



# *St Mary's Catholic Primary School*

*Headteacher: Mrs Helen Armstrong  
Diocese of Plymouth*

17<sup>th</sup> December 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week I have been asked by all the staff to say a great big thank you for all the Christmas gifts that we have all received. We are saying farewell and good luck to Miss Dudley in Year 3. She is leaving St. Mary's to begin a new chapter. I know she is looking forward to new experiences and we wish her every success in the future. She has really appreciated all the kindness and support during her time here. We look forward to welcoming Mrs Wood to Year 3 full time, and Mrs Dibbossian to Year 1, three days a week in the New Year.



On Wednesday the children enjoyed their Christmas Dinner followed by a party in the afternoon.

We were very fortunate that our school Mascot arrived to deliver the gifts from the PTA and all the children had fun talking to them.

The school Mascot was very sensible and remembered to wear a face covering in school.



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**"Inspiring each other to learn, in the light of Christ"**

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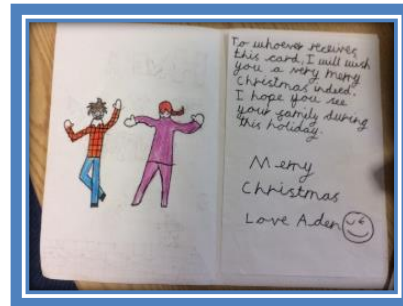
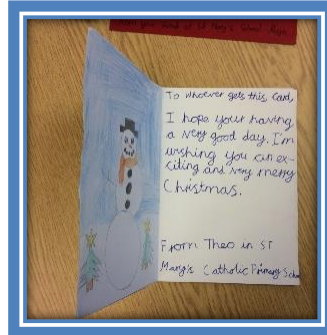
Website: [www.st-marys.poole.sch.uk](http://www.st-marys.poole.sch.uk)

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Do you remember the promise that each year group made following the Year 2 liturgy? Well this week Year 5 made lovely cards for the 'Magna Care Home'. When Mrs Eddy delivered them she reported:

*"I have just been to deliver the Christmas cards from Year 5 and some other pictures the children made for the residents in the care home. If I could have bottled the response I would have."*

*The lady who took them from me was completely overjoyed and so moved. She said this would mean the world to the residents and they will love them."*



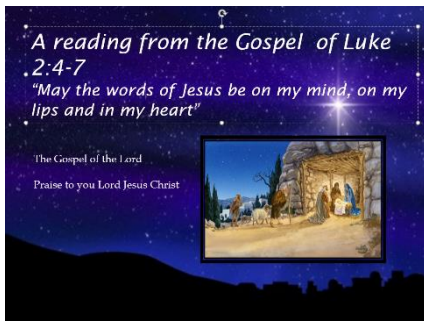
Year 2 also made Christmas Cards for all our neighbours and they delivered them today. Some of the neighbours came to the door and said a big "thank you".



Year 3 wanted to share this picture 'The Messiah is coming – be prepared'.

Year 2 have been learning about India this term. On Monday they had 'India Day'. Aimee made her own t-shirt for India day and Arthur brought in a photo of his granny as a baby in India as well as some material from India.





This morning our whole school Liturgy had a focus on "Advent and Christmas". Every year at this time something wonderful happens in churches, schools and homes around the world. Christmas cribs that have been stored away since January are unpacked and put on display. Friends and followers of Jesus gather around the cribs, to pray, to reflect, and to get ready to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Today we thought about the crib and why it is special to us.



*Heavenly Father, bless all our cribs,  
May Jesus remind us how to love  
May Mary remind us how to be brave  
May Joseph remind us how to be faithful  
May the angels remind us how to praise you  
May the shepherds remind us how to be joyful  
May the wise men remind us how to welcome others  
And may we remind everybody that we belong to God's family.  
We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Our 'Warhammer club' should have been going to the shop in Poole this week but unfortunately we were advised to cancel all trips outside of school. So the children in the Warhammer Club played a game. They were trying to get their Space Marines to escape the Necron Tomb before the Necrons destroyed them. They have all enjoyed this new club, our thanks go to Miss Dann for organising it.







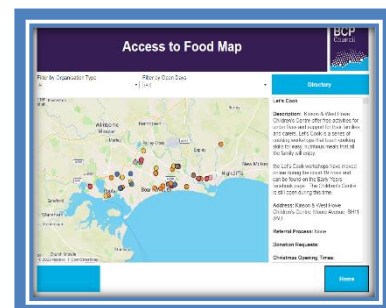
Please can I remind you all that do have a number of staff and children that are allergic to 'Nuts and Sesame'. Please can you be extra careful when preparing packed lunches to ensure none of these foods are included. Thank you.



The Access to Food Map shares the range of community food support available across Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole. Use the map to discover your neighbourhood's Foodbanks, Social Supermarkets, Community Fridges, Community Meals and more. This December the map also includes:

- Christmas holiday opening times
- Donation requests for each community food project
- The Extra Food Support over Winter/Christmas Holidays List – A list of the extra food support (hampers, Christmas meals etc) available throughout the holiday and winter period.

Find the map at [www.bcpccouncil.gov.uk/accesstofoodmap](http://www.bcpccouncil.gov.uk/accesstofoodmap)



Congratulations to all the children on earning so many house points this week!



**Red – 301**      **Yellow – 240**      **Green – 251**      **Blue - 260**

I want to wish you all a very happy and peaceful Christmas 2021. We do not know what will happen with things changing so fast at the moment but I hope you will be able to spend special time with family and loved ones. I will be keeping you all in my thoughts and prayers. May the peace and blessings of Christmas be yours and may the coming year be filled with happiness for your all. I look forward to seeing you in 2022.

Yours faithfully,

*Helen Armstrong*

Helen Armstrong  
Headteacher