

BCS NEWS

9th December 2022

Fulfilling our potential, achieving excellence together

We are a Good school with Outstanding Early Years Provision

Head's News

What a wonderfully festive time it has been at school this week. It has been the greatest of pleasures to watch the fantastic Nativity performances from our Early Years and KS1 children. It was truly magnificent to be able to fill the Hall with a full audience for our children who have worked so hard to bring the story of Christmas to life in different ways. I hope you all enjoyed the shows as much as we all did at school. The Key Stage 1 dress rehearsal was also watched by residents from Barnes Lodge who joined the audience as our VIPs. They delighted in the opportunity to share our special occasion and commented on what West End worthy actors and actresses we have at school. It was a real honour to welcome our guests as we work to develop our links with the wider community. Our KS2 pupils have continued to rehearse their performances for their Carol Concert at St Stephen's church on Monday 12th December and we look forward to welcoming you at 6pm with children smartly dressed in their school uniform.



Just as the Nativity set was packed away, we celebrated Wednesday with a day of Christingle making. Mrs Nicholls organised a whole school event, pairing children across the year groups to make individual Christingles to take home. Our morning began with an amazing worship delivered by High Hopes where we learnt about the parts of the Christingle and the meaning behind them. The children then came together to make their own Christingles and completed learning about their history. The smell of oranges throughout the school gave it a Christmas feeling; the children happily left school clutching their oranges and devouring the sweets!



For more photos of the Nativities and other events at school, please follow our relaunched Facebook page: **Bishop Chavasse Primary School**.

Key Dates

Saturday 10th December

Christmas Fair – 11am - 2pm

Monday 12th December

KS1 Shared Learning: 9.05-9.45am

Monday 12th December

KS2 Carol Concert: 6pm.
Children to arrive 5.30-5.45pm

Tuesday 13th December

KS2 Shared Learning: 9.05-9.45am

Weds 14th December

Christmas grotto, panto and meal + Xmas jumpers

Thursday 15th December

LAST DAY OF TERM
Whole school Christmas service at St. Stephen's Church – 8.45am

Friday 16th December

INSET DAY – no children at school

Monday 19th December

- Monday 2nd January 2023 Christmas holidays

Tuesday 3rd January

First day of Term 3: 8.45am start

Wednesday 11th January

Open afternoon for prospective Early Years' families - 1.30- 3pm

Monday 13th February

to Friday 17th February Half term

Last week of term – reminders, timings and uniform

The last week of term before Christmas is always extremely busy and exciting – here's everything you need to know:

Monday 12th December

Shared Learning KS1 from 9.05am – we invite parents/carers to join your children from 9.05-9.45am to see your children's classrooms and to have a look at all the work your children have done since September. Please drop your children at the normal time and wait outside the main entrance. We will register the children and then invite you to the classrooms at 9.05am.

KS2 Carol Service at 6pm – we are really looking forward to visiting the church for this very special service, which will feature performances from our **school choir**. Please drop children between **5.30 - 5.45pm** in good time for the service. One family member per child can attend (due to seating restrictions). *Children can wear a small piece of tinsel in their hair. All other uniform remains as normal and ties must be worn.*

Tuesday 13th December

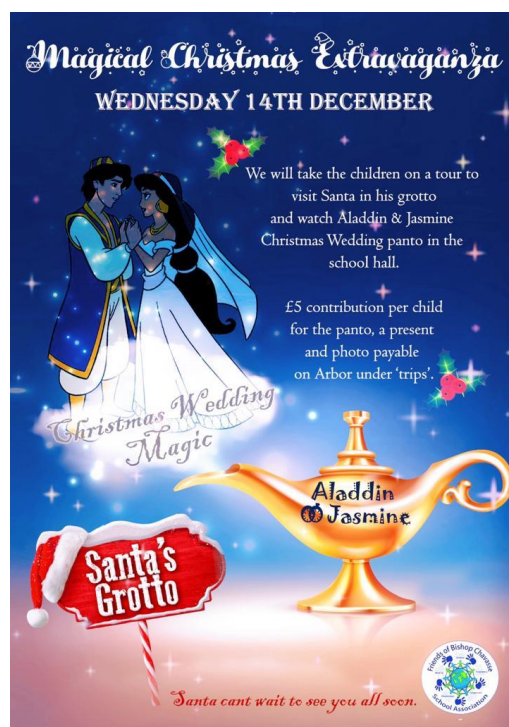
Shared Learning KS2 from 9.05am – we invite parents/carers to join your children from 9.05-9.45am to see your children's classrooms to have a look at all the work your children have done since September. Please drop your children at the normal time and wait outside the main entrance. We will register the children and then invite you to the classrooms at 9.05am.

Wednesday 14th December – Christmas extravaganza: Christmas dinner, panto and Santa's grotto

Christmas dinner will be a festive turkey roast with crackers and music. The menu is on the school website under [Parents/Lunch menus](#). The turkey roast will be gluten free and to keep the catering simple there will be just one choice for EY and KS1 children to make in the morning of either turkey roast or vegetable parcel. Whilst we want as many children as possible to enjoy the traditional meal, there may be some who would prefer a sandwich – if so, please email the school office by Monday 12th December. For KS2, please could parents/carers talk to their children over the next few days as to whether they would like a Christmas lunch – we are going to ask for a show of hands in class so we can get a rough idea of numbers for the kitchen.

Courtesy of FOBCSA, the children will watch a pantomime featuring West End performers: **Aladdin and Jasmine's Christmas Wedding**. The children will then visit **Santa in his grotto** in small groups, receive a present and have their photo taken to take home. The cost is just £5 – payments can be made on Arbor: on your child's profile, go to 'Activities', then 'Trips' and select the Christmas panto and grotto. If you are concerned about affordability, please contact us in confidence: friendsofbc@gmail.com.

Children can wear a Christmas jumper and/or sensible accessory alongside their normal uniform.



Thursday 15th December – LAST DAY OF TERM

Church service at St Stephen's church - We ask that children are dropped off at the church at **8.45am** for the service and we will walk the children back to school at the end. Breakfast club will be held at the church from 7.30am. There will be no early morning choir practice or early bird clubs.

Any parents/carers who would like to help with walking the children back to school are welcome to stay from 8.45am for the church service. We regret that parents may not bring younger siblings for the walk back up to school after the service.

Children can bring a Christmas hat or headband to wear in the afternoon only as it is the last day of term. Children must not wear this in church in the morning and are to wear normal school uniform.

The school day will finish at the usual time of 3:15pm and there will be enrichment clubs until 4.30pm and wraparound care until 6pm.

Winter illnesses - Scarlet Fever and Strep A

We have had a number of cases of sickness and rashes in school - whilst scarlet fever can give symptoms of sickness, flu and a rash it is usually quite a mild infection. However, it is highly contagious and is transmitted very easily among young children. If, after seeking advice, your child has a confirmed case of scarlet fever you must notify the school and **keep them off school for at least 24 hours after the start of antibiotic treatment**. There are some additional concerns currently that this infection can, in rare circumstances, lead to 'Strep A' (Invasive Group A streptococci) which can be much more serious. If you are in any doubt, please contact your doctor for advice. Further information from the NHS is available here:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/scarlet-fever>. If your child seems seriously unwell, trust your own judgement: call NHS 111.

We are continuously ensuring the children are washing their hands properly with soap for 20 seconds: please encourage them to do so before and after school. Whilst we do understand parents may be anxious about these illnesses, we will not be able to authorise absences due to parental concerns about cases in the school where the child is not unwell.

Reporting absences

Please report your child's absence in the first instance to our dedicated absence email address:

absence@bishopchavasseschool.org.uk – include your child's name, class and the reasons for their absence (e.g. their illness symptoms) by **8am**.

Staffing changes

It was with huge sadness that we announced earlier this week that **Mrs Nicholls** will be leaving our teaching team at the end of term. Mrs Nicholls was a founding member of staff at Bishop Chavasse, seeing the school through its inception and build to the thriving learning environment it is now. She has been instrumental in supporting our development of our Religious Education curriculum and the Collective Worship calendar at school. As a colleague, Mrs Nicholls has been a constant source of support and joy in her place as a member of staff. Above all of this, Mrs Nicholls has been a much revered, respected and loved teacher by many many children who have had the blessing to pass through her class. She will be sorely missed as she leaves teaching behind to take up a position in the Paramedic services. We know you will join us in wishing her all the very best for the future. She will continue to follow and support the school through its ever growing and developing journey, and already has plans in place to come in and visit the children to share her experiences with the Health Service.

Stepping in to take the reins in 4N is **Ben Neville**. Mr Neville is an experienced Key Stage 2 teacher and has worked with both Mrs Hood and Mrs Strand recently. We look forward to welcoming him to the staff team and will ensure you get a chance to meet him early on in January at a Meet the Teacher event. Mr Neville will be supported by a hugely experienced Teaching Assistant, Mrs Bunting, who recently joined the Bishop Chavasse team, and has fitted in seamlessly.

School choir

On Wednesday, our growing choir went to sing at Barnes Lodge to perform their Christmas songs to the residents. The children were a little bit shy to start with as it was a first time for some of them, but by the end they were singing with great confidence. They sang so beautifully that it brought a tear to some of the residents' eyes (as well as to Miss Scott's). We even sang happy birthday to one of our pupils and one of the residents.



Pick up arrangements

A quick reminder about arrangements for changing the person picking up children at the end of the day in line with safeguarding requirements. We request a photo of any adult collecting who is not on the pick-up form, and who is not known to the school. This ensures that your child will only be dismissed to a known adult. We ask that you let the school office know by email: office@bishopchavasseschool.org.uk if your child is going home with someone else **before 2pm** on the day of collection, to ensure enough time to let teachers and support staff know.

Year 3

In Year 3 the children have completed a variety of quizzes to demonstrate the learning that they have been completing this term. On Wednesday, the children had the opportunity to make Christingles at school. They also created some fantastic acrostic poems about their Christingles, which have been displayed in the classroom. The children have thoroughly enjoyed learning about London in Geography, and have asked a range of inquisitive questions about the history of London. We are excited to follow this up next week with a comparison of Cardiff and London.



Year 4

Year 4 have worked very hard this week with our quizzes. In English, we have also been looking at building up information for our explanation text writing on Friday. In Maths, we are looking at practical problem-solving skills and reviewing previously learnt skills.

This week we have also been learning about Christingles and worked closely with Year 3 making our own.



Year 5

This week in Year 5 the children have completed some different quizzes to see what they have learnt this term. The children all completed these well and were able to show the fantastic learning they have done since September. The children also had the opportunity to make Christingles with Year R, they enjoyed supporting them and discussing the different parts of the Christingle. In Maths, the children have almost finished their topic on fractions and were able to subtract improper fractions from one another. The children also had the opportunity to have a think about what they might change in the world to support the ecosystem in the Amazon.



FOBCSA update

It's tomorrow! Please join us for our wonderful Christmas Fair from 11am-2pm with a whole host of stalls from facepainting, bottle tombola, win a teddy and name the elf to Osborne books, Body Shop and Neylah's bows. There will be a festive BBQ, mulled wine and refreshments.

If you have ordered a 2023 calendar featuring the children's artwork, this can be collected at the fair, otherwise they will be sent home with children on Monday.

The grand raffle draw will take place at 1pm.

Then just a few days later it will be our **Christmas extravaganza** on Weds 14th December. Thank you so much for sharing in the children's infectious excitement. We have been so chuffed to get some fantastic feedback from parents: "Great work guys. Sure the kids will love this"; "What an amazing day it will be for the children – well done to FOBCSA" and "Thank you so much, what a brilliant idea – the children will love this. We are forever grateful for your continued hard work in making these events happen." Thank you all!