Dear Parents

With December 1st, St Christopher's became its own Advent Calendar with something new every day when we opened the door. Monday saw Christmas arrive with the delivery of our beautiful Christmas Tree. Mr Bennett put it up (only just clearing the ceiling in the hall) and added our twinkling fairy lights. On Tuesday, we had a special assembly and the children brought the tree decorations they had lovingly made themselves in class. After hearing the story of the Little Christmas Tree, the children showed off their decoration to the rest of the school and then chose a branch to hang it on. What a wonderful sight the tree is. On Wednesday the children in Year 1 and 2 watched the Foundation children perform their Nativity production, followed by Year 2 walking to the Ashley Centre to sing carols for an hour.

Well done Year 2 for not only representing the school and singing so beautifully, but for also raising money for Epsom Hospital. On Thursday and Friday the Foundation Stage performed for the parents ... and what performances they were too! Along with the traditional characters of the nativity we had the people of the village of Bethlehem (performing as all “village people” do - the YMCA), dancing donkeys, angelic angels, sparkling stars along with a whole host of animals including lambs, camels, chickens and cows. The stable was absolutely full to bursting. Even more incredible is that the children are so young and yet had learned so many wonderful songs and dances which were performed with such joy. Thank you to the staff who worked so hard rehearsing the children, making costumes, scenery and all the other elements that go to putting on a show.

We were sad that Mrs Thackray couldn’t see the show. She has been off looking after a member of her family who is hospital. We did, however, make sure she felt included by sending her a fantastic photograph of the whole school along with our love and best wishes. In the meantime, in her absence Mrs Garrod, Mrs Smart and I will be available if needed.

The week ahead is going to be just as busy with more exciting Christmans treats for the children and of course please don’t forget the PTA Christmas Fair on Saturday at 1.00pm.

Mrs Bailey and Mrs Ventris have been working very hard on our new Management Information System, and we now need your help to check our data is correct. A form will be coming home so please check the information and return it to us by the end of the week.

This week’s Lunchtime Superstar is Oliver QL. Well done Oliver, for being willing to try different foods and having a happy attitude at lunchtime. Hoorah for Morpurgo House! You have all worked so hard and secured top place on the leader board with a fantastic total of 1527.

Mrs Andrea Gordon, Bursar

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Events of the Week

Year 2 delighted shoppers at the Ashley Centre on Wednesday when Carol Singing in aid of Epsom General Hospital. They raised a wonderful £108.12.

Nursery children enjoyed decorating our beautiful Christmas tree with their own hand made decorations.
**Foundation Stage News**

We have loved singing and dancing for the Christmas production. We hope you enjoyed it too. We are busier than the elves in Santa’s Grotto with lots of jobs preparing for Christmas. Take a look we have even painted our post box. Do bring your cards to post next week. Please help the postman by putting children’s full names and group or class (if you know it) on the envelope. Cards for Nursery are posted our box in Nursery. The box the rest of the school is in the school entrance hall.

We have been working hard making Christmas cards

Christmas bubble painting – that’s new!

In Reception the children have made a list (checking twice)

They took great care decorating the tree

Please remember to buy ‘Flora’ and ‘Stork’ from Tesco and bring the labels to school we are collecting the labels for new ipads

**DATES FOR THE DIARY**

**Monday 8th – Monday 15th December**

Christmas Post Boxes
Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 Box in the Entrance Hall
Nursery Box in Nursery

**Tuesday 9th and Wednesday 10th December**

Years 1 & 2 Performance at 9.15am in the Hall
Please remember your tickets!

**Thursday 11th December:** RECEPTION to Epsom Playhouse
CHRISTMAS LUNCH

**Friday 12th December - TOY ASSEMBLY**

Your donations of new or good-as-news toys, games and books will be greatly appreciated by the team at the Vine Project. Please bring to the Hall before school.

**Friday 12th December:** NURSERY to Epsom Playhouse.
Friday 12th December: Return checked Data Review Sheets.

**SPRING TERM CLUBS (Reception, Years 1 & 2)**

Please return your booking form by Wednesday 10th December.

**OWLS & LARKS BOOKINGS**

Forms are now available on the website, in the Porch and from the Office. Please note the new booking system for Owls.

**Reminder:** The Back Gate is locked at 4.30pm.
Please come to the front door if you are collecting from OWLS.

**REQUEST FROM YEAR 1**

In connection with next term’s topic, does anyone have a caravan or camper van they would be willing to bring to school for Year 1 to look at? Please let the office know.