



# St Mary's CE VC First School

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Newsletter 8 - 2021/22

10<sup>th</sup> December 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

The children have come in this morning full of festive fun and cheer for our 'Christmas Jumper Day'! Donations can be made for Save the Children using our dedicated page following the link below:

<https://christmas.savethechildren.org.uk/fundraising/cjd210001246>.

The decorations made by all of our children are really looking wonderful, thank you so much for encouraging and supporting your child(ren) to take part. Decorations can still be brought in next week if you have time to enjoy some Christmas craft at home this weekend!

I am pleased to say that we have now had 4 clear days without a new case of Covid amongst our children. Our 'live' cases are reducing and children are gradually starting to return to school full of Christmas spirit. Thank you for your support in being vigilant for symptoms and for taking children for PCR tests when they have symptoms or have been identified as a close contact of a positive case. We really do appreciate it, particularly as it can be extremely disruptive to family life at a time which is already busy during the lead up to Christmas! Please do continue to keep us informed of any new cases so that we are able to quickly identify close contacts. Our office email is monitored during the weekends by Mrs Hayes who has done a fantastic job of keeping in touch with and supporting our families: [office@charminster.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:office@charminster.dorset.sch.uk)

Next week will begin with our Reception trip to the church to take part in the 'Christmas Experience'. Mrs Beale, Mr Holt, Mrs Simpson and Mrs Hardy are looking forward to taking the children.

On Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December it will be our 'Christmas Party Day' where children can come in their 'party clothes'. Please could children bring a packed 'party' lunch from home to enjoy eating in their classrooms with their friends. Mr Kent will be playing a selection of seasonal games during PE sessions on both Monday and Tuesday next week. Please ensure that your child is warm and comfortable for the day and that they have suitable footwear for playtimes and games.

Thank you to those of you who have already bought tickets via our School Gateway for the School Association Christmas Hamper Competition. There are 3 lovely hampers to be won with donations made by staff in school. Please buy your tickets on School Gateway by Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December at midnight!



The children from Reception to Year 3 have been busy practising their singing, dancing and, in some cases, recorder playing ready for their Christmas contributions for the festive end of term videos which will be filmed on Wednesday. We have decided that our Year 4 children will perform a 'reduced version' of our play in January when all of our children can participate and be part of the experience.

As we are unable to gather at the church as a whole school community for our traditional end of term Carol Service the children will all be part of Mrs Joy's Christmas Collective Worship in school via Google Meet.

There are lots of things to look forward to next week as we move towards the end of this autumn term! I hope that you have a lovely weekend!

Yours sincerely

*Suzanne Carter*

Dates:

13 Dec	Reception Trip to Church - Christmas Experience - 9.30am
14 Dec	Children's Christmas Party Day
15 Dec	Christmas Lunch (for those children who have ordered a hot lunch)
17 Dec	<b>Last Day of Term</b>
	<b>SPRING TERM 2022</b>
3 Jan	BANK HOLIDAY
4 Jan	Term begins for children