



Do Everything with Love *(1 Corinthians 16:14)*

November Newsletter 2020



Dear Parents/Carers,

November is almost over and we will soon move on to the next preparations. It has been a time to remember those who have passed away and reflect on the memories they have given us. Last year, people we were discussing 'November', and 'Brexit' was the most commonly used word of the year- this year we're talking about 'tiers' and the most commonly used words of the year are 'Pandemic' and 'Quarantine'! The months and seasons provide stability in a changing world.

At school, we have been reflecting on the theme of light and our mission to be 'a light for the world' by all the good things we can do. I am so proud of the children at our school on how they have really taken on board this mission and have been great leaders in class, in the playground and I'm sure at home too. We have had some wonderful examples of how they are lighting up our world by their positive actions:

- Our Year 5 Eco warriors have taken great responsibility in passing on important messages about looking after our planet in our weekly zoom assemblies.
- Archie, one of our Year 5 boys has initiated his own fund raising activity for the 'Lexi May Trust' and he has exceeded the target he had expected to reach (see photo below).
- Our school council planned some class activities to help 'Children in need' resulting in the school raising £397.

Well done and thank you everyone- you've made our community a much brighter place to be!

Saint Teresa of Calcutta was a perfect example of someone who sacrificed her own needs to help others. She was an Albanian-Indian nun who started a charitable organisation (the Order of the missionary of Charities) to help the very poorest and sickest people in Calcutta. In 1979, she received a nobel peace prize in recognition for all her selfless work. Over her life, she was a voice of wisdom to some of us and many of her quotes were about working together and putting others first. Here is one that fits perfectly with our theme of sharing the light:

'Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love.'

The children have been a perfect example of this. If we all try to do a little good, it can have a real impact on others. Some of you have donated shoeboxes to help other children at Christmas time. How wonderful to know that we are helping those who really need our help. As we prepare for the Advent season next week we have some ideas on how we can all work together to do small things for each other with great love.

Mrs Christopher

More Saint Teresa quotes can be found on:

<https://www.legit.ng/1271887-inspirational-mother-teresa-quotes-on-life-and-love.html>





Prefect News

Our new prefects are leading a thought for the week in our zoom assemblies relating to our Gospel values. As we cannot have visitors in school, they have created a virtual tour for the children who wish to start our school next year. You can see this on the school website front page on 'New parents September 2021'.

Helping others during Advent

We have had several helpful suggestions from the children and yourselves about giving to others during Advent as a way of supporting our local community during this difficult time. Consequently, we would ask if you could donate the following each week during Advent:

Week 1 (30/11/20): **Tinned items**

Week 2: (7/12/20) : **Dried food (rice, pasta etc)**

Week 3: (14/12/20): **Toiletries (shower gel, soap, bubble bath etc.)**

A member of the foodbank will pick up these items on Friday each week.

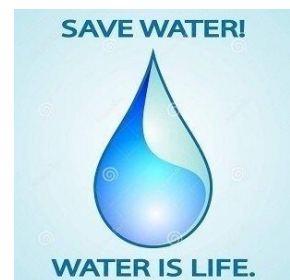


A very **BIG** thank you to **Wool & East Stoke Community Chest Team** who have **given us a donation of £1,477.48** to go towards a well-being shelter and a sensory den for our outside area. The team have supported our school in many ways over the last few years and we are very grateful to them.

ECO WARRIORS BLOG: We are the Eco Warriors of 2020



We have been speaking in weekly zoom assemblies with important messages each week to help everyone remember our responsibility to look after the planet. Messages so far have been:



Archie's Challenge

Well done Archie for exceeding your £100 target in raising money for the 'Lexi May Trust'!

Archie has reached £700 and is now aiming for £1000. Read more about this in the Dorset Echo.

If you'd like to donate please visit:

uk.virginmoneygiving.com/ArchieBurt



Attendance

Here are some tips for the children (and us!) on how to keep healthy over the Winter period.

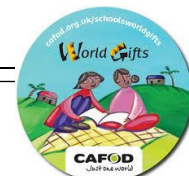
- 1. Go to bed on time and get enough sleep 2. Eat healthily 3. Drink lots of water.**

We encourage all children to attend school daily if they can but also remember that in the current climate, this is not always possible as we need to keep each other safe. Also, on some occasions we are too ill.

100%

SCHOOL COUNCIL INITIATIVES

The School Council raised **£397** for 'BBC Children in Need' by organising fun activities in the school hall- well done to all of you! They would like to say a big thank you to all of you.



Christmas Cards and Gifts to others

In light of the COVID situation, we would ask that you do **not** send cards or gifts into school during the Advent season. It is always a lovely gesture but in this current situation, this would be a prime area for the coronavirus to spread. Maybe this year, we could all donate to a worthy cause instead e.g. World Gifts

https://worldgifts.cafod.org.uk/?gclid=Cj0KCQiAwf39BRCCARIsALXWETwkch3y6Q6FCE9p8ZxPtEERECVclwLt5k_u-avqIQ_eYjSV4uNw-psaAgIYEALw_wcB

We will arrange for the children to make cards for each other and their families in school.

Dates for December

Sunday 29 th December	First Sunday of Advent (four in total)
Friday 11 th December	National Christmas Jumper day
Monday 14 th December	Christmas Party Day (party food lunch boxes & party clothes or Christmas jumpers)
Wednesday 16 th December	Christmas Fayre fundraising activities in classes
Last day of term Friday 18 th December	1:30pm finish -wear you Christmas jumper again!

Dorset Road safety Team



We have been in touch with the road safety team about how we can encourage safer parking at drop off and pick up times. Over the next few weeks neighbourhood officers will visit the school in order to assess danger levels and will give us feedback. In the meantime, please drive carefully in and out of the car park especially on wet and windy days when people are rushing and visibility is poor. We must all help each other to keep our children safe.

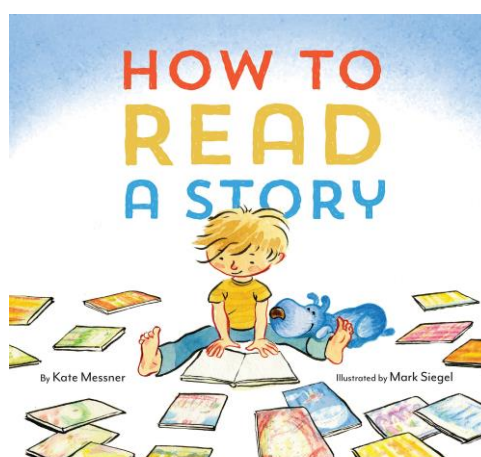
'NUT FREE SCHOOL' REMINDER

Please remember we have children with nut allergies, therefore do not allow any foods containing nuts in your child's school lunch.



The 'High 5' Reading Challenge Update

I'm delighted to announce that some children have now received their 50 reading signature certificates. These children will be given the task of reading a Christmas story (recorded) for other classes to hear. This will help them to develop their skills in reading to an audience and also help others to enjoy listening to stories.



ON THE FLOOR EVERY NIGHT ?

It's hard to believe that in this day and age, there are children who do not have a warm and comfy bed to sleep in every night ! In fact, one in five children living in the south west are living in poverty, and in parts of the region poverty is even more severe. Some areas in our Diocese actually fall into the top 10% of the most deprived areas in England.



As part of our Good Shepherd programme, this Christmas **The Catholic Children's Society (Plymouth)** is asking children living in our Diocese to think of children less fortunate than themselves by putting themselves in their shoes just for one night. We are asking children living in Devon, Cornwall and parts of Dorset to give up their bed for one night to sleep on the floor.

If you would like to join in our sponsored 'Sleep on the Floor for a Night' please complete the sponsor form and start collecting your sponsors before the Christmas holidays. The sponsorship form can also be downloaded from our website www.ccsplymouth.org.uk

Thank you !!

If 100 children could raise £10 each in sponsorship, CCSP could buy beds and mattresses for 10 children, so they never have to sleep on the floor again.



Putting All Children First

Please sponsor me, _____, to sleep on the floor for one whole night during the Christmas holidays, to put myself in the shoes of a child who has to do this every night of the year !

Gift Aid – Make every £1 worth 25p more at no extra cost to you. It's just a little box to tick, but Gift Aid makes a huge difference. If I have ✓ ticked the box headed 'Gift Aid?', I confirm that I am a UK Income or Capital Gains taxpayer. I have read this statement and want the CCSP to reclaim tax on the donation detailed below, given on the date shown. I understand that if I pay less Income Tax / or Capital Gains tax in the current tax year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all of my donations it is my responsibility to pay any difference. I understand the charity will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 that I have given. **Remember: You must provide your full name, home address and postcode and '✓' Gift Aid for the charity or CASC to claim tax back on your donation.** *giftaid it*

Title Sponsor's full name Title, Initial and surname			Sponsor's home address	Postcode							Amount £	Date paid	Gift Aid? ✓
Mr	A	Sample	12 Sample Street	A	B	I	2	3	C	D	£5.00	11.11.2020	✓
								Your total					

