



'Working together to succeed, through faith in Jesus Christ'

Weekly Newsletter: Thursday 17th December 2020



Telephone: 01925 630100

Email: ststephens_primary@warrington.gov.uk



School News...



Christmas Week

What a fantastic last week we have had in school – Christmas Week has been a huge success!

From Christmas dinners to virtual pantomimes to Elf Runs and Christmas Movie Nights – the festive spirit has been truly alive at St. Stephen's this week. As well as card and hat making, games and parties the best thing about the week has been hearing the laughter, singing and excitement in our children meaning we have ended the term on the biggest high! Thank you to our families for supporting the movie night and Elf Run for St. Rocco's. As always your kindness and generosity is always appreciated. All pictures from Christmas Week are posted on our school Facebook page.

Virtual Christmas Performance

Today we have shared our first ever virtual Christmas performance featuring each of our classes. Narrated by our Y6 pupils, through readings and song, we share the Nativity story as we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Each class perform a Christmas song or carol and share some beautiful art work that links with their stage of the Nativity story. The link for the performance can be found under the 'RE & Catholic Life' section of the school website and we ask that this is only viewed on the school website and not copied or shared on social media for safeguarding purposes.

Christmas Parties

Tomorrow, the children are invited to wear their party clothes to school as they will take part in games and activities in their class bubbles all morning. If your child wishes to have a school dinner tomorrow, we have a special party box lunch to offer. The menu was sent home last week with the newsletter. This is free for our pupils in Reception, Years 1 and 2 due to the Universal Free School Meals Offer. Pupils in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 who aren't receipt of Free School Meals must have their ParentPay account credited with £2.40 by lunchtime on Friday if they wish to have a party box.

End of Term

**School closes tomorrow, Friday 18th December, at 1.30pm.
We reopen on to our pupils on Tuesday 5th January 2021 at 8.30am**

Christmas Masses at St. Stephen's

Please visit St Stephen's Church website to download the form to register your attendance for Christmas Mass and then email the form to the parish office at prshnews@outlook.com or drop it through the letter box. Alternatively, you can also phone the parish office on 01925 632849 to register. Christmas Eve Mass is at 8pm and Christmas Day Mass is at 9.45am at St. Stephen's Church. Masses will also be live streamed on the church website.

Track and Trace

A reminder that if your child has symptoms of Covid-19 during the Christmas Holidays, they must self-isolate in line with Government guidance. If the symptoms occur up to 48 hours after Friday 18th December (Sunday 20th December until 2.00pm), you must arrange for them to be tested and let school know the result by Thursday 24th

December on: contactststephens@gmail.com

This is because we may need to undertake 'Track and Trace' and contact other pupils or staff in line with DfE and Public Health England advice. If your child develops symptoms after the above date (Sunday 20th December), school do not need to be contacted during the holidays. As we are sure you can appreciate, we do not want to be in the unfortunate position of any of our families having to self-isolate over Christmas.

Mr Hatton will be checking the email account over the course of the coming weekend and the weekend prior to returning in school in January should families need to contact us with any information or updates.



As we come to the end of such a different and difficult term and indeed year, I have some thank you's to share.

Thank you to our whole staff team who have gone above and beyond in order to help our pupils settle back into school life after the school closure period. They have tirelessly adapted to new routines, restrictions and ways of working always putting the wellbeing and safety of our children first. Each person has played an important part in what has been a real team effort.

Thank you to our parents and carers for your support and co-operation during 2020. Through home schooling, returning to school and adapting to new systems and procedures, your patience and understanding has been superb. I am proud of the trust that you have put in us as a school and know we have the safety and best interests of your children at the centre of all we do and plan for.

Finally, our children. What can I say? After such a demanding, worrying and exhausting year, our pupils have been our rays of sunshine. Through such uncertain times, the innocence, resilience and enthusiasm of our children has astounded me. School and the world around them is quite different to this time twelve months ago. However, the way they have adjusted is beyond admirable and the joy they have brought back into our school community this term has been immeasurable.

I feel that everyone is now in need of a well-deserved rest and break. I hope your holidays are filled with love, laughter and fun. It goes without saying, I hope all members of our school community stay safe and well.

On behalf of the staff, governors and pupils, I wish you all a peaceful and holy Christmas and a very Happy New Year!

Mr Hatton

