



ST BERNARD'S PREPARATORY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER NO: 13
09.12.19

Dear Parents/Carers

I would like to begin by thanking all our families for your love, prayers and support for St Bernard's Preparatory School. I would also like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy and holy Christmastime with your family and friends. May you all have a happy, healthy, peaceful and prosperous New Year.

We are in the second week of Advent. During Advent we have an Advent Wreath made in the shape of a circle and of evergreen leaves to remind us that God's love for us has no end. It reminds us that, in God, there is no beginning and no end. He is the Eternal and Ever Living God. The red berries remind us of the blood Jesus shed for us. The wreath is decorated with Three purple candles and one pink, representing the prophets – Abraham, Moses, David and John the Baptist. The fifth, white candle in the center represents Jesus, the Light of the World who first shone on Christmas Day.

*Light the Advent candle, two:
Think of humble shepherds, who
filled with wonder at the sight
of the child of Christmas night.*

*Candle, candle, burning bright,
shining in the cold winter night;
candle, candle, burning bright,
fill our hearts with Christmas light*

Maths Week - Rock Out 2019

Congratulations to the following children who were awarded certificates for being most valuable player during the Maths Week England Competition.

Aarush Garg (Trans M)

Hailee Zhou (L. Trans M)

Anish Jain (L. Trans G)

Pantastic

On Thursday and Friday of last week our Upper School children in Years 5 and 6 presented their production of Pantastic.

The production was very professional with wonderful performances; fantastic costumes; marvellous make-up, staging and props.

I want to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Verma, Mrs Whittaker and Miss Carter and Mrs Kimberley for all their hard work in preparing the children. A huge thank you to **all** our staff who contributed to the success of the production and to our catering staff for preparing the refreshments.

Christmas Party

I cannot thank the FOPs parents enough for their kindness and generosity of spirit in organising the Lower School Christmas Party this afternoon. The children thoroughly enjoyed themselves and the visit from Father Christmas. Thank you to Father Christmas for taking time out of his very busy schedule.

Carol Singing

Our children took part in Carol Singing yesterday at Sainsbury's. We managed to raise £72.84 in 25 minutes for Slough Foodbank. Well done!

The Children's Society

On Thursday, we would like to invite all pupils and staff to wear Christmas jumpers for a minimum donation of £1. All monies raised will be donated to The Children's Society as part of our Advent preparations.

Music lesson opportunities

Drum lessons

Any Year 2 – 6 pupil - Monday 12.45 – 1.15pm or Tuesday 4.30 – 5pm

Or Year 3 Miss Grogan's class ONLY - the opportunity for 2 pupils to start individual lessons next term.

If you would like your son or daughter to begin music lessons please collect a letter from reception and return the consent form to Ms Johnson.

Staffing matters

We wish Miss Robinson all the very best for the safe arrival of her baby.

Advent Liturgy Friday 13th December – Advent Liturgy in the Convent Chapel. **Unfortunately due to numbers of children and staff, and matters of Health and Safety, we are unable to extend an invitation to parents.**

School finishes this **Friday 13th December at 12.00 noon**. School re-opens on **Tuesday 7th January 2019 at 8.00 a.m.**

Here I am again
wondering what present to buy for Christmas
and forgetting that the best present I can give is just to be present

present to the family who grew with me
to the friends whose joy bubbles my life
to the sick whose pain heavies my heart
to the lonely whose longing is for a visit or a word or a gesture
to the down –of—heart whose sorrow saddens my joy

present also, if only in prayer, to those I just don't like
to those who annoy me
those I've quarrelled with during the year

present from the busyness of life
with the gentleness of the Child
to as many as I can
this Christmas time
present by prayer, visit, text, card, email

present to Jesus the Child
who is present to me always

PJ McCamphill

Best wishes and Merry Christmas
Mr. N Cheesman
Headmaster