

Newsletter

Issue No.11

Wednesday 25th November 2020



“Let your light shine brightly.” (Matthew 5:16)

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of Christ Church,

Christmas at Christ Church

Next week (from Monday 30th November onwards) it will feel a lot like Christmas here at Christ Church!



We know that Christmas is going to look and feel very different this year. But our school and nursery staff will do everything they can to make Christmas 2020 as magical as possible!

In classes, children will be making cards and calendars, and party hats and decorations ready for our Christmas lunch.

And, of course, we will teach the children the story of the first Christmas: Mary, Joseph, baby Jesus born in a stable, angels, shepherds, kings, etc.

Christmas film

We are planning to make a school Christmas film which, when it's ready, will be posted online and free to view. Our plan is for each class to contribute a festive three-minute video clip. These will then be combined to produce a single 20-minute Christmas film.

Christmas hampers for care homes in Frome

Each class will make a card to go with a food hamper to a Frome care home. (Although we can't send a carol-singing choir to lift the spirits of care home residents, we can still sprinkle some festive cheer and let them know that they are not forgotten.)



Christmas cards and post boxes

Each class bubble will have its own Christmas post box.



Please note: To avoid cross-contamination, children will only be allowed to bring in cards for children in their own class bubble from Monday 30th November to Friday 11th December.

These cards will then be quarantined and handed out at the end of the last week of term, just before the Christmas Holiday.

Christmas “Windows of Hope”

This is a bit like Window Wonderland, but is organised by local churches and focuses on the Nativity story and the real meaning of Christmas. All Frome schools, businesses and households are invited to participate. Windows should represent something that brings hope. They could be inspired by a Bible verse or based on a poem, a piece of art or something symbolic and seasonal, like a candle. Designs can be stained glass or silhouette, or a 3D window dressing or diorama. The sky's the limit!

Christingle will go ahead in each class bubble on **Tuesday 15th December.**

Christmas lunch and Santa visit will take place on **Wednesday 16th December.**



Our six core Christian values:



Kindness



Courage



Respect



Responsibility



Perseverance



Forgiveness

Parable of the week: The Prodigal Son

This week we are thinking about The Parable of The Prodigal Son (*Luke 15:11–32*). This story is about finding something precious that was lost (like The Parable of The Lost Sheep and The Parable of The Lost Coin). But Jesus told his disciples that this story is *really* about forgiveness and how everyone is important to God.

This parable is also known as the parable of the Two Brothers, the Lost Son, the Loving Father, and the Forgiving Father. It is a story about a father and his two sons.

The older son is sensible. He makes good choices. He works hard.

The younger son is “prodigal” – this means he makes bad choices. He is wild and reckless. He wastes all of his money on silly things!

Now let’s hear the story Jesus told ...

A man had two sons. The younger son told his father, “Give me my share of the property now.” So the father agreed and gave the younger son the money. The son moved to another country far away. There he wasted his money in foolish living. He spent everything that he had. Soon after that, the land became very dry, and there was no rain. There was not enough food to eat anywhere in the country. The son was hungry and needed money. So he got a job on a farm looking after pigs. The son was so hungry he was willing to eat the food the pigs were eating. But no one gave him anything.

The son realised that he had been very foolish. He thought, “All of my father’s servants have plenty of food. But I am here, almost dying with hunger. I will go back home to my father and I will say sorry.”

While the son was still a long way off, his father saw him coming. The father felt sorry for his son. The father ran to him, and hugged and kissed him. The son said, “Father, I have sinned against God and against you. I am not good enough to be called your son.” But the father said to his servants, “Hurry! Bring the best clothes and put them on him. Also, put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get our fat calf and kill it and cook it, and we will have a feast! My son was dead, but now he is alive again! He was lost, but now he is found!” So they began to celebrate.



The older brother was in the field. As he came closer to the house, he heard the sound of music and dancing. So he called to one of the servants and asked, “What’s happening?” The servant said, “Your younger brother has come back. Everyone is having a party to celebrate!” The older son was angry and would not go inside. So his father went out and begged him to come in. The older brother said to his father, “I have served you for many years! I have always made good choices. I have always worked hard! But you never let me have a party with my friends! But when my little brother – who has wasted all your money! – comes home, you celebrate!” The father said to him, “Son, you are always with me. All that I have is yours. We had to celebrate and be happy because your brother was dead, but now he is alive. He was lost, but now he is found.”

Thank you!

Thank you for your cooperation and support as we work together to protect our pupils, their families, our school and nursery staff, and the wider community.

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