

# BCS NEWS

25<sup>th</sup> November 2022

*Fulfilling our potential, achieving excellence together*

*We are a Good school with Outstanding Early Years Provision*

## Head's News

As the days grow shorter, and the hats and scarves are dusted off, school corridors around the country are filled with the sounds of nativity songs being practised, and the reciting of well-rehearsed lines. At Bishop Chavasse it is no different. I feel blessed to hear the tuneful renditions of old and new Christmas songs drift along the corridor all the way from the Early Years' classrooms down to my office. I can hear voices of children practising their lines getting stronger and stronger as their confidence increases. Upstairs, the KS2 children are also rehearsing for their church carol concert. Performing in the evening with lights twinkling and the moon shining is one of the most wonderful memories children take away from Primary School. Your children are all working so hard to prepare their performances and we feel incredibly proud of them all. I would recommend tissues at the ready and your finest clapping skills rehearsed in preparation.

On Thursday evening, I had the perfect end to the school day as Christmas quietly made its way early into my office... thank you to the children at after school cookery club who brought me a plate full of warm freshly baked mince pies.



## In other news

### Christmas performance arrangements

Performance dates are fast approaching. In order that the performances run smoothly for the performers and our audiences, please read the following information carefully.

We will be offering a ticket system this year for performances in the school hall to ensure all families have the opportunity to attend, we can seat our audience comfortably, and numbers do not overwhelm the stars of the show. Ticket reservations can be made via Arbor on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> November, opening at 7pm under the 'Trips' tab. For the KS1 performances we have the capacity to allow one adult family member per performance, and can allow two adult family members for the Early Years' performance.

## Key Dates

**Tues 29<sup>th</sup> November**  
KS1 Maths workshop -  
2.30pm

**Thurs 1<sup>st</sup> December**  
KS2 Maths workshop -  
2.30pm

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup>  
December**  
KS1 Nativity - 2pm

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup>  
December**  
KS1 Nativity - 9.30am  
EYFS Nativity - 2pm

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup>  
December**  
FOBCSA Teddy  
Tuesday

**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup>  
December**  
Open afternoon for  
prospective Early  
Years' families - 1.30 -  
3pm

**Saturday 10<sup>th</sup>  
December**  
Christmas Fair - 11am  
- 2pm

**Monday 12<sup>th</sup>  
December**  
KS2 Carol Concert -  
6pm

**Weds 14<sup>th</sup> December**  
Christmas grotto,  
panto and meal

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup>  
December**  
Whole school  
Christmas service at  
St. Stephen's Church  
- 8.45am

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December**  
Inset day

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup>  
December to Monday  
2<sup>nd</sup> January 2023**  
Christmas holidays

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup>  
January**  
Open afternoon for  
prospective Early  
Years families - 1.30 -  
3pm

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup>  
February to Friday  
17<sup>th</sup> February**  
Half term

## **Christmas performances dates and times:**

### **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December**

#### **KS1 Nativity - 2pm**

Doors will open at 1.45pm so that everyone is seated promptly for the performance to start on time. One adult family member per child; we welcome younger siblings to this performance.

### **Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December**

#### **KS1 Nativity - 9.30am**

Doors will open at 9.15am so that everyone is seated promptly for the performance to start on time. One adult family member per child. This performance is regrettably not for younger siblings to attend.

#### **EYFS Nativity – 2pm**

Doors will open at 1.45pm so that everyone is seated promptly for the performance to start on time. Two adult family members per child, and younger siblings may attend this performance.

### **Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December**

#### **KS2 Carol Concert at St Stephen's Church – 6pm**

All children are asked to attend as they have all worked very hard to prepare for it. Please drop children at St Stephen's Church at **5.30pm** so that we are able to start promptly at 6pm. Children should wear school uniform and be presented smartly. As we will have 180 pupils at the service, there will be room for one adult family member per child to attend, should they wish. No booking required.

### **Thurs 15<sup>th</sup> December**

#### **Whole school service at St Stephen's Church – 8.45am**

The arrangements for this will follow the same pattern as those we had in place for our Harvest Festival. 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. Nearer the time, we will ask if you would like to volunteer to help us with walking the children back to school. As with the Harvest Festival, breakfast club will be held at the church from 7.30am.

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### **School photos**

Parents and carers picking up their children at 3.15pm today will have received a form to purchase the photos that were taken at school last week. For those picking up from enrichment or after school clubs, please note that the form will be in your child's book bag.

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### **Artist of the month**

We are delighted to announce we are reinstating our 'Artist of the Month'. With a new energy and vigour, Miss Decker is waiting excitedly for entries and she will announce the winner in the final Celebration Worship of each month. For those new to Artist of the Month, children are invited to submit to Miss Decker any artwork they produce at home or during their own time (this could be during wet playtimes when drawing equipment is available). Miss Decker then chooses the winning art piece based on originality, detail, creativity or technical skill.



## House points

House points are now up and running throughout the school. We are working on raising the profile of our House groups following our successful House visits, and our recognition of how valuable 'vertical grouping' (mixing up year groups) is to the children's social and academic development. In every class, children will receive House points for good work, or for showing kindly behaviours to their peers or adults. On receiving a House point, children will put the appropriate coloured counter in a class pot. Totals will be collated on a Friday and the winning House across the school will be celebrated in Celebration Worship on a Friday morning.



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## Maths Workshops

A quick reminder that Mrs Cochrane will be holding Maths workshops for parents next week. The way in which we teach Maths is completely different to the way most parents were taught, and so we would highly recommend joining Mrs Cochrane next week to gain a better understanding of how your children are learning - which will then further support you in helping your children at home. These Maths workshops are part of a bigger programme of workshops we will be offering across the year. In October we ran Phonics workshops for parents of children in Early Years. Over the Spring term we plan to put together a more extensive timetable of workshops. If there are any areas of the curriculum you feel would be of benefit, please do not hesitate to let us know via the school office. The Maths workshops will take place on the following dates:

**Tuesday 29th November at 2:30pm for Key Stage One parents/carers (Year 1-2)**

**Thursday 1st December at 2:30pm for Key Stage Two parents/carers (Year 3-5)**

To enable us to get an idea of numbers attending, please pass your return slip to the office (on the letter sent in book bags) or you can collect a new slip from the office.

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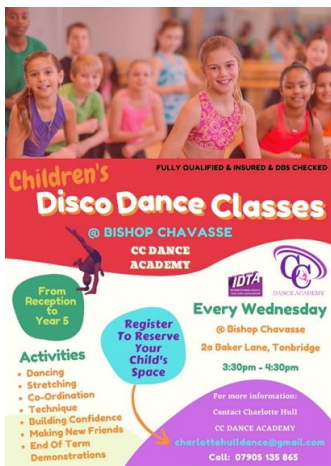
## Mrs Stanton

We are delighted to welcome Mrs Stanton to the office staff team. Mrs Stanton will be a familiar face to many of you as she has three children at the school. Mrs Stanton has a wealth of experience in the Civil Service and in media and we feel very fortunate to have been able to recruit her to our team. We are in no doubt she will help us develop our communications across the school and with the wider community.

In addition to recruiting to the office team, we have put in place a training programme for our staff using Arbor to further improve communications.

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## After school clubs



We are busy getting our new club rota ready. Registration for before and after school care and enrichment clubs will open in early December – further information to follow. We will have some new clubs starting. Please see the leaflet about a Dance club we will be running. The children were treated to a taster by the teacher in assembly a few weeks ago.



## FOBCSA update

Thank you everyone for the fantastic donations this morning for **Own Clothes Day** - our cupboard is now clanking with bottles and rustling with chocolates and sweets ready for the tombola stalls at the **Christmas Fair** on 10 December. Next up will be **Teddy Tuesday** on 6 December - please bring any teddy or soft toy donations to school to join the hugely popular Teddy stall.

Prizes for our grand **Christmas raffle** are looking exciting - including tickets to Brands Hatch, a family ticket to Godstone Farm and meal for two at the Vauxhall Inn. Please pop your stubs and cash in an envelope and post it in the reception postbox, or you can post just the stubs and pay by BACS: Friends of Bishop Chavasse, 20-88-13, 23513092.

Continuing on a Christmas theme, we are working with school staff to put on a magical **Christmas extravaganza** for the children on Weds 14 December. They will be taken on a tour to visit Santa in his grotto, eat a special Christmas lunch and watch Aladdin the pantomime in the school hall! Further details to follow.

Finally, and no less excitingly, FOBCSA is holding its **AGM** next Tues 29 November at 8pm. Join us on zoom for the Chair's and Treasurer's reports, a fundraising update and Q&A session: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86594455205?pwd=R3VUWWorNERPLytwSkErNHZqL3ZLdD09#success>. If you've already got a question in mind for the meeting, please let us know: [friendsofbc@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofbc@gmail.com).

