

# The Buzz



## 17th December 2021



Learning and Achieving Through  
Love, Courage and Respect



Dear parents, carers and children,

We are nearing the end of term, and what a term it has been. We started in September full of hope, with the whole school being able to work and play together again, and we now end the term back in our bubbles, with many children having contracted Covid as numbers rise across the country. We hope and pray that Covid numbers lower over the Christmas period and beyond so people can spend time with their loved ones and we can all join together again in the New Year.



Despite being in bubbles, we have been working hard and having fun this week. Our nativity play Born in a Barn was recorded in the church. Whilst we were sadly unable to perform in front of a live audience, we were determined that the show would go on! The children rose to the occasion and performed brilliantly. Some classes had the opportunity to watch it today in school, and the video will be shared with all parents next week. I would like to say a huge thank you and well done to all the children and staff who made sure the play went ahead, by hook or by crook, but in particular Miss Sztypuljak for directing it, Mr Goldsmith for being our cameraman, and Miss Sztypuljak's brother for putting the video together!



Today, Lemur class created some amazing artwork. They followed an art tutorial to create their own pastel and chalk snowmen. They looked at light and dark shading, a light source, and where a shadow would fall. I think you will agree that they are stunning.



This afternoon, the whole school gathered outside in our bubbles to watch a Brass Concert performed by the Y3 children and some Y4 children. They played a range of songs, including some Christmas favourites. They were fantastic. Well done!



I hope that everyone keeps safe and well over the weekend, and I look forward to seeing you on Monday for the last two days of school.

With best wishes, Mrs Lennon and the Brighstone Team

## Collective Worship - Trust

This week's Collective Worship focus is: **Advent and Christmas—Trust:**

**Believing God has a plan for our lives**

Advent comes from the Latin word *adventus*, which means 'coming' and it's the time when the Church prepares for the coming of Jesus, celebrated at Christmas.

In Roman times purple cloth was the most costly and was associated with kings, so the colour for Advent is purple.

After the waiting of Advent, Christmas comes with joy and celebration. Gold is the colour the church uses to celebrate Christmas.

Look at the painting closely. What do you notice? Do you have any questions about how Fra Angelico has painted the picture? Is there anything that surprises you?

This is a famous painting by Fra (or Brother) Angelico, a monk who lived 600 years ago. He is imagining what the scene might have looked like when the angel Gabriel visited Mary with an important message.



**Prayer for Trust in God**

Loving God,  
We thank you for Mary's trust in you.  
Help us to trust you  
To lead us and direct us throughout  
our lives.  
Amen

## School Dinners

Children in **Year R, 1 and 2** are entitled to a 'universal' **free** school meal everyday.

Children in Years 3-6 are charged at £2.15 per day.



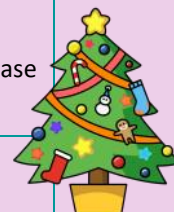
**Monday 20th**

**Christmas Dinner - NO ALTERNATIVES.**

If you haven't ordered a Christmas dinner for your child please provide a packed lunch

**Tuesday 21st**

Sausages/Veggie Sausages and Mash



## Poetry Corner

### CHRISTMAS STAR

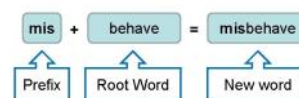
A diamond shines no brighter  
than that lovely Christmas star.  
It shines in all its brilliance;  
it's seen from near or far.  
A symbol of the Christ child  
as He lay upon the hay,  
It tell to all the waiting world  
a King was born that day.  
O Bethlehem Star keep shining -  
give us faith and hope and love.  
• Keep our thoughts forever turning  
to the Savior up above.  
Give us strength and hope and courage  
to do our best by far  
And never falter in our faith  
as we watch that Christmas star...

## Grammar and Spelling Matters

Each week we will include a mini grammar or spelling lesson so you know what your children are learning!

### What is a Prefix?

- A prefix is a group of letters which you can add to the **beginning** of a root word to change or reverse the meaning of the word.



Here are some examples.

Prefix	Meaning	Example
non-, un-, im-, in-, il-, ir-	not, opposite	Nonsense, unhappy,
re-	again, back	revisit, replay
mis-	wrongly, not	misunderstand
de-	reverse, remove, out of	destruction, department
co-, com-, con-	with, together	construct, computer
dis-, dif-, di-	separation, away, apart	disease, dissect

VOA

# Golden Book

Koala	Helena - for stepping in to play Mary at the last minute. The whole class - for their amazing behaviour, singing and dancing in the nativity.
Polar Bear	Henry - for working really hard during English all term and showing huge improvement in his writing.
Lemur	Issy - for a great performance in the nativity!
Chimpanzee	Amelia - for a beautiful nativity performance and always helping around the classroom.
Orangutan	Will - for a great performance in the nativity.
Bee-haviour	Flo - for showing super kindness to a friend.

### Whole school dates

Monday 20th December 2021: Christingle service for the children  
Tuesday 21st December 2021: Last day of term  
Tuesday 4th January 2022: Back to school

Remember to bring in a large orange for the Christingle service on Monday!



### Last day of term - Tuesday 21st

### Christmas Party Day

Children can wear party clothes!





Whether or not Christmas is part of your life, your mental health might be affected by it happening around you. It's a time of year that often puts extra pressure on us, and can affect our mental health in lots of different ways.

Make sure that you are looking after yourself. Self-care is so important. Above are just some ideas but you could come up with your own. Challenge yourself to do something every day that is just for you!

Look after your body, mind and soul and they'll look after you!

<https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/christmas>