

A BIG THANK YOU FROM US...

The gate and road team just wanted to say a big thank you, for all your smiles and kind words whilst we've been at the barriers and the gates in the morning drop off and afternoon pick up. We've been with you every step of the way in the rain, wind, frost and occasional sunshine. As a St Catherine's community we will get through this pandemic together. We hope you have a wonderful Christmas and we look forward to being with you again in the New Year!



REMINDER: Early Finish on Friday 18th December

As planned, we will be dismissing the children early on *Friday 18th December* from their usual gates as follows:

Years Reception, 1, 3 and 6 will be dismissed at 1.15pm

Years 2, 4 and 5 will be dismissed at 1.30pm

Nursery dismissal arrangements have been sent to nursery parents in a separate email. Please note that Vale Drive WILL NOT BE CLOSED for the dismissal period, so please take extra care with social distancing and ensure you stay out of the road.

Please also ensure that you read the letter we have sent home regarding contact tracing, reporting of symptoms or cases and isolation for Covid over the holiday period.

If your child is in Years 5 or 6 and is normally an **independent traveler** we will require permission, in writing, via office@stcatherines.barnetmail.net in order to let your child walk home independently. Please ensure this permission has reached us by the end of the day on Thursday 17th December.

REMINDER: School Lunch Changes

If your child is in years 3 to 6 and you wish to change their current lunch pattern, please log in to www.schoolinterviews.co.uk and use code **fn7xr** to request a pattern change from dinners to packed lunch or vice versa. Please ensure this is done by **Monday 14th December 5pm** at the latest. Thank you.

Forgotten packed lunches – from Monday, if your child has forgotten their packed lunch and you are unable to bring it to them in time, we will be providing a jacket potato with a topping and desert, they will be unable to choose from the day's menu.

Poppy Appeal

This week we have received confirmation that we raised a grand total of £456.34 for the East Barnet Poppy Appeal, which is a fantastic achievement. Thank you to all of our families who contributed to this appeal.

Aladdin Panto

This week our Reception, Year 1 and Year 3 children took part in an Aladdin pantomime workshop. It was extremely engaging, the children loved joining in the panto fun with phrases such as 'It's behind you!' and 'Oh no it isn't'. When 1Y were asked what they thought of the workshop they said "It was super good", "It was AMAZING – I really enjoyed dancing to the music". Please look out for videos and photos of these sessions on Tapestry and PurpleMash. We didn't want our Year 2 children to miss out on this experience due to their isolation and so we have managed to secure a virtual workshop for them next Thursday (West End in Schools did not have any availability next week for a face to face session). We are sure they will have just as much fun!

**Safeguarding is
our TOP
priority**

Safeguarding and Child Protection at St Catherine's is EVERYONES responsibility and is taken extremely seriously. Leaflets for parents and visitors outlining the school guidelines on safeguarding are available outside the school office. We also have a dedicated Safeguarding page on our website with a number of associated policies and details of our designated Safeguarding team. Please contact one of the team at any time if you have concerns.

Class Christmas Services

Please keep an eye on your child's Purple Mash Teaching blog for their Christmas Service. All services will be uploaded by Friday at the latest. The teachers and children have worked very hard to put these together within the confines of the COVID guidance. We hope you enjoy them.

Online Safety

Please have a look at [this](#) resource launched in conjunction with Google. It provides some helpful animations that explore issues of internet safety such as fraudulent activity and internet scamming.

Mark 1: 1-8

Sunday 13th December 2020

God sent his messenger, a man named John, who came to tell people about the light, so that all should hear the message and believe. He himself was not the light; he came to tell about the light.

The Jewish authorities in Jerusalem sent some priests and Levites to John to ask him, "Who are you?"

John did not refuse to answer, but spoke out openly and clearly, saying: "I am not the Messiah."

"Who are you, then?" they asked. "Are you Elijah?"

"No, I am not," John answered.

"Are you the Prophet?" they asked.

"No," he replied.

"Then tell us who you are," they said. "We have to take an answer back to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?"

John answered by quoting the prophet Isaiah:

"I am 'the voice of someone shouting in the desert:

Make a straight path for the Lord to travel!'"

The messengers, who had been sent by the Pharisees, then asked John, "If you are not the Messiah nor Elijah nor the Prophet, why do you baptize?"

John answered, "I baptize with water, but among you stands the one you do not know. He is coming after me, but I am not good enough even to untie his sandals."

All this happened in Bethany on the east side of the River Jordan, where John was baptizing.

God of light, shine brightly,
show us how
to bring hope to others.

God of mercy, help us
to comfort people and
to share in their joy.

God of hope,
help us this Advent,
to share your light with others.

House Stars

Well done to all of our children who have earned stars this week!

Gabriel	377
Michael	414
Uriel	375
Raphael	384

The Week Ahead:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	Yrs 4, 5 and 6 Christmas Carol	Christmas Dinner and A treat from our PTA!	Year 2 Christmas Panto	Early Finish: 12:30 Nursery (those without siblings) 1:15: Rec, Y1, Y3 & Y6 1:30: Nur (with siblings), Y2, Y4, Y5



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