



Victoria
Church of England
Infant & Nursery School

25 January 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

The Christmas Tree Place

Thank you to all those families who bought their Christmas tree from the Christmas Tree Place. We came second and received a prize of £100.

Charity Donations

Thanks also to parents who attended the Reception Nativity in December and generously put money in a box for the Hospice of St Francis. You gave a total of £143.88.

Nursery Open Morning

There was a lovely atmosphere in Acorn Class on Thursday morning, as parents spent time looking through their children's folders and finding out about life in the Nursery. We urge any parents not yet using Tapestry to activate their accounts; this online Learning Journal gives you a fantastic insight into your child's experience at school. Don't forget you can have more than one account per family (one for each parent) – please contact Miss Bradford if you would like an additional account.

Happiness and Well-Being Update

At the Parent Forum in December, we discussed the programme of mindfulness, meditation and other activities to promote happiness and well-being that have been happening in school since last September. Members of the forum felt it would be good to raise the profile of these by having a regular update in the newsletter. So here is the first of these:

During the autumn term children throughout the school were introduced to age-appropriate meditation techniques. These often involve soothing music and sitting or lying very still, focusing on breathing. Some classes listen to stories from books written specially to encourage relaxation and mindfulness. Some classes have these sessions daily, at key moments such as after registration or playtime, in order to get them into the right mindset for learning.

Star of the Week



Acorn

Olivia for beautiful listening and participating in class.

Maple

Sam for having a fantastic attitude to learning.

Oak

George for trying hard in all areas of his learning.

Beech

Maisie for trying extremely hard with both her reading and writing.

Cedar

Georgia for always showing she's ready to learn.

Hazel

Ruby for such brilliant effort in maths.

Year 2 have introduced a 'What went well?' session into their weekly timetable, encouraging a positive mental attitude and allowing them to really focus on their achievements.

Well-Being in the School Office

Staff well-being is also important to us, so please help our office staff manage theirs in the following ways:

- If your child is to be picked up from school by someone other than the usual adult, please let the office know as early in the day as possible so they have enough time to pass the message on to the class teacher.
- On days when your child is absent, please phone the absence line in the morning, before registration, giving a reason for the absence. This enables the office staff to record the absence as 'authorised', without having to phone you.

Caroline Crozier
Head of School



Value Champions

This week our value has been:
Perseverance – Keeping going against the odds

Xavi – Albie – Will – Annie - Esme

This week at St Peter's

Children between the aged 7 and over are invited to come along to 'A Be a Chorister afternoon' at St Peter's church in Berkhamsted on this Saturday – 26 January - between 1:30pm and 5:00pm. The free event gives children from any background, any religion or none, the chance to find out what's it like to sing in a vibrant choir before performing choral evensong at 6:00pm to parents and other guests.

The afternoon will be very informal and is all about having fun, learning a new skill, meeting other children and understanding what it's like to sing in a choir – from learning to sing beautiful music to trying on cassocks, exploring the unseen parts of the church including the tower and enjoying the buzz of singing in harmony. No previous experience is required, just enthusiasm to try singing!

To find out more and to reserve a space, or to join St Peter's choir, please email churchoffice@greatberkhamsted.org.uk or call 01442 878227.

School and VSA Diary Dates

*Please check the website
for most up-to-date
information*

Thursday 24 January
Open Morning - Nursery

Thursday 24 January
VSA Disco

Tuesday 5 February
E-Safety Day

Wednesday 6 February
Church Service – KS1

Mon 11 – Fri 15 February
Feeling Good Week

Tuesday 12 February
Yoga Workshops

Wednesday 13 February
Parent Forum

Thursday 14 February
Chinese Dance Workshops

Friday 15 February
Half Term

Tuesday 5 March
Maple Class Assembly

Information sent out this week

Year 2 Legoland visit letter

Year 1 and 2 – Free Game On
Course

Reception – 'Zog' and
Rushmere Park visit letter