



## Reminder

### School/Parish Mass – Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2018

#### Feast of Christ The King

This term's School/Parish Mass will be held this Sunday – Feast of Christ The King. This will be held at 11.00 a.m. at Our Lady Help of Christians Church in Guildhall Street.



### Advent – a time for giving

We are fast approaching Advent – and at school we have begun to think about preparing to celebrate Christmas together. This year, our

Advent Fundraising will be going to two different charities:-

- CAFOD in order that we support the great work that this Catholic charity do abroad – especially important this year following the devastating floods in Kerala.
- The Salvation Army who distribute new toys locally to those children who would otherwise not receive a gift this Christmas.

This newsletter will show you all the ways we intend to raise the much needed funds for these two worthwhile charities.

In addition to the money we are raising, we are asking the children to bring in a **NEW** toy that will be passed on to a vulnerable child. There will be an Advent box each day outside the school hall for the collection of these gifts starting from 1<sup>st</sup> December.

### Advent Breakfast

Our Advent Breakfast will be held on **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December** from 8:00 a.m. As ever, this will be great value for money, good fun and a brilliant way to start the day.

We will be serving the usual breakfast (cereals, sausages, beans, toast and a drink – milk, tea or coffee) and the event is open to all the children and their

parents (grandparents, uncles, aunts etc.!).

The cost will be £3 per person, and all the money raised will go to the Advent fundraising campaign. Please return the form overleaf as soon as possible to book your breakfast.

### Christmas jumpers

As part of our fundraising we are holding a Christmas Jumper day on 7<sup>th</sup> December – for a donation of £1 the children and adults can wear their favourite Christmas woolly to school. Proceeds again going to the vital work of these charities.



### Christmas Fair

Don't forget to come along and support the Parents' Association Christmas Fair on **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December after school**. As usual, there will be plenty of Christmas spirit around, with raffle prizes, pocket-money toys and competitions for the children, and delicious cakes!

[PLEASE RETURN TICKETS & MONEY TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE](#)

## Pantomime at The Leas

On 11th December Mrs Huotari has booked to take all the children to see Dick Whittington. Usually, tickets are priced at between £19.90 - £30.40. We have secured a discount for the show and the school funds will also make a contribution. [We are only asking therefore for a £5 per child.](#) This price relies heavily on all parents contributing and making this payment of £5 before the event. Please log onto ParentPay to make your contribution.

ALL CHILDREN WILL REQUIRE A PACKED LUNCH ON THIS DAY! If you are a Free School Meal and require the kitchen to prepare a lunch for your child, please contact Mrs Tidd by 4<sup>th</sup> December 2018.

## Communication with Parents

The school work hard to communicate as early and efficiently as possible with parents. We endeavour to do this by Class Newsletters, ourschoolsapp and ParentPay email. Over 96% of our parents have the app and ParentPay so this should make all communication easier. It is therefore important that you have full access to these systems. As always, any problems please see Mrs Tidd in the school office.

## Admissions for September 2019

This is the time of year when parents of children who will be five during the next academic year need to sort out school places.

There is a county-wide **Common Application Form** for primary schools and, for faith schools like Stella Maris, parents are also required to complete a Supplementary Form.

The Common Application Forms, together with an explanatory booklet, are now available **online**, at [www.kent.gov.uk/ola](http://www.kent.gov.uk/ola). If an online application is difficult for you, a paper form is available from the school office. Parents have until **Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2019** to return the form to KCC or apply online and to send the Supplementary Form to school.

**If you know of anyone born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2014 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2015, and are interested in applying for a place in Reception next September, please make sure they contact the school as soon as possible to check that all the correct forms have been completed.**

Open Evening Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> November from 4.30 p.m. until 6.00 p.m.

## First Communion

First Communion next summer will be on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2019.

Registration forms for children in Hobbits class will be sent home by the end of the week, and instruction classes will be held on Wednesdays after school, **starting on Wednesday 9th January.**

If your child is older than Year 3 and you would like them to make their First Communion next year, you can obtain a registration form from the school office.

Please remember that only baptised Catholics can receive Communion. If your child is not a

Catholic, but you are interested in taking this step, please contact Father Stephen at Church.

Registration forms should be returned to the school by the end of the term (Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> December).

## Christmas lunch

The children's **Christmas lunch** will be on **Wednesday 19th December**. Don't forget that any of the children can have a school lunch on that day, even if they usually have a packed lunch, but we need to know in advance. Simply book your meal on ParentPay in the usual way. We would ask for this to be **pre-booked by Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December** for ordering purposes.

## Christmas Dates

Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> November	Christ the King Mass OLHOC 11.00 a.m.
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> November	TAG Day for PA – Bring a bottle/gift
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> December	Advent Mass School Hall – 1.30 p.m.
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Jumper day
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Fair after school
Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup> December	4.00 p.m. St Joseph's Nativity Story and Carols  6.00 p.m. OLHOC Advent Carol Service
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	Dick Whittington Pantomime – Leas Cliff Hall <b>*PACKED LUNCH REQUIRED</b>
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Party Day KS1/ Cinema Outing KS2
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Infant Christmas production at 1:30 p.m.
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	KS2 Christmas Nativity at 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Lunch – book on ParentPay
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Christingle Service at 1:30 p.m.
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Break up for Christmas

December	(2:30 p.m.)
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Return to school
January	

## Attendance Table

At Stella Maris, our attendance target is to be above 96%. The league table below shows how the children are currently fairing.

Congratulations to the Hobbits, who at the time of printing the newsletter, remain the leaders on the table!

Imps	96.88%	Pixies	97.49%
Elves	95.85%	Hobbits	98.20%
Dragons	97.85%	Griffins	96.70%
Unicorns	96.06%	<b>Overall</b>	<b>97%</b>

## Local Services Providing Emergency Food in Folkestone

Rainbow Centre Homeless Support Service - Appointments can be made at the Rainbow Centre from 10am to 1pm Monday to Friday, for advice and practical support for those who are rough-sleeping, sofa-surfing or at risk of eviction. If you know of anyone vulnerable, please pass this information to them.

<b>Monday</b> 2.30pm to 4.30pm	<b>Cornerstone Drop-in</b> The Cornerstone Centre, Castle Hill Avenue
<b>Tuesday</b> 12.30pm to 3.30pm	<b>Action on Homelessness</b> Methodist Church, Sandgate Road
<b>5.15pm</b>	<b>Rainbow Foodstop</b> Marine Crescent
<b>5.50pm</b>	<b>Rainbow Foodstop</b> Magistrates Court, Palting Way
<b>Wednesday</b> 2.30pm to 4.30pm	<b>Cornerstone Drop-in</b> The Cornerstone Centre, Castle Hill
<b>Thursday</b> 12.30pm to 3.30pm	<b>Action on Homelessness</b> Methodist Church, Sandgate Road
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<b>Saturday</b> 5.15pm	<b>Rainbow Foodstop</b>
Marine Crescent	
5.50pm	<b>Rainbow Foodstop</b>
Magistrates Court, Palting Way	
<b>Sunday</b> 12.30pm to 3.30pm	<b>Action on Homelessness</b>
Sunflower House, 45 Foord Road	

## News from the Children ... Imps

As part of our Dinosaur Project, the Imps went to a Dinosaur Workshop at Folkestone Museum on Monday 12th November. The Imps enjoyed digging for fossils and exploring the other artefacts on display. The Imps were very excited to see a real human skeleton!



## Pixies

The Pixies have enjoyed a very exciting few weeks, continuing our theme of Traditional Tales with The Jolly Christmas Postman. A highlight has been the outdoor learning we undertook in the forest school area, where we built houses for the Three Little Pigs and then used logs to create our own pigs to live in them!



## Elves

This term our project is 'Hedgehogs'! We have been learning lots about these curious creatures and we had an opportunity to learn even more during our Forest School morning! We had a fantastic time building homes for hedgehogs, making our own hedgehogs out of clay, exploring our outside area for small 'things' that they might eat and even had an opportunity to learn how to whittle sticks that we used to toast marshmallows with!



## Hobbits

At the end of Term One, the Hobbits had a wonderful day celebrating their Rainforest Project. The Rainforest Day took place in our very own outside forest space. Throughout the day the children completed a variety of activities including story sticks, roasting marshmallows, colour

matching, apple pressing and creating a rainforest tribal mask. The children also loved creating and cooking their own pizzas on the school fire pit!

An amazing day was had by both children and grown-ups.



## Dragons

Year 4 are working in collaboration with The Creative Foundation on a project called Pioneering places

We are delighted that Stella Maris has been chosen to be involved in this project. Dragons will be working with Little Architect and local schools to imagine the future of Folkestone Gasworks site.



## Griffins

Griffins have loved their Harry Potter project this term. One of the highlights was a trip to Dover Castle along with Pixies.



## Unicorns

A very big well done to our Unicorn children for the respect they have shown in commemorating the centenary for the end of the Great War. A highlight of this project would be the radio interview given on BBC 5 Live by a selection of children and Miss Moore. Despite terrible weather, these young children braved the elements to show their respect and share their experiences with this project.



## Safeguarding Road Safety

Mrs Huotari has recently attended a Safeguarding meeting; shockingly, most deaths in children happen on the roads. We work hard at Stella Maris to ensure staff, parents and visitors approach the school at a safe speed and park sensibly around the site. Please refrain from speeding or double parking in the car park at the front of the school to keep our children safe.

**THE YELLOW LINES MUST ALWAYS BE KEPT FREE.**



## Social Media

As Christmas activities approach, parents will be invited in to the school for various events.

We kindly ask that if you take a photograph or video of any part of the Christmas productions, you ensure as much as possible that it is only of your child and that it is not put on any form of social media for safeguarding and GDPR reasons. This guidance applies for anything in the school, such as assemblies.

### Advent Breakfast

Please send  tickets for breakfast on **Friday 14th December**. I enclose

Children's names: \_\_\_\_\_ Children's classes \_\_\_\_\_