

22nd December 2023

Dear Families,

I hope you are all well.

The season of Advent and the end of the Autumn term is always such a special time in school, and this year has certainly been no exception. We have all been so incredibly proud of the children over the last few weeks as they prepared for, and performed in, their wonderful Nativity plays. They have given us the perfect start to the upcoming festivities and celebrations.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the families and friends of the children at St Oswald's who contribute so much to the life of our school - your support when attending performances, Liturgies, Fairs, Carol singing etc. in what we recognise is a very busy time, is so greatly appreciated by everyone in school. Thank you!



Christmas Fair

The Christmas Fair returned to school this year and was a fantastic success as it always is thanks to our fabulous PTA and to everyone who came along on the day to support it. We raised an amazing £1750 for our school! This huge achievement was also made possible by those who bought raffle tickets and made donations for our stalls in advance and the very kind individuals and businesses who donated prizes for our raffle – a brilliant team effort all round!



PTO

Christmas Parties

The children from Reception to Year 6 got the chance to let their hair down this week during their Christmas parties. They got to dance to their favourite Christmas songs and have lots of fun with their friends.



Carol Singing

This half term, Miss Rushton has been leading an after-school Christmas Choir Club. The children have really enjoyed the sessions and all of their hard work culminated in fantastic performances at Sacred Heart Church, St Oswald's Hospice and Tesco's in Kingston Park (where we raised an amazing £357!) They helped spread a lot of Christmas cheer across the whole of our community.



Toy Appeal

Thank you so much to everyone who kindly donated gifts to the Sacred Heart Church annual toy appeal - your donations have once again helped make the appeal a huge success in what has been another very difficult year for many.

Term Dates for 2023-25

The term and holiday dates for 2024-25 have now been published and can be viewed on our school website by following the link [HERE](#).

PTO

PE Arrangements for next half term

After Christmas, a number of classes will have PE on different days due to the fact that there will be external sports coaches working with the children in school (apologies for any inconvenience this may cause).

Children will have PE on the following days (classes whose days have changed are highlighted):

Reception: Monday & Tuesday

Year 1: Wednesday & Thursday

Year 2: Monday & Friday

Year 3: Tuesday & Thursday

Year 4: Wednesday & Thursday

Year 5: Monday & Friday

Year 6: Tuesday & Friday

Please find below some key dates for diaries:

January 2024

Monday 8th January – Staff INSET Day (School Closed to children)

Tuesday 9th January – School re-opens for the Spring term

Monday 15th January & Wednesday 17th January – Reception class Parents' meetings in school

Finally, on behalf of myself, staff and Governors, I would like to thank you, once again, for your support and kindness this term.

I hope that you and your families have a wonderful Christmas and I look forward to seeing you all when school re-opens on **Tuesday 9th January 2024!**

With my very best wishes,



Mr P Marley