Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2022

Dear Families,

## Week 12

Dare I say 'It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas?' Christmas trees and decorations are popping up across school. On my journey to and from school the Christmas lights are very welcome on these dark mornings and evenings. Miss Douglas led our Collective Worship on Monday as we began our Advent Journey and talked about Hope and the promises God made to his people.

We've had another week of sporting activities, with our Key Stage 1 Gymnastics team out at a competition on Monday, this has been followed by a new event to the calendar 'UV Dodgeball' – the photographs looked amazing! We are hoping to bring this to school in the new year. Our football teams continue to battle with the cold and inclement weather and the girls continue to do really well and show amazing levels of fair play, integrity and sporting spirit. Thank you to Mr Brady for all he does to ensure the children have access to so many competition and to the parents who support us.

The Education Department at the Archdiocese invited our Choir to sing for their Advent Mass of Thanksgiving at the Archdiocesan offices in Sefton Park. I was so proud of all the choir and their wonderful singing, they received a very well earned round of applause on more than one occasion. Mrs McCarthy the Director of Education was so impressed with them all and is looking forward to visiting us in school in the near future. A huge thank you to Miss Douglas for leading the choir and the members of our Parish Music Group for providing the musical accompaniment.

We had a wonderful evening on Tuesday with our very own PTA World Cup Fan Zone in the Hall. Year 5 and 6 enjoyed watching the England Match – the atmosphere in the hall was amazing and I'd really like to congratulate the children who attended on their behaviour and excellent cheering on! Once again we owe the PTA a debt of gratitude for providing our children with these events as well as raising money for the school.

Dinosaurs have been loose around school this past week! Early Years had a great day being palaeontologists and had a visit from Sophie the T-Rex, I wish I could have bottled the excitement, our Governors and School Improvement Partner who were in at time were able to join in the fun too.

I was honoured to be invited to speak and distribute the prizes at SFX Proclamation (prize giving) yesterday evening, it was wonderful to see so many of our former pupils having their academic achievements recognised after GCSE and A Levels and to see how they continue to live life in all it's fullness. Daniel Gibbons was awarded 1842 Sixth Form Award and it was good to see that the Lewis Walsh Memorial Award is still given, Lewis and his brother attended Christ the King before SFX and the prize is given in his memory after he tragically died in an accident while he was in Sixth Form.

We held another productive Coffee Morning today, I'd like to thank the parents who attended for their contributions, encouragement and suggestions at taking our school forward. We'll me making some tweeks to the way we communicate and use the app and have some food for thought about tackling the traffic issues outside of school.

Thank you to everyone who has been trying really hard to improve their attendance, despite the various bugs and viruses that we seem to all be fighting off. If you need support or help with your child's attendance please contact school and speak to Mrs Pyper. Children who have an attendance of less than 90% are deemed to be persistently absent, we have all worked hard to reduce this across school this term and I'd like to thank parents for their support.





















This weekend sees the Second Sunday of Advent and we will light the Bethlehem Candle. Maybe you could take a moment out of your busy weekend to pray together as a family:



God our Father, as we light our second Advent candle, help us to prepare prayerfully for the birth of your Son, Jesus. Show us ways we can share Christ's light during Advent, so that the world might know the hope and love that your Son brings. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

As a school community we are working towards the CAFOD 'Live Simply' Award. The LiveSimply award is an opportunity for Catholic communities - parishes, schools, religious orders and chaplaincies - to respond to Pope Francis' invitation in Laudato Si' to "work with generosity and tenderness in protecting this world which God has entrusted to us". As part of this project we will be holding a Christmas Jumper Swap. You are invited to have a pre Christmas clear out of any Christmas jumpers that may no longer fit or are no longer needed and donate them to school. There will be boxes in our entrance for this from tomorrow. On Thursday 8th December we will have all the Jumpers in the School Hall at the end of the School day. There will be no charge for this Jumper Swap as the focus is to reduce the amount of waste going to landfill and for us all to live more simply.

I hope you have an enjoyable weekend and it's not too hectic!

Kind regards,

David Delaney Head Teacher