



# ST GREGORY'S SCHOOL

## LOVING AND LEARNING

### DECEMBER 2012 NEWSLETTER



#### NOVEMBER DATES

- Thursday 29 - 3.00 p.m. Friends of St Gregory's Autumn Competition presentation
- Friday 30 - a.m. Year 2 - 6 'James and the Giant Peach' Birmingham Old Rep  
2.00-3.25 p.m. Reception, Year 1 and 2 Disco  
4.00-6.00 p.m. Years 3-6 Disco  
Pupils will be able to wear their party clothes all day and be ready for when their Disco starts.

#### DATES FOR DECEMBER

- Monday 3 - 'I can do it' week
- Tuesday 4 - Foundation Stage Hatton Country Park
- Thursday 6 - **3.40 -6.00 p.m.** Friends of St Gregory's - Santa's Grotto
- Friday 7 - 9.00 a.m. Year 6 Assembly
- Sunday 9 - Year 3 'Rejoice concert' at the Symphony Hall
- Monday 10 - 7.00 p.m. KS2 Performance
- Tuesday 11 - 10.30 a.m. Carol Concert for the senior people of the parish and those who help in school (invitation only)  
2.00 p.m. KS2 Performance

Places are limited to 200 so no more than two tickets per family at any one performance are available. Tickets will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. Tickets must be presented for the performance to ensure admittance. Children under 12 may not use tickets for the evening performance, nor will toddlers or babies be admitted to this performance. We trust that parents will not attempt to ignore this message as refusal of entry may cause offence.

- Friday 14 - Year 6 Visit to London - Houses of Parliament and London Eye  
A 'Progress update' on your child will be sent out to parents
- Tuesday 18 - 9.00 a.m. Foundation Play  
2.00 p.m. Years 1 and 2 Christmas Tableau at Church
- Thursday 20 - p.m. Whole school Christmas parties, children can wear their party clothes all day
- Friday 21 - **9.00 a.m.** Mass in School  
Christmas Lunch - **School closes at 1.30 p.m.**  
**There will be no afternoon Nursery session on Friday 21 December.**



### **CHRISTMAS CARDS**

Christmas Card posters have been put up in each classroom donated by St Mary's Hospice and we ask for a donation of at least £1 so that children can sign it to everyone in their class. Children are asked not to bring cards into school as we will not be providing any card delivery service in school.

### **WELL DONE!**

#### **Children in Need**

You raised the grand sum of **£404** for Children in Need. Congratulations!

Also a big 'congratulations' to Jude Clayton and Eden Phillips in Year 5 who did a sponsored silence and raised a brilliant **£250**, a wonderful achievement.

### **BOOK FAIR**

The Autumn term Book Fair raised over **£700**. Thank you so much for your support the books we are able to purchase with the commission are invaluable to the school.

### **CRAFT FAYRE**

Another very successful year we raised over **£550**. Thank you to all those who helped on the night and for your continued support we couldn't have achieved so much without you.

### **SCIENCE GARDEN**

May we kindly ask you not to walk/stand on the Science Garden in the large Playground, we look upon it as a memorial garden.

### **READING**

Please consider reading activities at home with your child to reinforce their learning, and also ensure that you regularly sign your child's reading diary. Thank you for your support.

### **DATES FOR JANUARY 2013**

**MONDAY 7** - **SCHOOL RE-OPENS**  
Tuesday 15 - Swimming begins for Years 3 and 5  
Wednesday 16 - **Closing date for Reception/Year 3 Admission forms**

### **MASSES AT CHURCH OVER CHRISTMAS**

Christmas Eve - 5.00 p.m. and Midnight  
Christmas Day - 9.00 a.m. and 11. a.m.



*The Governors and Staff would like to wish you a peaceful  
Christmas and a Happy New Year*



**REFLECTION FOR DECEMBER  
tion and Hope**

- **The Season of Advent: Anticipation and Hope**

Advent is the beginning of the Church Year. The word Advent is from the Latin *adventus* for “coming” or arrival and marks the four weeks of preparation for Christmas. The focus of the season of Advent is the celebration of the birth of Jesus the Christ in his First Advent, and the anticipation of the return of Christ the King in his Second Advent. Advent is marked by a spirit of expectation, an anticipation and of preparation. We prepare for the arrival of the Messiah who will bring peace and justice and righteousness to the world.

The spirit of Advent is expressed well in the parable of the bridesmaids who are anxiously awaiting the coming of the Bridegroom (Matt 25:11-13). There is profound joy at the Bridegroom’s expected coming. And yet a warning of the need for preparation echoes through the parable. But even then, the prayer of Advent is still:

Come, O Come, Emmanuel,  
And ransom captive Israel

The Advent wreath helps to tell the Christmas story. The circle of the wreath reminds us of God himself, His eternity no beginning or end. The green of the wreath have in God, the hope of newness, of renewal, of eternal life. Candles symbolize the light of God coming into the world through the birth of His son. The four outer candles represent the period of waiting during the four Sundays of Advent.



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I require .....tickets for Year 3-6 performance on the evening of Monday 10 December at 7.00 p.m.

I require .....tickets for Years 3-6 performance on the afternoon of Tuesday 11 December at 2.00 p.m.

I have read and understand that no children under the age of 12, toddlers or babies will be allowed into the evening performance.

Name: ..... Child’s name ..... Year .....