



ST. ALDHELM'S VA CHURCH PRIMARY SCHOOL
CHELYNCH PARK, DOULTING, SHEPTON MALLET, SOMERSET, BA4 4PL

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HEADTEACHER: Mrs P Cohen

ST. ALDHELM'S NEWS

December 20th 2018

Dear Parents

Well here we are – we have successfully made it through the Autumn Term. The children have enjoyed, developed and achieved in so many areas of learning this term. The ongoing learning in core subjects has continued and children have carried out assessments to show the progress they have made over the weeks. On top of the usual timetable children have had the opportunity to take part in a variety of other activities: Wells Cathedral visit, Fire Service and Library Bus, Christmas Production Performances, National Christmas Jumper Day, School Fayre, Craft Day, Church Service, Christmas Lunch, Instrumental Performance and Christmas Class Parties. Please enjoy photographs and more details in this newsletter.

As we approach Christmas and the end of the year, it gives us all the opportunity to reflect on our successes and make new resolutions and plans for the coming year. The journey of learning and development applies to us all, children and adults alike. I hope you can appreciate all the positives you see and that we continue to work together to make improvements for the better.

I would like to wish you all a very happy Christmas and hope that you can share, have fun and celebrate with your families and friends, whilst appreciating the true significance of Christmas. I send my very best wishes for a happy and healthy start to the New Year and for the successes and achievements to come in 2019.

Kind regards

Mrs P Cohen
Headteacher

Key Dates for 2019

Term 3:

- 07.01.19 Start of Term 3
No clubs in first week - they will resume on the week beginning 14.01.19
- 29.01.19 Cross Country Race (Venue TBC)
- 29.01.19 The Snow Queen
Y4, 5 & 6 Production (evening)
- 30.01.19 The Snow Queen
Y4, 5 & 6 Production (afternoon)
- 31.01.19 The Snow Queen
Y4, 5 & 6 Production (evening)
- These dates are provisional and will be confirmed at the start of Term 3**
- 15.02.19 End of Term 3

Term 4:

- 25.02.19 Start of Term 4
- 05.03.19 Cross Country Race, Downside
- 13.03.19 Kilve Residential Trip for Y5
13th-15th March 2019
- 26.03.19 Cross Country race, Glastonbury
- 02.04.19 Easter Church Service
– led by Y2, 3 & 6
- 05.04.19 End of Term 4

Term 5:

- 23.04.19 INSET Day**
- 24.04.19 Start of Term 5 for children
- 24.05.19 End of Term 5

Term 6:

- 03.06.19 Start of Term 6
- 19.06.19 Budden's Camp for Year 6
19th-21st June 2019
- 28.06.19 INSET Day**
- 03.07.19 Whitstone Transfer Day
- 04.07.19 Whitstone Transfer day
- 18.07.19 Year 6 Leavers' Church Service
Celebration Assembly
- 23.07.19 End of Term 6



St Aldhelm's Church Primary School
 Chelynch Park
 Doultong
 Shepton Mallet
 BA4 4PL
 12.12.2018

On a wet and windy Wednesday, Year 2 Magpies visited Wells Cathedral as part of our Special Places project. As soon as we got off the coach, the children were in awe of the vast scale of the building. We learned about the different parts of the Cathedral, comparing it to St Aldhelm's Church; went on a fascinating guided tour; made clay bosses and sketched in the beautiful Chapter House. On leaving the Cathedral, the trip was deemed as 'epic'! Year 2 were brilliant ambassadors of St Aldhelm's and all of the adults were very proud of them. Many thanks to: Mr Pulsford, Mrs Connock and Mrs Miller for accompanying us and supporting Year 2.

Dear Jess
 Thankyou for inviting us to Wells Cathedral. My favourite part was when we made the clay boss. I liked sketching and playing with the clay boss. I learned about the stained glass window because on the window it was being a story. I learned every thing! lots of love Izzy



St Aldhelm's Church Primary School
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 10.12.2018
 Dear Jess
 Thank you for giving us a tour and I will enjoy it because it was beautiful
 Thank you for letting us see a lantern and do a prayer
 thank you for letting us see your class
 FROM Ethan



Following the promotion of reading last month, it has been wonderful to see Y1 Nightingales enjoy the library bus.

We are really lucky to have a great library in Shepton Mallet too. Please make a visit over the holidays if you haven't visited before. They have an excellent selection of books for all ages of children and run some great events.



Y1 Nightingales and Reception Robins have also had a visit from the fire service. This was a good opportunity to link their Great Fire of London enquiry with firefighting in the present day. It has also provided a chance to think about fire safety at home and school, the fire service response and the tremendous work that firefighters do.



The Magical Christmas Jigsaw A Performance by Y1, 2 and 3



Christmas Service at St. Aldhelm's Church

Thank you to Year R and Year 5 for a beautiful nativity service in church. The children led the singing, narration and acting of the nativity story. It gave everyone a chance to be calm and still, to take a moment to appreciate the true meaning of Christmas and celebrate the peace and joy together.





Christmas Jumper Day

14th December 2018

Children and staff celebrated National Christmas Jumper Day on 14th December. Donations were gratefully received and enabled St. Aldhelm's to contribute £99.66 to the Save the Children Charity. Thank you for your support – it is important that we educate children about those less fortunate than themselves and we help to make a difference to their lives. You'll see the variety of jumpers that were worn on the day. . .



St. Aldhelm's Christmas Fayre 2018

The Christmas Fayre was a great success this year. We were so pleased with the number of stalls and activities that were set up in the hall, annex, corridor, reception outside and classrooms. We have been really happy by the feedback from the fayre. Parents commented on how much better it was that the stalls were more spread out, that they were able to sit and enjoy a cup of tea and chat, they could have a go on the many stalls the children were involved in running, could watch their children carrying out crafts, take their children to visit Father Christmas in the beautiful grotto and wait in anticipation for the fantastic raffle. The event raised a grand total of £930 – an incredible total. This money will feed directly back into the children. We will of course let you know how this will be spent in due course.

An enormous thank you goes to the Friends of St. Aldhelm's (PTA) for the planning and effort that went into this event. The main committee members put in many hours to ensure everything was thought of, to create and sell a phenomenal number of raffle tickets, to obtain the 3 top prizes and to prepare the grotto and crafts beforehand. Requests for help were made and a thank you goes to those parents who got involved and supported. Another thank you goes to the staff who were also involved in planning and for everyone who helped on the day.

The PTA will continue to welcome any parent who would like to be involved in future events. The next PTA meeting will be held towards the end of January 2019 – look out for a date in the new year. Come along and join the team – it's more fun with more people!

The Sweetie Jar totals were:

Year R	52 jars	Year 4	49 jars
Year 1	27 jars	Year 5	30 jars
Year 2	44 jars	Year 6	22 jars
Year 3	23 jars		

Well done Reception Robins with a great total!





CHRISTMAS CRAFT DAY

Children, parents and staff had fun designing, making, creating, cutting, folding, moulding, sticking, gluing, threading, icing and decorating whilst taking part in a variety of craft activities across the school





We would all like to say a big **THANK YOU** to all the volunteers who came in to help on Craft Day.

Mrs Watts, Mrs Connock, Mrs Pulsford, Mrs Duell and Mrs Haskins in Y2;
 Ms Sugg (Lily), Mrs Oakman, Mrs Hill, Daisy's Grandad and Mrs Philpott in Y3, Y5, & Y6;
 Mrs Mason and Mrs Mann in YR;
 Mrs Brake, Ms Allsop, Mrs Knapp, Mrs Norris and Ms Short in Y1 & Y4;

Your time and support was very much appreciated ☺.

A visit from Father Christmas. . .



Wow! Thank you! Can we use our new games this afternoon?



Thank You Santa for visiting us on our party afternoon and for our new games.



Yay! We loved seeing you Santa. Thank you for coming into our classroom.



Thanks for our new game for our class!



We enjoyed our chocolate!



Yes, we have been good!



Instrumental Concert – Wednesday 19th December 2018

It was wonderful to hear some of our musicians perform this week in an instrumental concert to parents, staff and all classes. The children shared their music on guitar, violin, piano and flute with a repertoire of different pieces. It was a fabulous showcase of their commitment, determination and practice and they demonstrated fantastic courage to perform to such a large audience. Thank you to Mr Davidson, Mrs Brock and Mrs Whiting for their ongoing teaching of specialist tuition and for preparing the children for the concert.





A big well done to all the children who received certificates in December's Celebration Assembly! It was wonderful to present our first Learp Awards and announce Handwriting Superstars too ©





For the attention of all parents and carers with a child due to start school in September 2019.

If your child is due to start school for the first time (born between 01/09/2014 and 31/08/2015) then it is very important you make an on time school place application.

Deadline for primary admissions 15th January 2019

To download the primary booklet for parent's, to make an on-line application and for further information please visit the local authority website www.somerset.gov.uk/admissions and choose the page Apply to Start School.

Job Opportunity

Job Vacancy at St.Aldhelm's:
School Midday Supervisory Assistant
Five days a week (Mon-Fri) – term-time only
Please see Mrs Barton or the school office if you are interested.



St. Aldhelm's Church News

Crib and Christingle Family Service

Monday 24th December 4pm

A wonderful way to start your Christmas celebrations

If you would like to make a Christingle come to the church from 3:30pm onwards, where you will be given all the necessary ingredients to make your Christingle

Christmas Eve Midnight Communion

Monday 24th December 11pm at St. Aldhelm's Church

This service will be led by the Bishop of Bath and Wells, the Right Reverend Peter Hancock

Christmas Day Service

Tuesday 25th December 11 am at St. Aldhelm's Church

Messy Church

Sunday 6th January 2019, 4 – 6 pm at St. Aldhelm's Church

This is an event for parents, carers and children of all ages.

Do come along and join us

All children must be accompanied by a parent or carer.

A contribution for the pot would be much appreciated but is in no way obligatory.

If you would like to come or would like more details, please contact Joy Lees

by Friday 4th January on 01749 880260