

St Monica's Catholic Primary School Weekly Newsletter 24th November 2020

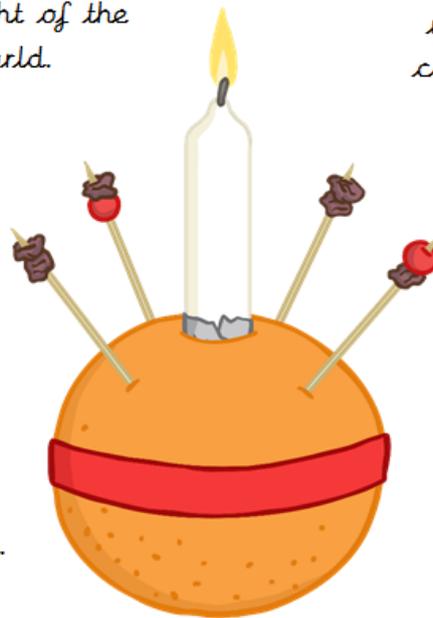
Dear Parents,

This is the last Newsletter before the start of Advent on Sunday 29th November. Next week we will start this lovely season off with our Christingle Service on Friday 4th December. Please could you send in to school, on Friday the 4th, the list below to enable all the children to make a Christingle and take part fully in the service: an orange, a little piece of tin foil, a candle, some red ribbon, 4 cocktail sticks and some sweets that can be stuck on the sticks.

*The lit candle
represents Jesus as
the Light of the
World.*

*The 4 sticks
represent the four
compass directions
and the four
seasons.*

*The fruits or sweets
skewered on sticks
represent the fruits
of the Earth.*



*The red ribbon (or
red paper frill)
represents the blood
of Jesus.*

*The orange
represents the world.*

Diary Dates

- Sunday 29th November - First Sunday of Advent
- Week beginning 30th November — Sponsored Walk for St. Joseph's Family Centre
- Monday 30th November — Virtual Parents Evening
- Tuesday 1st December — Flu Vaccine (if your child was absent on 16th November)
- Tuesday 1st December — Virtual Parents Evening (Mrs Harman only)
- Wednesday 2nd December — Virtual Parents Evening
- Friday 4th December 9.15 am— First Friday Rosary live from one of the classes on Google Meet
- Friday 4th December - Christingle
- Friday 11th December — Christmas Jumper Day for a £1 contribution to our Christmas Charity St. Joseph's Family Centre
- Tuesday 15th December — Nativity videos will go on the web site for you to enjoy
- Thursday 17th December - Christmas Party with a virtual visit from Santa on Google Meet
- Friday 18th December - Last day of Term

St. Joseph's Family Centre Sponsored Walk

Next week is our Sponsored Walk for St. Joseph's. Have you got many sponsors yet? We only have a week to go, so get collecting sponsors so we can raise a huge amount of money for this worthy charity. A voucher for Christmas could make all the difference to a family who is struggling. Remember, if you know of anyone who would appreciate a helping hand, please get in touch.

Health and Safety/Parking Reminders

- Keep to your time slot at the gates - don't let your child get mixed up with the bubble who are going into school in the earlier slot. Not only does it mean that the bubbles are mixing but it also potentially leaves children in school without supervision.
- Masks must be worn at drop off and pick up times.
- Double parking on St. Monica's Close has caused problems recently. There are very few parking spaces available for parents dropping off their children on St. Monica's Close which is why we recommend that you use one of the three local car parks - St. Monica's Church car park on Broomfields Road, St. Mary Magdalene's car park on Bridge Lane, or the car park behind the pool at Broomfields Leisure Centre.
- **Some parents/carers are still using the disabled bays outside school and Broomfield's Leisure Centre whilst dropping off/picking up their children. If you do not have a disabled badge please park in the regular parking spaces leaving the bays free for those who genuinely need them.**

Reading Workshop

Ordinarily, at this point in the school year, St Monica's would host a Reading Workshop for parents to attend to learn more about the teaching of Reading across the school, answer any queries you may have and offer guidance on how to support your child's reading at home. Since we are unable to meet, I will be posting a presentation onto our school website which I hope will share much of the content above. It will be made live on Tuesday 24th November 2020. In order to personalise this briefing and cater for the age range and breadth of reading abilities within our seven year-group school, I would like to appeal for your input. If you have any questions or points you would like me to address in my coverage, please email them directly to me at sarah.harman@stmonicasprimaryschool.co.uk and I will do my best to incorporate these themes into the Workshop. Anything I can't cover, I will share with your child's class teacher and hopefully, between us, we can provide some more specific feedback for you.

I'd like to thank you in anticipation of your correspondence.

Kind regards,

Mrs Harman

English Coordinator

Parents Evening

We are looking forward to seeing you for the first Parents Evening of the academic year, next week. You have until 10pm on Thursday 26th November to book a slot with your child's teacher (if you are experiencing difficulties booking, please contact the school office). We are using a new system and have had a trial play with it, so hopefully it will work well. Please note that the system cuts the connection after exactly 10 minutes and so both parties will have to keep to time. We will not be able to send books home but hopefully you will have a good idea of how they are doing from their homework activities.

Listening to Music

As part of our music focus across the school, we look at different styles and periods of music each half term. This half term we are focusing on the Medieval and Renaissance period from 500-1600. The composer we have chosen to listen to first is a lady called Hildegard of Bingen who was born in 1098 and died in 1179 (aged 81). Here are links to a couple of her pieces for you to share with your child at home.

Links -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wGPZWUNwLG0&list=RDVbjqWqPSfiw&index=2>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VbjqWqPSfiw&list=RDVbjqWqPSfiw&index=1>

First Friday Rosary

This month the children in Year 4 are leading us in saying a decade of the Rosary on Google Meet. It is a lovely start to the month, and only takes 10 minutes out of your day. If you would like to join us, please let Mrs. Twiss know by emailing stmonicas_primary@warrington.gov.uk and we will send you an invite on the morning. We look forward to seeing you on screen, praying with us.

Board Games

We would appreciate any donations of board games (that you no longer use at home) so the children can use them during wet playtimes. Board games ideally for 2 e.g. Snakes and Ladders, Connect 4 etc.

Have a lovely week

Best wishes,

Mrs. Norman and all the staff.
