



## SILCHESTER CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

*Compassion, Courage & Respect*

Dear Families of Silchester,

Now that December has arrived, things have turned very Christmassy at Silchester! Nativity rehearsals are in full swing, and we have several festive events planned for the next two weeks of term.

### **PTA Christmas Market**

Huge thanks to all of those that donated, helped to set up and run the PTA Christmas Market today. It was a great success, and the children had a brilliant time present shopping. I hope that they've returned with lots of exciting gifts for their family and friends. Whoever is gifted the statue of a squirrel dressed as Elvis wins Christmas for sure!



### **Christmas Tree**

Well never before has the school had such a mega tree! I can confirm that it does touch the top of the school hall ceiling and that putting the star up there was quite an achievement! Thank you so much to Rich and Liv Edwards for organising, and to all of those that were able to join the walk to retrieve our tree from the forest. It is such a lovely tradition and accompanied by such Christmas cheer and very tuneful singing!



### **Playtime Equipment**

We are excited to announce that a donation from our PTA has enabled us to purchase some new playtime equipment and storage. Our excellent school councillors rose to their responsibility in sorting the toys and have come up with some new rules for looking after the equipment. These will be shared with the children during Monday's worship and better play for all will ensue on Tuesday.

## Christmas Cards

If your children would like to send any Christmas cards, we now have our Post-box set up in school. When writing envelopes, please can you ensure that both names and year group is included on the envelope. We will then employ some 'posties' to sort through the cards and give out to the classes at the end of the week.



## Christingle Toy Service

Reverend Karen West would like to remind you all that you are cordially invited to the service at St Mary's Church, Silchester on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December at 10am. This special service is a family friendly Christingle to mark the start of advent. There will also be a brief welcome to me as head of our church school. The church is collecting donations for Tadley Salvation Army's Toy Appeal which will distribute Christmas gifts to local children. It would be great to see some of you there.

## Arbor Consent Reminder

We would like to be able to share more photos of the children both in our newsletter and on our website but will not do so without your consent. We still have several families who have not responded to give or deny consent for either photos or offsite activities, please can you log on to check? Thank you.

## Upcoming Key Dates

Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December	10am Christingle Service at St Mary's the Virgin to welcome Mrs Moir
Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December	PTA Santa's Grotto from 4pm at The Calleva
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> December	Year R Theatre Trip to Dear Santa
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	Flu Immunisations
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	After School Charity Cake Sale for MacMillan and Victoria's Promise
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> , Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Nativity – Monday = dress rehearsal, Tuesday = 9:30am, Wednesday = 2:30pm
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 3 Stone Age Day – costumes welcome!
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	6pm Carol Concert by Candlelight
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 4 Trip to Reading River & Rowing Museum – packed lunch required
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	School Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Last Day before Christmas Holidays
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> January	First Day of Spring Term
2 <sup>nd</sup> 3 <sup>rd</sup> 4 <sup>th</sup> 5 <sup>th</sup> January	WOW Week for Wellbeing

Wishing you all a great weekend and if I don't see you in church or at the pub, I look forward to welcoming you back to school on Monday,

Kind Regards,

*Rachel Moir*