

ISSUE

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Newsletter

What a busy week! As the children continue the countdown to Christmas, there have been many opportunities this week for us to reflect on the meaning of the forthcoming Christmas celebrations! On Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon Years 1-3 delighted everyone with their wonderful nativity production. They worked together really well to sing, dance and narrate the Christmas story and family and friends alike enjoyed the spectacle of the gossiping donkeys, the bad King Herod, the shiniest star and of course the special baby brought by an angel from God.

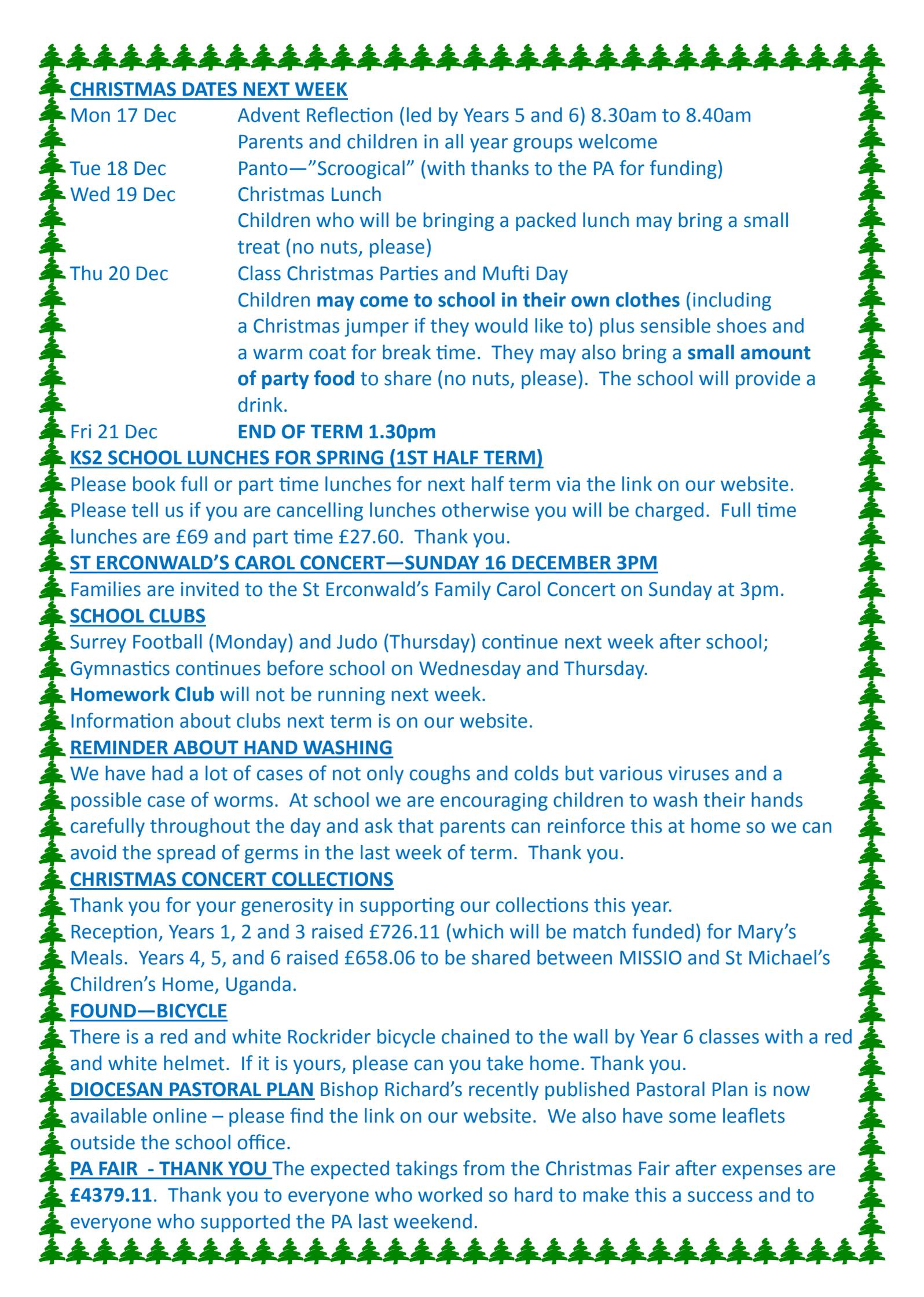
Fast forward to the evenings of Wednesday and Thursday, when parents and friends of Years 4, 5 and 6 were treated to a confident and highly enjoyable Carol Concert, held at All Saints in Hershaw. The traditional lantern bearers heralded an evening of carols and readings, with all of the children involved in making the evening so memorable. Our thanks go to Fr Bill and to Fr Richard, for

allowing us to use the church as a very special setting for our reflections on “the reason for the season” and also for giving a special Advent blessing to all our families.

Throughout all of the nativity performances, from Reception right through to Year 6, there have been some exceptional performances from the children. Some of those were very evident – especially those who delivered their words so clearly, those who confidently sang solos and those who acted main parts with great gusto - but some of the most impressive performances were from those children for whom it was really challenging even getting onto the stage and participating in the production at all. This has been the result of a great deal of hard work by our teachers and support staff and many of you asked me to congratulate the staff on the wonderful outcome you enjoyed so much. We were really proud of all the children’s performances and we are sure you were proud of your children too.

A huge thank you to everyone who contributed to the school Christmas Fair last week – it was a great success with a lovely atmosphere and a real team spirit, with so many people supporting the school both by running the stalls and by spending their hard-earned cash! We raised a wonderful total of £4379, which will go towards the next phase of playground equipment for the KS1 playground. Next week, the whole school will benefit from PA funding when we enjoy the pantomime “Scroogical!” Thank you for your support as always!

Looking ahead to the last week of term, there are many exciting “early Christmas” festivities taking place (see overleaf), but there is also an opportunity to take some time to reflect on the Advent season and make a spiritual preparation for Christmas. On Monday morning at 8:30am, there will be an Advent Reflection for Year 5 and Year 6 children and their families, led by Fr Bill. It will only be about 15 minutes long, but it is a wonderful way to start the final week of term and families from all year groups are warmly encour-



CHRISTMAS DATES NEXT WEEK

Mon 17 Dec Advent Reflection (led by Years 5 and 6) 8.30am to 8.40am

Parents and children in all year groups welcome

Tue 18 Dec Panto—"Scroogical" (with thanks to the PA for funding)

Wed 19 Dec Christmas Lunch

Children who will be bringing a packed lunch may bring a small treat (no nuts, please)

Thu 20 Dec Class Christmas Parties and Mufti Day

Children **may come to school in their own clothes** (including a Christmas jumper if they would like to) plus sensible shoes and a warm coat for break time. They may also bring a **small amount of party food** to share (no nuts, please). The school will provide a drink.

Fri 21 Dec **END OF TERM 1.30pm**

KS2 SCHOOL LUNCHES FOR SPRING (1ST HALF TERM)

Please book full or part time lunches for next half term via the link on our website.

Please tell us if you are cancelling lunches otherwise you will be charged. Full time lunches are £69 and part time £27.60. Thank you.

ST ERCONWALD'S CAROL CONCERT—SUNDAY 16 DECEMBER 3PM

Families are invited to the St Erconwald's Family Carol Concert on Sunday at 3pm.

SCHOOL CLUBS

Surrey Football (Monday) and Judo (Thursday) continue next week after school;

Gymnastics continues before school on Wednesday and Thursday.

Homework Club will not be running next week.

Information about clubs next term is on our website.

REMINDER ABOUT HAND WASHING

We have had a lot of cases of not only coughs and colds but various viruses and a possible case of worms. At school we are encouraging children to wash their hands carefully throughout the day and ask that parents can reinforce this at home so we can avoid the spread of germs in the last week of term. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT COLLECTIONS

Thank you for your generosity in supporting our collections this year.

Reception, Years 1, 2 and 3 raised £726.11 (which will be match funded) for Mary's Meals. Years 4, 5, and 6 raised £658.06 to be shared between MISSIO and St Michael's Children's Home, Uganda.

FOUND—BICYCLE

There is a red and white Rockrider bicycle chained to the wall by Year 6 classes with a red and white helmet. If it is yours, please can you take home. Thank you.

DIOCESAN PASTORAL PLAN Bishop Richard's recently published Pastoral Plan is now available online – please find the link on our website. We also have some leaflets outside the school office.

PA FAIR - THANK YOU The expected takings from the Christmas Fair after expenses are **£4379.11**. Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make this a success and to everyone who supported the PA last weekend.