NEWSLETTER – 12TH JANUARY 2024

# St. Stephen's C.E. Primary School

## Aspire to Greatness

For we are the handiwork of God, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." Ephesians 2:10

**This Week's Worship Value was "Compassion"**

**as we explored A for Achieve**

## Happy New Year and welcome back to a new term!

### Values of the Week

We have now entered the period of Advent in the church calendar. This is a time for celebrating the revealing of Christ to the world. The Magi (wise men) travelled to Bethlehem, following a star and when they found the child they gave gifts of gold (for kingship) Frankincense (for worship) and myrrh (as a mark of respect for his gift of sacrifice). On Monday, Dave showed us various gifts he was given for Christmas and we learned that he likes peanuts, was given a special gift and a lovely decoration for his garden. Christians celebrate the gift of Jesus, who taught us to love one another and to love God.

We have considered non-material gifts this week and reflected that the best gifts come often and are free. Children have been asked to consider others, use kind words, be helpful. Gifts of time and care are priceless and create a heaven here on earth.

As we begin the term with the letter "A" for achieve, we will be exploring the values of "trust" and "truthfulness". In our story this week, the wise men trusted God who directed them in a dream to return home after visiting Jesus. This kept Jesus safe from King Herod. We shall continue to explore the value of trust over the next weeks.

## Staff News

We have said goodbye to Mrs Knowles this week after 15 years of her fantastic service to school. Mrs Knowles is moving on from school to give her more time with her family. We wish her well and hope she keeps in touch with school.

We welcomed Miss Heron to school as our Year 3 teacher. She has enjoyed her first week and the children in Year 3 have done a great job in welcoming Miss Heron to school. Well done Year 3!

## Upper KS2 Trip to UCLan

Our upper Juniors have visited UCLan this week to learn more about the Earth in Space. Our UKS2 children visited UCLan Young Science Centre this week for a session on our solar system as part of their topic on Earth and Space. They had a fascinating time, thinking about the size of space (they came away feeling very small!) as well as how each planet is different. They discovered that ceramic is a great material to use for space travel and investigated the different gravitational forces. The staff at UCLan praised all three classes and said it was a lovely way to start their new year. Well done children!

There is also a special star gazing night on Monday next week. Staff have messaged families about this and children should be collected at 5.30 p.m. if they are staying at school to star gaze!

## Clubs

Staff are again offering clubs this term. The following activities will be taking place in school and the adults leading can be contacted regarding places at the club.

| Club | Day | Staff Leading |
|---|---|---|
| Mosaic Art (Values Leaders) | Monday Lunchtimes | Ms Wright and Mrs Garstang |
| Maths SATs Booster | Monday 3.20 – 4.20 p.m. | Mr Scott |
| Maths More Able SATs Booster | Friday Lunchtime | Mr Scott |
| Lunchclub | Every day | Mrs Haughton, Miss Livesey and Mrs Kasmierska |
| Dodgeball Disco | Wednesday 3.20 – 4.20 p.m. Lower KS 2 | Mr Haydock and Mrs Buxton |
| School council | Tuesday Lunch | Mrs Cheetham |
| Maths Club | Wednesday 3.20 – 4.20 p.m. | Mrs Cheetham |
| Book Club | Monday after School | Mrs Harlow |
| Girls Football | Wednesday Lunchtime | Fishwick Rangers |
| Chinese Club | Thursday Lunchtime | Mrs Gorman |
| Eco council | Thursday lunchtimes | Mrs Cookson |
| Chess | Tuesday lunchtimes | Mrs Cookson |
| Y6 Reading Booster | Tuesday 3.20 – 4.20 p.m. | Mrs Devitt |

## Dates for Your Diaries

| | |
|---|---|
| Monday 15th January: | UKS2 Star gazing 4.30 p.m. – 5.30 p.m. |
| Wed 7th February: | Young Voices Trip to Manchester |
| **Half Term:** | **Monday 12th February until Friday 16th February** |
| Wed and Thurs 21st/22nd Feb: | Parents' and carers' evenings after school |
| Thursday 7th March: | World Book Day |
| Wednesday 27th March: | Easter Enrichment Day |
| Thursday 28th March: | School finishes for the end of Term at 2 p.m. |

VIP Winners who have "Aspired to Greatness"

These children "Achieve Highly" and show care for others

Nathan C - Reception Inventors Kaobi E - Reception Explorers

Maya-Sofia B - Y1 Alys D - Y1/2

Ella B – Y2 Nihal O – Y3 Adamu H – Y3/4

Summer A B – Y4 Ellie B - Y5 Abdullah A – Y5/6 Bridie M - Y6

Golden Book winners who have "Aspired to Greatness" in their Work

Leo S - Reception Inventors Shyamily D - Reception Explorers

Ayansh M - Y1 Anisa A - Y1/2

Teon C D L C – Y2 Marley-Marie J - Y 3 Alice Marie D – Y3/4

Khadijah A – Y4 Ethan E – Y5 Zoe D - Y5/6 Testimony I - Y6

## Lunchtime VIPs – who have "Aspired to Greatness" and excelled at lunchtimes in their behaviour

Oscar S - Reception Inventors  Lilly G - Reception Explorers

Thomas James G - Y1  Hauwa G - Y1/2  Inaaya A – Y2  Amber Rose F - Y3  Nia D – Y3/4

Jaiden-James B – Y4  Supreme I - Y5  Daniella O O – Y5/6

Serenity M-B – Y6