



Eccleston St Mary's C of E Primary School

Newsletter 13 | 8th December 2023

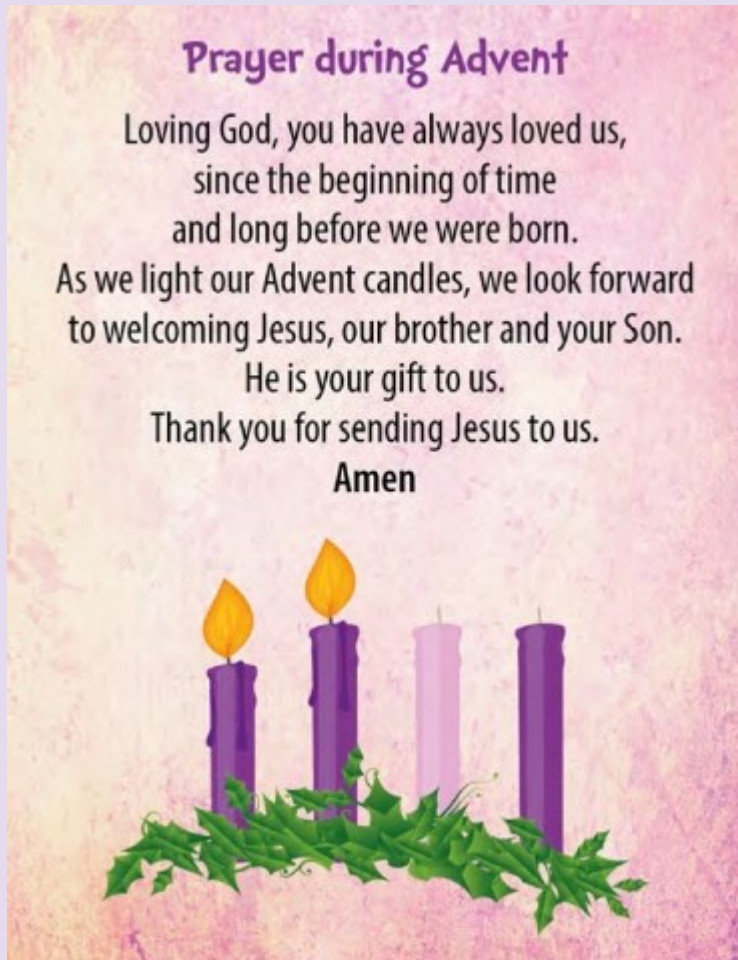
SCHOOL NEWS

Our Motto:
Believe & Achieve

Our Mission Statement:
Through Jesus we love, learn and grow

Prayer during Advent

Loving God, you have always loved us,
since the beginning of time
and long before we were born.
As we light our Advent candles, we look forward
to welcoming Jesus, our brother and your Son.
He is your gift to us.
Thank you for sending Jesus to us.
Amen



Please click to find out
more about our school

[Facebook](#)
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**'I can do all things through
Christ who strengthens me.'**

Phil 4:13

Dear Parents and Carers

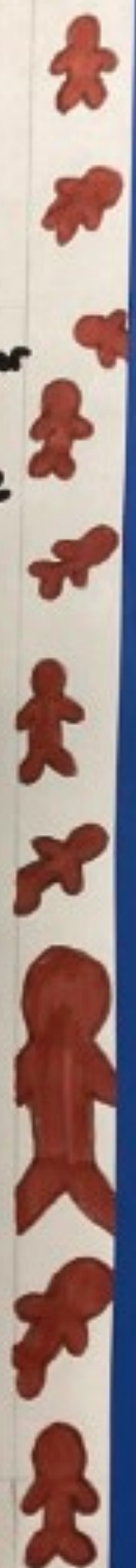
We would like it if you
joined us for Open the Book,
on Tuesday the 12th of December

at 9.10 am. Afterwards, please
join us for coffee and mince
pies.

We absolutely love Open the
Book and we hope you
will too.

Thankyou we hope to see
you then.

From the
G.I.F.T group





Year 1

Wednesday was Day 4 of our Advent Acts of Kindness. Y1 made brownies earlier in the week (thanks to Fearne's Mum!) and took them to local businesses to say thank you for everything they do in the community.



Infants– Posadas

The children in our Infant classes have been busy looking after Mary and Joseph each evening as they complete their long journey around the village before Christmas. These lovely Posadas were created by members of Ecclestone Methodist Church. Thank you!

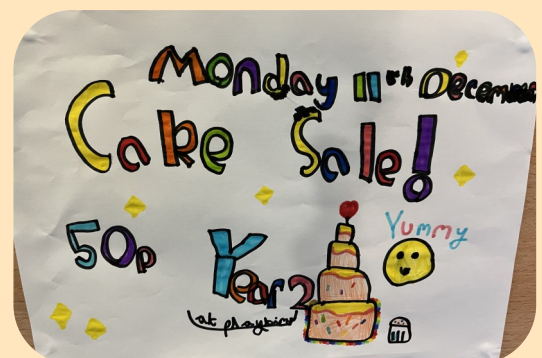


Year 2 Cake Sale

On Monday 11th December, Year 2 will be raising money to buy Christmas presents for children at Manchester Children's Hospital with a cake sale at playtime. For 50p, children will be able to purchase a cake.

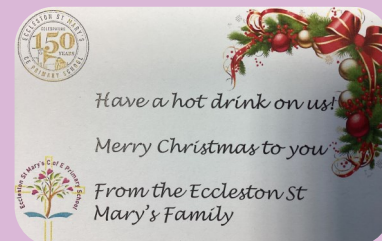
If you can, please send your child with some money on Monday to support this worthy cause.

Thank you for your support.
Year 2 xx



Year 5

On Tuesday, a group of Year 5 children hand delivered special vouchers for Cafe Manna and Olive Green. This is so that people can enjoy a hot drink on us! It's all part of our wish to spread some kindness around Eccleston, building up to Christmas.



Shoe Boxes for Ukraine Appeal

Thank you so much to everyone who donated a shoe box for Ukraine. They were collected this week for International Aid and will be making their way across Europe soon in order to arrive in Ukraine in time for Christmas.

Please see the Certificate of appreciation we received for our efforts, later in this newsletter.



Winter Wonderland—Thank you!

What a fantastic time we had at Winter Wonderland last Friday! The brass band, choir and guitars all performed beautifully; the stalls were filled with all sorts of Christmas delights; the hot chocolate and mulled wine went down a treat; and, of course, Santa's grotto was truly magical!

The Enterprise Event itself was won by Y2, who raised a phenomenal **£102**—very well done to them.

Thank you to the PTFA and all the staff for all their hard work and to everyone who came to support the event. Thanks to you, we have raised a phenomenal **£1574**, all of which will directly benefit the children. THANK YOU!



Jelly Beans

Our Jellybeans children had a lovely party yesterday and a very special visitor made an appearance too!



New Classroom Screens

We were delighted to take delivery of 4 interactive TV screens last week. These are the latest innovation in teaching technology and Y1, Y2, Y3 and Y4 have already been feeling the benefit! We intend to provide similar screens in YR, Y5 and Y6 next year.



Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day

We loved wearing our Christmas jumpers today for Save the Children. Thank you so much to everyone who made a donation—we'll let you know how much we raised next week.



Christmas Cards

The Christmas post box will be outside the school office from Monday. As we are an eco friendly school, may we request that your child just writes one card to the whole class. Thank you



PTA Show

Please remember to return your ticket requests along with payment as soon as possible before we break up for Christmas, to avoid disappointment. Thank you.





RECYCLE YOUR CHRISTMAS TREE

Rainbow Hub will collect & recycle your real Christmas tree to save you time & hassle
Collecting Saturday 13th January 2024

To book your tree collection, fill out the online form at rainbowhub.org before 10th January 2024

We will be collecting trees in these postcode areas:
 PR5, PR6, PR7, PR25, PR26, WN6, WN8, L39, L40, BL6, Tarleton & Hesketh Bank



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Certificate of Appreciation

Presented to:

St. Mary's Primary School

On account of donating a fantastic collection of Christmas Gift Shoeboxes to the "Chorley & District Support for Ukraine" group to send to Ukraine - 2023.



With Thanks

Stuart A. Clewlow

Co-ordinator, Chorley & District Support for Ukraine

Admission to Primary School 2024 is now open.

If your child is in their last year of pre-school/nursery you can now apply for their primary school place at: www.lancashire.gov.uk/schools
 It's quick and easy to do and you will receive email confirmation of your application.

The closing date for primary applications for September 2024 is 23:59 on 15 January 2024.



Admission to Eccleston St. Mary's CE Primary School and Little Explorers Nursery

If you, or someone you know, has a child born between 1.9.2019 and 31.8.2020, they will be eligible to start school in September 2024. We would be delighted to show anyone considering a school place at St. Mary's around at a time to suit them, simply call the school office on 01257 451317 to make an appointment.



Similarly, we have places available in Little Explorers for 3 and 4 year olds. We take children from their 3rd birthday with funding of 15 or 30 hours (depending on family circumstances) coming into effect from the beginning of the following term. For more information, or to book a visit, please ring the school office on the number above.

Upcoming Dates

Tuesday 12th December	9.10am	Open the Book (Please join us)
Wednesday 13th December	2.00pm	Junior Performance
Wednesday 13th December by	3.20 pm	Singing Sensations rehearsal followed picnic tea
Wednesday 13th December	6.00pm	Junior Performance
Thursday 14th December	10.00am	Choir Carol Singing (Caffe Manna)
Thursday 14th December	2.00pm	Infant Performance
Thursday 14th December	6.00pm	Infant Performance
Friday 15th December	9.30am	Junior Community Performance
Monday 18th December	am	Whole school cinema trip
	Lunchtime	Christmas lunch
Tuesday 19th December	All day	Party Day
Wednesday 20th December	9.10 am	Carol Service in school—(please join us)
	2pm	Break up for the Christmas holidays

Letters Home

St Mary's Singing Sensations—Carol Singing at Caffe Manna Letter

Whole School—Holidays 24/25

Whole School —Sean Perkins Book Letter

Whole School—Attendance/ Appointments/ Holiday Letter

St Mary's Singing Sensations— Special tea Letter

Sports and Social Clubs

Monday	Guitar Lessons KS2	Lunchtimes
Wednesday	Spanish Club Yrs1-6	8.00-8.50am
Wednesday	St Marys Singing Sensations	3.20-4.20pm
Friday	Brass Club	3.20-4.15pm

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about DISNEY+

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

The Walt Disney Company's streaming service, Disney+ combines entertainment from the famous animation studio itself with Pixar, Star and National Geographic, plus the Marvel and Star Wars franchises. With access to the latest releases, Disney classics and original series, there's plenty of content to explore. While parents may have noted that adverts have now been introduced on some versions of the service, the platform is – unsurprisingly for a Disney product – designed to be appropriate for the whole family.

LESS SUITABLE CONTENT

While Disney+ is predominantly family friendly, there are some movies and shows in its library which are aimed at an older audience; these may scare younger ones or contain themes or language that you'd rather your child wasn't exposed to. You could avoid such situations by enabling Junior Mode (see 'Adjust content settings', below) or specifying a content age rating for your child's profile.

BINGE WATCHING

With the option to view content on any internet-enabled device and a growing catalogue of movies, cartoons and documentaries, Disney+ can make managing screen time difficult. This could result in children binge watching content, distracting them from activities like homework or socialising. Too much screen time has also been shown to negatively impact mood, sleep patterns and weight.

PHISHING EMAILS

Be especially cautious if you receive emails or text messages purporting to be from Disney+. There have been numerous reports of online scammers impersonating Disney+ staff in an attempt to gain access to subscribers' personal information. Disney+ states it will never email or call customers asking for their payment details, their private information or their password.

ENCROACHING ADVERTS

Disney+ has introduced a new subscription package – Disney+ Standard with Ads – which plays commercials before movies and during shows (like many TV channels). There are no adverts in Junior Mode, but profiles with a content rating of 6+ years will see ads appropriate for that age category. Adults who give consent will see personalised adverts based on their location and viewing history.

ACCESSING ADULTS' PROFILES

If adults don't set a PIN for their profile, children could access it and encounter content which isn't age appropriate. In the settings, Junior Mode has a toggle titled 'Kid-Proof Exit' which requires the user to read four words (numbers, spelled out) and enter them to switch profiles. For older children who can read, though, this isn't secure enough – so using a PIN for adult profiles is recommended.

Advice for Parents & Carers

ADJUST CONTENT SETTINGS

When setting up an account, there's an option to create profiles in what's called Junior Mode. This generally covers material that's suitable for children up to age 6 and is therefore fairly limited. You can give older children a wider choice of viewing by building a standard profile, then going into the settings and choosing a content rating from one of the pre-set alternatives: 6+, 9+, 12+ or 14+.

TURN OFF AUTO-PLAY

When a cartoon, show or movie finishes, Disney+ uses algorithms to identify content with similar themes, which it thinks your child will also enjoy. This suggestion will then automatically begin to play by default. There's an option to turn off this auto-play function in the profile settings, which will encourage your child to take a break from the screen and move on to a different activity.

ADD PIN PROTECTION

Disney+ enables you to effectively lock profiles behind a four-digit PIN. In particular, some of the shows on the platform's Star content hub are far more oriented to adults (including several hard-hitting dramas from US networks), so protecting parents' or older siblings' profiles with a PIN will help to prevent younger children stumbling across material which isn't intended for them.

ENJOY AS A FAMILY

When your child watches a movie or show on Disney+ for the first time, you may want to sit with them to ensure it's suitable. You could do the same when introducing them to older films that you haven't seen for years: your perception of what's appropriate has very probably changed, and some of the language and attitudes in movies from your own childhood may seem quite shocking today.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



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