

Newsletter Thursday 21st December 2023

18.12.23 Matthew 2:1 Visitors from the East Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the reign of King Herod. About that time some wise men from eastern lands arrived in Jerusalem.

Dear Parents/Carers,

First of all a huge thank you for your continued support and cooperation over the last year. Educating your children effectively really is a two way relationship between home and school. Being a strong school family is so important. As we move into 2024 let's continue to reinforce all the positive achievements we have created together in 2023.

It has been a very busy but productive half term. The children have reached out to our locality during 'Community Week' (Nelson Manor, local mosque, Pendle Hospice and the homeless charity) the choir have been to share their talents with folks in various locations, some of our year 5 and 6 have been to Marsden Grange to make Christmas cards with the residents, the infants have dazzled us with their production of 'Whoops a Daisy Angel' and lots of families have enjoyed pie and peas Bingo. Year 6 led us through the Christmas story with great confidence in front of a full church. All this alongside teaching the full National Curriculum! Phew! Oh and I nearly forgot the very special visitor (Father Christmas) who brought gifts for every child.

I must also say a huge thank you to Mr and Mrs Merrell for so generously donating a selection box for every child in school. Such kindness is truly appreciated.

Miss Ashraf who has been teaching in Year 4 leaves us today. Miss Abrahams is still very much enjoying being a new mummy to baby Beatrix so Miss Booth will join us to teach Year 4 until the end of the year. Miss Booth has worked in school before and we are very pleased to welcome her back.

And finally, myself and all the team would like to say 'Thank you' for the many cards and gifts that we have received . Wishing you all a peaceful Christmas and a happy New Year. See you on the 8th January full of vim and vigour for 2024.

Mrs M M Underwood



Festive week in pictures









The children had a visit from Santa at the Christmas party Enjoyed a Christmas dinner Played pass the party as well as other party games Made a Christingle and had a school assembly where parents came too











Dates for your Diary:

Thursday 21st December Monday 8th January School closes for Christmas Break 2pm

School starts at 8.45am

Important Update for School Dinners:

All children should have brought home a printed letter last week informing you of changes to our School Dinner ordering system.

From January we are moving on to a pre-order system for all school dinners. The menus are available on Parentpay to view and order now, it is important that your selections are completed and paid for (if this applies to you) the day before at the latest.

Unfortunately, any children asking for a school dinner on the day who have not pre-ordered will be given a jacket potato.

As always, if you have any issues, please do come and see us in the office.

Below is a helpful guide which may help with any queries:

https://support.parentpaygroup.com/hc/en-gb/articles/4409665416977-Payer-guidance-How-to-make-a-me al-or-event-booking



Does your child worry or are they anxious?

We will be running a workshop for parents / carers on how to manage your child's anxiety. The course will be run by professionals from the Mental Health Support Team and will be held on Tuesday 23rd January at 9am. Further information and booking forms will be out in the new year.



Good News Announcements



ATTENDANCE WINNERS Our winners W/C 27/12/23 were: Year 2



This weeks Medal Winners are:

Simon	Year 2 - for amazing artwork
Olivia	Year 2 - for great writing
Charlotte R	Year 2 - for amazing artwork
Maxx	Year 1 - for brilliant writing
Logan	Year 1 - for magical maths
Camila	Reception - Taking care of the classroom
environmen	t

Parent Checklist



Important - As of January we are going onto a pre-order system for School Dinners. The menus are live now on Parentpay, please ensure that your selections have been chosen atleast 24 hours in advance to ensure your child gets the lunch they want.

https://support.parentpaygroup.com/hc/en-gb/articles/4409665416977-Payer-guidanc e-How-to-make-a-meal-or-event-booking

Please ensure we have your up to date Phone number and Email address. This is vital that we have the correct information. If you have any doubts please call in to the office and we can check.

Lancashire Send Newsletter https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/media/948287/send-newsletter-winter-2023.pdf

Head Lice - Remember to check your child's hair regularly. There have been several reports of headlice in school recently.

Is your child off sick or due an appointment? Please inform the office of any sickness or absences before 9am and try and arrange appointments out of school hours where necessary.

Remember to send your child back to school with a correctly fitting PE kit/pumps and clearly labelled.

Have you remembered to register your child for a place in Primary school - the last date for applications is 15th January. See attached leaflet.



Great Marsden St John's Primary School Church of England Academy

Headteacher Mrs M Underwood BA Hons | QTS | NPQH

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13th December 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING SCHOOL DINNERS

As you are all aware by now, we are a cashless school and have Parentpay set up in place of a cash system.

To fall in line with the rest of the Trust, from January 2024 we will be going on to a Pre-order system for School Lunches. This means that all school lunches will be pre-ordered by parents using the Parentpay Website, by Friday the week before at the latest.

In order to ensure that your child gets the chosen meal choice for the day, it is vital that you remember to pre-book, as any children who have not ordered on the website will be limited to a jacket potato.

Any parents who are not currently registered for Parentpay will be sent home instructions on how to register. We currently have 94% of our pupils registered already with Parentpay and ideally we would like to get this to 100%. Feel free to come and see the office staff who will help those who may be struggling to set this up.

Please note that all students who pay for a school dinner, need to ensure that payment is made the day before at the latest. Any meals that are ordered and not paid for will disappear from Parentpay and will not go through to our kitchen.

Children who are currently on Free School Meals WILL need to pre-order their meals, however, the balance will be unaffected. Please ensure that you select meals, but continue without payment.

As with anything new, there will be teething problems, so please feel free to call into the office to discuss any queries or concerns.



Most importantly, please remember to order your child's meal choices in advance.

Regards,

Mr J Longley & Mrs C Fletcher The Office Team



Our family have had a really tough time this year and we're not the only ones.

So, we're holding a very special event on Boxing Day at Giddy Kippers, and somebody has nominated you for a place on our guest list!

The party is completely free, they'll be a choice of food, a visit to Santa in his grotto, crafts, music and lots of time to relax and play. It runs from 12-3pm on December 26th and our postcode is BB9 7DU.

If you'd like to come along, please RSVP by sending a Facebook message to Giddy Kippers - we will just need to know names (including parents) and the ages of all children.

For more info on Giddy Kippers, please visit our website www.giddy-kippers.com or message us with any questions.

We hope to see you there! X

SCHOOL ADMISSIONS PRIMARY

APPLY NOW! at lancashire.gov.uk/schools

School and Academy places September 2024

You must apply if your child has a 4th birthday between 1 September 2023 and 31 August 2024.

You must apply even if an older brother or sister is already at the school, or the school is linked to your child's nursery.

If you're a non-Lancashire resident apply through your own local authority.

Please read the admission criteria for your chosen schools on the website or get a copy from them.

School transport

Need transport to school? Please don't forget to check your eligibility for free transport. Search 'school transport' at **lancashire.gov.uk**

CLOSING DATE 15 JANUARY 2024



lancashire.gov.uk