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**‘Safe in God’s hands, we share our PEARL values’** 3rd December 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

**“ Hope is strength and a gift from God.**

**Advent increases our Hope.”**

**Pope Francis**

I trust you are all safe and well as we began our journey through the Holy Season of Advent.

We began this journey by focussing on hope.The celebration of our Savior Jesus’ birth brings hope and joy for everybody in our community and throughout the world.

Over the past few months we have all experienced troubling times but our faith in Jesus’ love for us has given us hope for better days ahead. So as we prepare to celebrate the excitement of Jesus’ birth at Bethlehem we can all look forward together- knowing the happiness this wonderful event brings is getting closer and closer.

It is a busy time at school at the moment and although we are unable to physically meet as a school community, we are working hard to make sure that we still celebrate the Christmas festivities throughout December.

We started the first special celebration today by watching an Advent Nativity Service online @ Westminster Cathedral. The link was shared on Class Dojo if you would like to view it.

Last week we held School Council meetings and the children were able to feedback their thoughts about what is happening in school. The children had been voted in as class representatives and it was a great opportunity to discuss the importance of the democratic process.

Following Anti-Bullying week, we reinforced the importance of our school motto :

‘See it, Say it, Stop it’.

We had a big focus on Kindness which we will continue throughout December.

We are hoping that next week you will be able to help to support our local community fundraiser, donating food, gifts and new toys. We are working together with one of our families on this project and welcome as much support as possible, especially when this Christmas may be more difficult for many families, due to the pandemic.

We would like to thank our Year 3 and 4 parents for their understanding and support with remote learning during recent weeks. It is so important that you continue to log on regularly to Class Dojo as most of our communication will be through this platform.

God Bless

Mr Bonner

**Christmas Events**

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| **C:\Users\Karen T\Desktop\Phonics\catholic xmas 1.jpg** | Letters have been sent out this week detailing the Christmas events over the next three weeks. Although we are unable to gather together, we are still able to ensure the children take part in some Christmas festivities. For details on the events please go to the school website or look on ‘School Story’ on Class Dojo.  We are asking for a £3.00 donation to be sent into the class teacher- please put inside a labelled envelope.  Thank you for your support. |

**Christmas Dinner**

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| **C:\Users\Karen T\Desktop\Phonics\Planning-a-school-christmas-dinner.jpeg** | If you would like your child to have a Christmas dinner, please let the office know by the end of the day today. Those who are not eligible for Free School Meals are asked to pay £2.75 for the Christmas dinner via Parentmail OR via credit card at the school office.  The Menu is available to view on the school website @ <https://stignatiuscatholicprimary.co.uk/key-information/school-menu> |

**Collection for local families in need this Christmas**

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| C:\Users\Karen T\Desktop\charity-caro.jpg | This year we would like to work together to help those in need in our community.  We will be working alongside the staff at the Turnpike public house in Stamford Hill to donate items of food, gifts and toys. Please see flyer below.  We are asking that you bring in your donations next week, starting on Monday 7th December and leave at the Donation Station by the hall, on your way around the one way system.  For every donation that we get, you will be entered into a raffle draw. Ms Curran and Ms Taylor will be giving out raffle tickets to those who donate.  Instead of donating items to our appeal, you are welcome to receive food, gifts and toys instead.  You will be able to collect them from the Turnpike House on certain days and times – See flyer for details. |

**COVID-19 Awareness**

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| **C:\Users\Karen T\Desktop\Blog_KidsandMasks.jpg** | Please can we ask you to continue to wear a mask when you are on the school premises and please do continue to follow our ONE WAY SYSTEM. This will really help us to ensure we are keeping everyone as safe as we can. We really appreciate your support with this. |

**Reception Places Available!**

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| **C:\Users\Karen T\Desktop\ADMISSIONS_2020.jpg** | Reception places are now available for starting in September 2021.  For further details please see the ‘Admissions’ page on the school website@ <https://stignatiuscatholicprimary.co.uk/about-us/admissions> or please see Ms Allan in Reception.  C:\Users\Karen T\Desktop\front leaflet.png C:\Users\Karen T\Desktop\back leaflet.png |

**Parent Video Meetings**

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| **C:\Users\Karen T\Desktop\download (4).jpg** | This Friday 4th December, we will be having our online video meetings on School Cloud. Please check that you have received a confirmation email, headed *Parent Evening System* .  There is a link at the bottom of the email which you must click on just prior to the appointment.  Please ensure you go online 5 minutes before the appointment so that the appointment can start on time. |

**Christmas Jumper Day**

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| **C:\Users\Karen T\Desktop\unnamed.jpg** | Friday 11th December is Christmas Jumper Day!  The children can wear a festive jumper over their school uniform or they can decorate a school jumper.  Remember to be ECO friendly so try to recycle or upcycle a festive jumper. |

**General Reminders**

* PLEASE BE ON TIME FOR SCHOOL!

Your child should be in school no later than 9:00am ready to start their learning.

* We are a NUT FREE school. Please do not send your child in with food that may contain nuts, this includes Nutella spread.
* School will close for Christmas on Friday 18th December.
* Absence - Please ring the school to report your child’s absence by 9:15am each morning.

**Free School Meals:**

Free School Meals (FSM) & Pupil Premium Grant (PPG) Eligibility Check

If your financial situation has changed, you may be entitled to FSM & automatically the school benefits from additional PPG funding for every pupil who is eligible, which goes towards resources and staffing levels.

So please check - even if your child is in Reception —Year 2 and you are entitled to Universal FSM. By applying for a benefit you are entitled to, will have a great impact on our school funds and everyone can benefit from this.

Your joint family income needs to be less than £16,190 and you need to be in receipt of one of certain benefits including: Universal Credit, Income Support, Income-based Jobseekers Allowance, Income-related Employment and Support Allowance and Support under Part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.

If you think this might apply to you, please contact the office with your full name, date of birth and National Insurance Number and the name/s of your child/ren. Thank you.

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| keep in touch myspace orkut friendster comments | You can contact us via our [admin@st-igs.haringey.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-igs.haringey.sch.uk) or via Class Dojo. |



An Advent Prayer

God of light and hope,

look upon us in love,

and fill us with the Spirit of Jesus,

that we may love you and serve you in your kingdom.

Protect us during this season

and keep us watchful in prayer

as we await the coming of our Lord, Jesus Christ,

who is the light of the world,

and who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,

one God, for ever and ever.