



## NEWSLETTER NO.13 AUTUMN TERM – 18 DEC 2020

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Dear Parents,

May I take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support for our schools.

These last months, encompassing much of the spring, summer and autumn terms, have been a particular challenge for all our school communities and I am sure you would wish to join me in a fulsome expression of thanks for all that has been done by our Headteachers and all on our school staffs to ensure the best possible learning environment during difficult times.

Our schools are a vital part of the life and mission of the Diocese and offer high standards of education to all our young people, enabling them to grow in knowledge and understanding and preparing them to take up their responsibilities as members of society who bring the values of the Gospel to all they do.

I know you will continue in your support of our schools in the coming months and, we pray, a time when we are free of the constraints imposed by the present pandemic.

With every Blessing for the Feast of Christmas,

+Richard



### CHRISTMAS MESSAGE from Father Martin - Glory be to God in the Highest Heaven

We celebrate the Birth of Jesus at Christmas time. The Evangelists remind us that He was born into a situation of total oppression. Even Mary and Joseph must still travel to Bethlehem despite the fact that she is about to give birth. The shepherds are social outcasts due to their profession. It is not a romantic or tranquil setting. Everything about this story is provocative and uneasy. Into this "mess" God is born, the Saviour, the Lord, a Homeless Child. Yet He is the one who will turn the situation of people upside down. He promises release to captives and sight to the blind. The Angels rejoice with the shepherds singing 'Glory to God in the Highest' because the poor and marginalised will be the first to experience the abundance of God's hospitality.

We are invited to Bethlehem today too, to offer up our hearts to the One who has come. We return like the shepherds glorifying and praising God for all that we have seen and heard. All are welcome to the manger. May we welcome all as God does with compassion and love and may each heart become the second crib, the birthing place of God among us.

Wishing you all a Happy and Blessed Christmas and see you in the New Year.

**As Ever Father Martin**





## GUITAR LESSONS

We have been successful in recruiting a new peripatetic guitar teacher, Mr Ashley Hards, who comes highly recommended from local schools including Mayfield Girls, and we welcome him to our school. For those KS2 pupils interested in learning the guitar, particularly those who played before, Mr Hards has provided us with the following presentation link through which you can contact him directly otherwise please contact the office and we will put you in touch with him. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9\\_F3\\_A-vhYQ&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9_F3_A-vhYQ&feature=youtu.be)

## BOOK REVIEW COMPETITION 4<sup>th</sup> December 2020 – 10<sup>th</sup> January 2021

It is no secret that reading is the key to success in so many areas, so we are encouraging the children to get lost in a book over the Christmas holiday period and compose a review to participate in a competition being run by Barnetts, our local independent bookshop. Follow the links below for full details. Wadhurst Culture and Barnett's Book Shop in Wadhurst are running this competition and full details can be found on the following website:

[https://www.wadhurstculture.org.uk/post/book-review-competition-for-](https://www.wadhurstculture.org.uk/post/book-review-competition-for-primary-school-students)

[primary-school-students](https://www.wadhurstculture.org.uk/post/book-review-competition-for-primary-school-students) and Facebook page; <https://www.facebook.com/wadhurst.culture>

Tell us about your favourite story and perhaps why you like it. KS1 students can draw a picture and KS2 students should write up to 250 words. Submit by the closing date via email to: [wadhurstculture@gmail.com](mailto:wadhurstculture@gmail.com) OR take to Barnett's

Barnett's of Wadhurst Bookseller and Wadhurst Culture	BOOK REVIEW COMPETITION
FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENTS	FROM 4 DECEMBER TO 10 JANUARY
	ENTER TO WIN FREE TOTE BAGS OR BOOK TOKENS

## FOUNDATION STAGE & KS1 NATIVITIES

The Kent & Sussex Courtier is preparing a Nativity photo pull out special which will be out this evening **Friday 18th December 2020**.

## SHOEBOXES



A huge thank to all who donated a shoebox to support The Rotary Club's mission to spread a little happiness to disadvantaged children and adults in Eastern Europe. They do this by sending Rotary Shoeboxes full of gifts, filled by you, and then dispatched to trusted partners for distribution in the receiving country. Mr Brian Tuck, a former member of the Wadhurst Rotary Club, has continued to support the Shoebox Appeal and sends his thanks for the amazing 32 boxes donated.



## CHRISTMAS CAROL COMPETITION

All the children in KS2 have been working hard not only on their songs for the Carol Concert but the Christmas Carol Competition which is always a highlight of the school calendar. It is a celebration of the emerging musical talents of our children and a real treat for everyone to watch. This year was no exception to the rule and it was a difficult task to select just one winner from the talented semi-finalists, pictured below. The final adjudication was:

- Year 3: The Christmas Crackers performing 'Clip Clop' - Amber, Jude, Orla and Gus.
- Year 4: The Secret Santas performing 'A Baby is Born Today' - Millie, Vanessa and Thomas.
- Year 5: The Christmas Crackers performing 'The Star Shining Bright Tonight' - Anabel, Lorraine, Michael and Felix MC.
- Year 6 winner and overall winner, Nate, played piano and sang 'For a King is Born'

Congratulations to all those who played, performed and composed. Hopefully this experience and enjoyment in music making will be something to remember always.





***Another busy and exciting week at Sacred Heart School  
where learning is fun!***





# Christmas Art Gallery



This morning, in our final liturgy of the term, we reflected on Mary's faith, despite her fear, in saying yes to God. Fear and confusion have touched many people's lives this year but we hope and trust that 2021 will bring greater joy. In the meantime, the children should be bringing you the best sort of gifts – those that cost so little but mean so much. You can anticipate dishwasher emptiers, bedroom tidiers, peacemakers and smile givers as your children perform all sorts of acts of service for you in preparation for the great feast of Christmas!

On behalf of the staff and governors, may I wish you and you families all the joys that a family Christmas can bring, even if that family is a little less extended this year.

We look forward to seeing you all back in school in January.

'...and the peace of God, which transcends all human understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus...'

Phillipians 4:7 (with thanks to Mrs R)

