



29th November

School news Update

Our church school creates a firm foundation where together, with God's help and with the help of others, we learn for life, achieve our best and grow in faith



Great news!!

We are delighted to let parents know that we will be replacing our play tower before the end of term!! A HUGE thanks to STARS who have kindly funded the tower; we couldn't have replaced this well used and well loved piece of equipment without your support. This just shows how important the fund raising efforts are and we are genuinely so grateful to anyone who has been involved in STARS or who has supported by attending an event. The installation will start on 10th December and there will be some equipment etc. on our site. Please could we politely request that parents are vigilant with their children before and after school. The tower will be up and running for the start of term in January which I am sure the children will be very excited about.

Our Christmas Countdown has begun!

We have lots of exciting things planned over the coming weeks. From the Van Gogh and Monet nativity play to our Christingle service; whole School Christmas dinner to a travelling Pantomime! Do check the diary dates at the end of this newsletter so you know when everything is happening!

Tickets for this year's Nativity are on sale now!

Rehearsals are under way for this year's nativity performance which will be performed on Monday 10th and Tuesday 11th December. We sent home booking forms for this last week. Tickets are allocated on a first come first served basis and seats are numbered. If you wish to book tickets please return the form to the school office as soon as possible.

Christmas Cards

The Christmas post box will be out on Monday. If your child would like to send Christmas cards to their friends then please encourage them to "post" them in the box. The cards will be sorted and delivered straight to the classes each day. Please help us by including the class or year group on the front of the card as we have several children in the school with the same name and we want to make sure that all cards go to the right person!



Christmas Decorating Morning

We are holding our annual Christmas decorating morning on Friday 6th December from 9.30am – 11.30am.

You are invited to join us to help make the decorations for our school tree, which is kindly being donated by the Grover family. If you wish to join us then please can you let the school office know so we have an idea of numbers. Glue, glitter and fun will be had by all!

Christingle Service

We will be holding our Christingle Service again this year at St Andrews Church on the last day of term at 2:30pm. Everyone is welcome to join us. During this service there will be a collection for The Children's Society and if you would like to find out how the work of this charity supports children and raises funds through Christingle Services across the country please visit their website www.childrenssociety.org.uk If you are available to help to make the Christingles in school on the morning of 18th December, please let the school office know.



Swimming next term

Just a quick reminder that the first instalment for Year 5 & 6 swimming is due by Friday 6th December.



Christmas Dinner / Christmas Jumper Day – Deadline Monday 2nd December

We are inviting children to wear a Christmas jumper to school instead of their school jumper/cardigan on Christmas Lunch Day (12th December). This is the day before the official fundraising day for Save the Children and we are asking for a donation of £1 which will go towards the Save the Children charity.

During this week we will swap the meals for Wednesday and Thursday – this means we will have bbq chicken on the Wednesday and the roast dinner (Christmas dinner) on the Thursday. The last day to book a Christmas dinner is Monday 2nd so please do return your booking form by then.

Family worker – Anxiety workshop

We are delighted to invite parents to a workshop run by our lovely family worker, Christylee. The workshop will focus on anxiety and will include tips and strategies on supporting children with anxiety. We need at least 3 parents in order for this to run so please book your place via the school office before Friday 6th as this will give us time to cancel if we do not have enough interest.

School Photos

We have had several parents contact us this week regarding their school photo orders. We have been in touch with the company and they assured us that the photos are in process and will be delivered as soon as all the orders are completed.

Rise and Shine club

Just a reminder that we are still running our before school club each day which enables children to arrive from 8am. This time is spent undertaking physical activities which is a great start to the school day. The cost each morning is £3.50 and a booking form will be sent before the end of term.

Attendance % for W/E 29/11/19

Van Gogh ~ 99.4%
Monet ~ 99.2%
Kandinsky ~ 99.3%
Picasso ~ 97%



STARS reminders

Christmas Fayre - Friday 6th December @ 3.30pm – 5.30pm at Abbots Ripton Village Hall - Entrance free!

Visit Santa in his grotto (£2.50) to receive your Christmas gift. There will be lots of stalls and festive activities for the children



and adults.

Raffle tickets were sent home last week. Please sell and many as you can to family and friends and return any unsold books to the school office. Thank you for the donations towards the hampers – they are going to look great!

Breakfast with Santa – Friday 13th December @ 8am in the school hall – Please book by 10th December.

£4.00 per child, breakfast will be pancakes/cereal with a small gift from Santa when he joins us.

‘Elfridges’ Christmas Shop – Friday 13th December @ 9.30 – 11am at school.

Gifts will be priced ranging from 50p to £3. All children will have the chance to visit the Christmas shop to purchase a present for a loved one.

Are you a crafter or a baker? If so would you be able to make something that you could donate for us to sell at the Christmas shop. Please speak to a member of the STARS team.



Carol Singing – Saturday 14th December @ 10 – 11.30am at Morrison, St Ives.

Everyone welcome – the more the merrier!!



Diary Dates

Please see below the diary dates for the Autumn/Spring term 2019/2020

*Any new dates added in the future will be in **bold italics***

Date	Event
2 nd December	STARS Wreath Making event – Village Hall
6 th December	Whole School Christmas Decorating Morning. Everyone welcome
6 th December	STARS Annual Christmas Fair from 3:30pm at the Village Hall
9 th December	Van Gogh and Monet Nativity Performance – 9:30am and 2:00pm
10 th December	Van Gogh and Monet Nativity Performance – 9:30am
12 th December	Whole School Christmas Lunch including Christmas Jumper day
13 th December	STARS Breakfast with Santa followed by the Christmas Shop
14 th December	STARS Carol Singing at Morrisons St Ives
16 th December	Panto visit – Sleeping Beauty
18 th December	Christmas Christingle Service – 2.30pm in the church
19th Dec to 6th Jan 2020	Christmas Holiday
6 th January	Training day – School Closed
7 th January	Spring term begins