



Religious News

Classes throughout school have now changed their cloths to gold and white in recognition of the season of Christmastide which will last until the Feast of the Presentation on 2nd February. We have also left the crib out in the hall and the entrance hall and we will add the figures of the Three Kings next week after the feast of the Epiphany. Our Christian value for this term is Respect where we will explore a wide range of themes including respect of self, others, gender, race and disability. Years 1-6 will be studying Other Faiths in our religious education lessons this term. This year, Education Sunday will be celebrated on 27th January.

Respect is for those who deserve it, not for those who demand it (J Johnson)

When the Song of the Angels Is Stilled

When the song of the angels is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When the kings and the princes are home,
When the shepherds are back with their flocks,
The work of Christmas begins:
To find the lost,
To heal the broken,
To feed the hungry,
To release the prisoner,
To rebuild the nations,
To bring peace among people,
To make music in the heart.
Howard Thurman.

PTFA

The next PTFA meeting will take place on Tuesday 15th January at 7.15pm in the staffroom. All are welcome.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT UPDATES

We were delighted to receive two early Christmas presents in the form of a generous donation from a parent and a £2500 grant for the playground following an application to the West Riding Masonic Charities. Many thanks to the parent for the donation and to Mrs Jones and Mrs Stead who alerted us to the bidding process which Mr Hiley completed. These funds, plus the money from the PTFA, will be used to partially fund the new playground which is due to start next Thursday. Whilst the installation of the equipment should be finished by Friday, there will still be further work to do to finish the area.

We are very conscious that the school has not had any major redecoration undertaken in recent years and we have started planning to undertake some much needed redecoration, hoping to start in the Hall. We have just started the process of gathering recommendations and quotes for this work and would welcome details if any families have contacts so that we can access discounted paint or material for new curtains!

MUSIC LESSONS

Drumming lessons started today and all other lessons will start on Monday. Brass Group, Orchestra and Rock Solid will all resume next week before school.

A special plea from Mrs Armstrong that children only bring instruments to school when they need them please as we have no room to store them.



ATTENDANCE

Week 17th December

F1am	88.46%
F1pm	91.67%
F1 30 hours	88.54%
F2P	88.79%
F2Py	97.41%
Y1M	89.52%
Y1S	89.52%
Y2F	88.33%
Y2D	96.25%
Y3HM	86.25%
Y3W	94.17%
Y4HW	92.50%
Y4M	93.75%
Y5B	93.75%
Y5G	89.17%
Y6B	99.17%
Y6V	99.14%

Congratulations to F2Py who won the attendance cup in EYFS and KS1. Congratulations also to Year 6B who, with 99.17%, won the attendance cup in KS2.

Applications for September 2019

Parents are reminded that the deadline for applications for Primary School for September 2019 is 15th January. This is also the deadline for completed SIFs(Supplementary information forms) if you are applying for a Church place.

A CREATIVE START TO THE TERMClasses throughout school have enjoyed a very creative start to the term and engaged in a range of artistic activities, some of which have been linked to their topic and others linked to RE. Nursery have been investigating Jellyfish whilst Reception have been retelling the Creation using natural objects. Children in Year 1 have drawn their interpretation of where God is and created shields. Year 2 have sketched Queen Victoria and collaborated on a collage of Queen Elizabeth and Year 3 have been busy painting their canvases in Hockney style ready to exhibit and sell at their Art Sale on 14th February. Year 4 have produced their own individual interpretations of what God looks like and created a group collage of what their heaven looks like. Year 5 have created artistic representations of journeys and pilgrimages and Year 6 have sketched Mayan temples, written Christian rock songs and created their interpretations of what the Messiah would look like.

ATTENDANCE As a school, we are tasked with promoting good attendance and, to do this, we have introduced a number of initiatives such as the attendance cup which is awarded at assembly, sharing the attendance in newsletters and on the website and awarding certificates. By law, we have to maintain attendance records and submit these to the DFE and this is one of the things which is recorded about the school and available in the public domain. However, in promoting good attendance, we also have to stress that it is important that children (and staff) are fit to be in school and that their attendance does not negatively affect that of others around them. There are certain published guidelines from Public Health England which we use that stipulate the length of absence connected with some absences such as sickness. Prior to the holidays, some of our classes were affected by a violent sickness bug and the situation was not helped by some families sending children to school who were showing initial signs of the bug or who had the bug and had not had the required 48 hours clear. Please can we ask you to make sure that, if you send children to school, they are fit to attend.

Conversely, we still have a number of parents who phone in absences for children saying that they are ill when, the children themselves and the other classmates tell us that they are on holidays. In these instances, please can we ask you to be truthful and follow school policy by applying for leave of absence by completing a leave of absence form which is available online or from the school office.

VISION FOR BAILDON CHURCH OF ENGLAND

Following input from our religious education advisor with governors and staff, the governors have now agreed a new vision for the school which is reproduced below:

In our school, we celebrate being part of God's family where all respect themselves, others and the world around them.

Our vision is to develop a safe, caring community of inspired, resilient lifelong learners with a spirit of curiosity, enabling them to flourish in an ever changing world. Over the course of this term, we will introduce this to the children using the term SOAR (Support, Opportunity, Achievements, Respect) to support their understanding. This is the same acronym used to introduce the House system to children and which we are incorporating into our new website.