



Good Shepherd Newsletter

Friday 16th December 2022

A Very Special Visitor

Mrs Downing took a very special visitor around school on Wednesday and Santa gave every child a present.



Grand Opening

We had the official opening of our long-awaited covered walkway this week. Both buildings are now joined together so both children and staff are more protected in the wet weather when moving around the school.



FROGS

A huge THANK YOU to everyone who has supported Friends of Good Shepherd (FROGS) throughout 2022, we really appreciate your effort, ideas and contributions very much and could not have got this far without you all.

We wish you all a very lovely Christmas and a Happy New Year.

A big thank you to FROGS for the lovely refreshments they served before all the Nativities.

Holiday Homework

This is advance notice of holiday homework for parents and carers! Please can you ensure all items of school clothing are clearly marked with your child's name over the Christmas holidays, including coats. Initials or markings such as a red dot on a label is not sufficient and leads to an ever growing pile of lost property. I will be doing spot checks in the new year with House Points for all children who have clear names!

Christmas Celebrations

Nursery and Reception classes performed a fantastic Nativity to their parents this week and the Year 4 class took a lead role in the Junior Carol Service. It was lovely to see them so mature.



Office Opening Hours

Please note, the office is open from 8:30am-4:30pm Mondays to Thursdays and 8:30-3:30pm on Fridays. Please ensure you come during these times if you would like to discuss anything with Mrs Snow and Ms Stephenson or need their help with completing a form.

Cafod World Gifts

Thank you for your donations to Cafod during Advent. The money raised has enabled us to buy a solar-powered water pump and fruit trees for families around the world. Giving to others shows the true meaning of Christmas—well done children.

Respect

Responsibility

Determination

Positivity

Teamwork

Headteacher and Kindness Awards

Well done to the following children who have worked hard, had great behaviour or have shown great kindness and thoughtfulness to others:

Headteacher Award:	Kindness Award:
R: Owen, Tricia,	Joesiah
Y1: Ademide, Zeah,	Mahmoud
Y2: Emerald, Esmerelda,	Daniel
Y3: Uriel, Yeabhne,	Oscar
Y4: Ranel, Reon,	Mi-Zani
Y5: Janelle, Usman,	Ollie
Y6: Emmanuel, Josef,	Aaliyah



Nursery and Reception Places

Please encourage your family and friends to come and visit in the first week back (the deadline is Sunday 15th January). As you know, Good Shepherd is a strong Christian school but we welcome families of all faiths. Please share this message as outside families often think that they have to be Catholic to get a place at Good Shepherd.



Every day is open day at Good Shepherd!

Fr Con's Reflection



December 17th opens Phase 2 of the two phases that comprise the Holy Season of Advent. We are exhorted to 'Rejoice', to be spiritually joyful. This phase lasts for 8 days, up to and including Christmas Eve. In phase 1 the emphasis was on spiritual preparation.

2022 has indeed been a difficult year on the world stage: the war in Ukraine; inflation reaching double figures; the cost of daily living 'rocketing' etc. and leading to many strike days across the UK workforce.

Now, more than ever perhaps, we need the true meaning of Christmas to shine though. May everyone, in any way connected with our school, have a blessed, happy and safe Christmas season.

Holiday Club

Free Holiday Club in New Addington (Wayside) for Free School Meal children—please see attachment for more details including email/number to book a place.

Christingle

Year 1 made lovely Christingles this week and reflected afterwards on the significance of these.

The orange represents the whole world, the red ribbon reminds us of God's love and the blood that Jesus shed for us. The four sticks of sweets and fruit remind is of the four seasons and the good gifts that God gives us and finally the candle represents Jesus who is the Light of the World.



School reopens on Wednesday 4th January at 8:40am.

Although the school office is closed for Christmas, if you need help or advice, please reply to one of the school texts as I will be monitoring these messages during the holidays.

Wishing you all a happy Christmas.
Mrs Day

Learning together as part of God's family