know...

Although the 1st December is today...and this is when most Advent Calendars start - Advent officially started on Sunday 29th November, which was Advent Sunday.

My children Charlotte and Adam, amongst our usual manger scene have gone for a Peppa Pig Calendar and a Paw Patrol Calendar this year. You wouldn't think that they are both over 20 years old!!

One website states that: *'The origin of the Advent Calendar can be traced back to the 19th. Century. One of the earliest traditions was to paint chalk strokes on the door, one per day until Christmas Eve.*

Gerhard Lang from Germany is said to have produced the first printed Advent Calendar, although without windows to open. It was published in 1908. This Calendar was named "Christmas-Calendar" or "Munich Christmas-Calendar". A little later, Lang produced the first Advent Calendars with little doors to open.'

Our Advent Prayer

Dear God,

Help us to make our hearts ready for Jesus.

Help us to be patient as we wait.

Help us to re-live this amazing story.

Help us to change for the better, that we may reflect the light of Jesus.

In Jesus' name.

AMEN





MERRY CHRISTMAS

Chocolate Raffle

TICKETS ON SALE

Wednesday 25th November

50p a go

Draw 16th December

Prize for each class

Tickets are available from your class teacher

The draw will take place in class

