



Banks St. Stephen's CE Primary School **"Belonging, Serving, Succeeding"**

Friday 18th December

Dear parents and carers,

Well, we made it! Apart, that is, from me...unfortunately I had to self-isolate today due to a member of my family having symptoms and we are still awaiting test results. Annoying!

Hence, I couldn't write the normal newsletter. However, I can tell you that Y3 were the best attenders **again**, for the 5th week running. Y3 also met their new teacher Miss O'Brien (who is also self-isolating) on a Zoom meeting this morning and we wished a fond farewell to Mrs Cromby, who has done a great job in Y3 while we appointed a permanent teacher.

The Christian Values trophy for Compassion goes to Olivia Rooney in Y1 for the wonderful sacrifice she made for charity (having her long hair cut off).

Stars of the week and writers of the week are as follows:

STARS OF THE WEEK		WRITERS OF THE WEEK	
Nursery	Olivia	Nursery	n/a
Reception	Finley	Reception	Mia
Year 1	Melita	Year 1	David
Year 2	Shannon	Year 2	Sarah
Year 3	All of them!	Year 3	All of them!
Year 4	Cherie	Year 4	Cherieann
Year 5	Wesley	Year 5	Rhys
Year 6	Dom	Year 6	Luke

Well done all of you!

Mrs Mussell's daughter Eleanor has done an incredible job filming and editing the class performances. A link is below and there are also links on Facebook. I have created a YouTube channel for the school (called, imaginatively, Banks St Stephen's CE Primary School) and have put the final edit of all the videos on there.

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCh5M1rzrpunUPs_na7MYVbg

Other news:

- Superb phonics results: Y2 smashed it in their phonics screening test, delayed from Y1 and we anticipate a pass rate of 89%. Phenomenal! Well done Mrs Swift and the Y2 children, who **all** worked so hard! There will be re-takes in Summer 2021 for those who didn't quite make it.
- Reminder for Y1 and Y2 parents: Forest School is **on** the first Monday back.
- Warm clothes next term: We'll have all the windows open and outdoor learning is encouraged, so please wrap them up warm.
- Generations unite: Mrs Melling organised a whole-school Zoom meeting with our friends at Sutton Grange yesterday – we can't wait to be able to resume face to face visits.
- Sanderling Drive: residents are alarmed at the high speed of a 4 wheel drive car driven by a parent – we don't know who it is and have advised them to note the registration and call the police if it happens again.
- Christmas dinner: Well done Mary and Kelsey for an absolutely delicious, hot and plentiful Christmas lunch. Thank you to FOSS for funding the extras and for the Christmas presents. The children and staff LOVED it!
- Finally, thank you so much for your thoughtful gifts, cards and messages for staff. We don't expect anything but after such a tough term, your kindness is particularly appreciated.

On behalf of the staff and governors, I wish you all a happy and peaceful Christmas. I hope you and your families stay well and that you are able to make the most of this family time – it's been a long term but it's been brilliant in so many (sometimes unexpected) ways. I wonder what 2021 will bring...?

Merry Christmas!

Lots of love,

Mrs Owen