



Message from the Headteacher



We break for Christmas today and I hope you are looking forward to this special time with your children! You can be assured they are very excited!

This week began with the Foundation Stage enjoying a day out at Pennywell Farm. Not only did they take part in the nativity, they met all the animals and they also visited Father Christmas!

Those children who attended the Martial Arts Club had their grading on Monday evening. Congratulations to you all and it was great to see so many parents supporting their children.

We enjoyed the conclusion to our 'Well-being' singing on Tuesday – and what a success it has been. It is not often I have seen **all** the children singing so enthusiastically and with such smiles on their faces! George Ezra's 'Shotgun' proved a real favourite.

Thank you to those of you who joined us for our Advent Mass on Tuesday afternoon. Father Jacek was very impressed with our Christmas performance last week and used our story as a basis for his homily.

The Foundation Stage children came in school in their 'onesies' on Wednesday. We also had a visit from Mr Friel the CEO of Plymouth CAST. He especially enjoyed a walk around the school and meeting the staff and children in their classes.

Yesterday the whole school gathered to say thank you and farewell to Mrs Potterton. Classes gave her cards as well as sang or recited something for her. We all wish her the very best as headteacher of St Paul's RC Primary School.

It was decided very last minute that children could wear their home clothes to school today as we have been discussing the true meaning of Christmas and to ensure that we live with compassion and empathy. This was exemplified this week when two of our pupils, Eoin and Fintan, having won a huge hamper in the Christmas raffle, decided to donate it to the Shekinah Mission. Your donations have been gratefully received and the children, through their School Council, have decided that they would like to support the charities of Water Aid and The Food Bank.

May I wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a happy New Year! 2018 has been quite a year and we look forward to what lies ahead in 2019. The children return to school on Monday 7th January.

Mr P Cotter

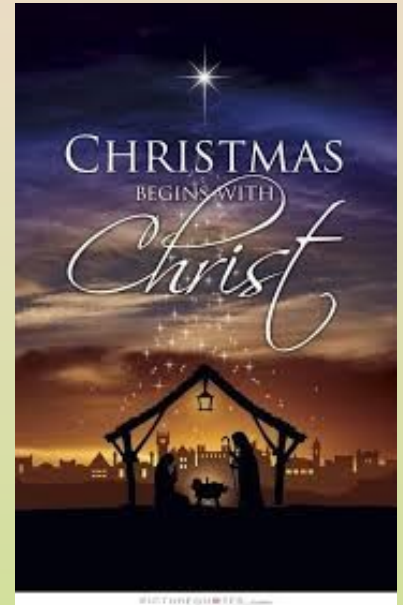
pcotter@maryofthecross.co.uk



Liturgy in School

The theme for our prayer and worship next week is:

Waiting with joy



Elizabeth's baby knew who Jesus was, even before he was born. Help me, Jesus, to recognise you. Help me to see you in the people I meet.

Amen.

Back to

School

Monday 7th
January 2019

CLUBS ARE NOW OPEN
FOR BOOKING FOR NEXT
TERM—SEE ATTACHMENT
TO NEWSLETTER FOR
MORE INFORMATION



Well done to all those who won a prize in this year's Christmas Raffle (list of winning tickets below). We had 28 prizes made up of kind donations from local businesses and those donations you sent in which made up our hampers. This year we were supported by the following Barbican businesses: Plymouth Gin, Glass, The Jewellers, and Barbican Pasties. We also received kind donations from our local Tesco, Sainsburys, M&S and Aldi, together with the Woodlands Theme Park, Clip n Climb and Headlines Barbers.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas from the Holy Cross PTFA

The total in raffle sales for the Christmas draw this year was £525.00!!



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| 00750 The Jewellers Barbican, silver necklace | 00675 Cava & tea cosy |
| 01454 The Jewellers Barbican, silver necklace | 00389 Free hair cut with Georgina at Headlines mutley |
| 00005 Plymouth Gin Barbican Connoisseur's tour x2 | 00509 The Hutong cafe £10 gift voucher. |
| 00058 Tesco voucher £25 | 01202 Woodlands Dartmouth 2 complimentary tickets. |
| 00803 Tesco voucher £25 | 00217 Barbican pasty 2 x pasties |
| 00004 Tesco voucher £20 | 00840 Red spotty bag & Morrison's voucher |
| 01457 Tesco voucher £15 | 01204 Frozen girls bag & note pad |
| 00010 Tesco voucher £10 | 01330 Personal organiser & make up bag |
| 01199 Sainsburys voucher £20 | 01275 Hamper |
| 01226 M&S voucher £10 | 00405 Hamper |
| 00743 Sainsburys biscuit tin | 01243 Clip n Climb voucher |
| 00488 "Glass", Barbican—tea light holder | 00621 Morrisons voucher £10 |
| 01344 "Glass", Barbican - tea light holder | 01661 Biscuits and gardening equipment. |
| 00918 Hamper | |
| 00519 Hamper | |

"THANK YOU"



Today we have enjoyed coming to school in mufti. Through your donations today we have received £142.68. The children, through their School Council, have decided that they would like to support the charities of Water Aid and The Food Bank. Thank you to each and every one of you for thinking of those less fortunate at this time of year.



From the New Year we will have to take a harder approach with those who repeatedly have their ParentPay accounts in debt. If your accounts continuously remain in debt we will be unable to allow you to use the care clubs (Breakfast and After School Club) until the debts have cleared. We will also have to insist on a pack lunch being provided until any dinner debt is cleared.

To avoid any embarrassment please ensure your account remains in credit at all times.

The Cathedral Church of St Mary and St Boniface

Cecil Street Plymouth PL1 5HW

Christmas at the Cathedral

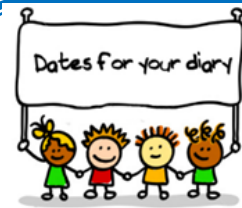


Wednesday 12 December
6.00pm—Advent Reconciliation Service
Friday 14 December
7.30pm—Primrose Charity Carol Service



Monday 24 December
4.00pm—Nativity Play for children, at the Cathedral.
5.30pm—Carols and Readings at St Joseph's, followed by
6.00pm—Vigil of Christmas at St Joseph's.
11.30pm—Carols and Readings at the Cathedral, followed by

Tuesday 25 December
12midnight—Midnight Mass at the Cathedral
8.00am—Christmas Day Mass at the Cathedral
10.00am - Christmas Day Mass at the Cathedral



Here is a list of some important dates confirmed for this year. All information is available on our website calendar.

Monday 07/01/19

First day of new term

Monday 14/01/19

Foundation trip to Theatre Royal

Friday 15/02/19

Non-Pupil Day

Monday 16/02/19 to Friday 24/02/19

Half Term

Monday 03/06/19 to Friday 07/06/19

Year 6 Residential

Thank you all for your support as always. Have a wonderful Christmas Holiday.

Mr Cotter and all of the staff at Holy Cross School