



### **THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL**

The Travelling Cribs are making their way around school. At the moment, we are up to Year 2. It is important that they are returned to school quickly so that all of the families with children in older year groups get the chance to take them home too.

Father Bill was back again on Wednesday for an Advent service led by our Faith Friends and Guiding Lights. They led us in the liturgy, encouraging us to think about what it means to make room for the Holy Family at this time of the year.

Our school choirs have been out and about representing us at St George's Schools' Carol Concert and Compstall for the lights switch on. They have been singing some beautiful carols that you may get to hear more of in the coming weeks. Year 2 have paid a visit to Smithy Court to sing for the residents there. They sang some of the songs from 'Hey Ewe' and were in fine voice.

We will be sending cards and other things to Father John in the next week. If you would like to send a Christmas card to him, we will be happy to include it in our post pack. Drop them in at the office.

### **STOCKPORT A TEAM**

The Awesome Team paid us a visit on Monday afternoon. They came to talk to us about what it is like to live as an adult with autism. They visited classes from Year 2 to Year 6. Our children were really engaged and asked some fantastic questions.

### **SAFEGUARDING: WEARABLE TECHNOLOGY**

You may have noticed watching television lately that there are a lot of adverts for smart watches that are aimed at children. As many of these new devices have 4G capability, camera and sound capability, we are amending our safeguarding policy to say that these sort of smart watches or other wearable technology with similar capabilities are not permitted to be worn in school. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Photographs and recordings of events in school is permitted as it would be considered to be for the parents 'domestic purpose', but we request anyone attending school events and wishing to photograph or record to sign our undertaking disclaimer before doing so.

### **CHRISTMAS PARTY DAY**

Year 6 Business Gang have organised for everyone to wear non-uniform on Thursday 20 December. This will be a great way to help celebrate Christmas Party Day on the same day. Business Gang are asking for a £1 donation to the PTA to help fund projects this year.

### **CAR PARK DISABLED SPACES**

If you use the car park at the start or end of the day, or to drop off or collect at Breakfast or Kids Club, please can you make sure that there is adequate disabled space free for families that need to use those specially designated spaces.

## ADMISSIONS AND TERM DATES CONSULTATION

Stockport Council are currently consulting on term dates for 2020-2021. They offer two proposals for term dates, both of which have the option that the school term will finish on August 5 2021. Both proposals have a three week Christmas break planned in (22 December to 11 January). I know a lot of families find finding holiday clubs and other cover during this time difficult. Why they haven't stuck with the two week Christmas break and reduced the summer term by one week, I don't know. As an academy, we do have greater autonomy over our term dates, but for families that have children in other schools, especially those with children that will have to be available for GCSE results, it would be a terrible inconvenience. You can take part in the consultation here: <https://consultation.stockport.gov.uk/policy-performance-and-reform/admissions-consultation/>

You can click through the admission consultations if you wish, then find the term dates on the last page. You can agree with one option or neither, as the case may be.

## STOCKPORT SCHOOL BUS PASS CONSULTATION

Stockport Council is consulting on the allocation criteria for school bus passes in September 2019. You can find the consultation document here: <https://consultation.stockport.gov.uk/policy-performance-and-reform/school-bus-pass-consultation/consultation/subpage.2018-11-29.4384313607/>

## CHRISTMAS DINNER DAY

Will take place on Thursday 13 December. Christmas hats and/or jumpers are encouraged, along with usual school uniform. Orders must be placed with the office before Monday 10 Dec. School Dinners are £2.20.

<b>DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - Please check for updates on a regular basis</b>	
<b>Wed 12 Dec</b>	Nursery and Reception Nativity 10:00 am and 2:00 pm
<b>Thu 13 Dec</b>	Christmas Dinner Day
<b>Fri 14 Dec</b>	Mr Collins' woodwind pupils will perform during 2.30 pm assembly
<b>Tue 18 Dec</b>	Year 1 and 2 Christmas Performance 10:00 am and 2:00 pm
<b>Thu 19 Dec</b>	Christmas party day
<b>Fri 21 Dec</b>	School Closes

## COMMUNITY NEWS

**Centre Stage Academy of Dance Marple** is held every Tues at St Martins Church Brabyns Brow Kids Street Dance (6+) and (10+) Kids Aerial Hoop and Adults Aerial Hoop. Book online at [www.centrestage-dance.com](http://www.centrestage-dance.com) or tel: 07870 975195.

**Mellor Junior Lacrosse Club** are one of the UK's leading teams. There are plenty of opportunities to try this exciting game, contact Martin Mochan (Junior Boys Section Lead) [mellorboyslax@gmail.com](mailto:mellorboyslax@gmail.com) or Jo Noble (Junior Girls Section Lead) [mellorgirlslax@gmail.com](mailto:mellorgirlslax@gmail.com)

**Stockport Grammar Netball Camp** for girls in Year 4/5/6 will run on 18 and 19 February. £25 for one day/ £35 for two days. Application forms are available in the school office or contact [goddardl@stockportgrammar.co.uk](mailto:goddardl@stockportgrammar.co.uk)