

BIDSTON AVENUE PRIMARY SCHOOL

'Achieving Together'

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HEADTEACHER: Mr. S.G. Brady B.Ed. (Hons), NPQH, FCCT.

19th December 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

Christmas is nearly upon us! Nursery, Reception and Year One children did us proud with their wonderful performances in their **nativities**. It isn't quite the end of our performances as we have a couple left in our Carol Service tomorrow. It will be our 14th **annual carol service at St James Church** on Tuesday at 10am - the first was in 2007. There will be a mix of readings, performances and congregational singing. It'll set you up nicely for Christmas (please note **only Years 2-6 involved**).

Our **school choir** have been busy. Magnificently led by Mrs Amy Chalmers and Mrs Montgomery, they have performed at the St James Community Carol Service and at the Choir Concert at Christ Church, Oxtou. In both events our choir performed brilliantly. We are so proud of them all.

It has been a tough time in school. We have lost three people in the school office, so Mrs Hackett and I have been camped out there. Mrs Bell left us in November to take up another post. Mrs Welch (PA to the HT and Office Manager) and Mrs Evans (Business Manager) officially leave us at Christmas. We send our best wishes to all three as they embark on their different paths. We are delighted to have Mrs Roberts join us in the school office, and she will be accompanied by Mr D. Noble in January and Mrs A. Jones in February. That doesn't conclude our office team though as we will be interviewing for a new business manager shortly.

I need to remind parents of **nursery-aged children** that the closing date for **applications to reception** (main school) is 15th January 2023. We have had 74 applications already, so parents need to be quick as a late application will not receive a place at school. NB. Places are not automatic from nursery to reception, so all parents/carers must apply for a reception place.

Finally, we know that at this time of year there is a pressure to create a perfect, magical Christmas. I know that you want to provide them with the magic of Santa and ensure that he brings the best gifts...that sometimes means more stress for you, but I have a secret to tell. When your children come back to school in January, they talk about the Christmas holidays. They tell us about the days when everyone just stayed in and snuggled on the couch and watched Christmas TV. They tell us about staying at Nanna's and being excited when you came home from work. They tell us about the walk in the freezing cold to get a KFC on Laird Street. They tell us about cuddling in bed and playing cards at the table or staying up until midnight on New Year's Eve and spending a whole day in their pyjamas. Of course, they mention their gifts, but for them Christmas is you and your love and feeling safe and snuggly! You are their favourite thing.

Merry Christmas and we'll see you on 5th January 2023 (INSET Day on 4th January 2023).

S.G. Brady, Headteacher.

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