



## Sharing our Gifts and Growing our Talents Together

Headteacher: Mrs M. Walker

Head of Teaching and Learning: Mrs E. Watson

## 'Christian Value' – Protection

*'Do not forsake wisdom, and she will protect you; love her, and she will watch over you.'*

*Proverbs 4:6*

9<sup>th</sup> December 2016

### Head's Message

This will be the last newsletter of the year as school closes next Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December and reopens on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January. We have enjoyed a marvellous Christmas lunch this week and send our warm thanks to the Mayor and Mayoress of Bollington for joining us, and to Sarah, Amy and the kitchen staff for cooking it. May I take this opportunity to wish each and every one of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. *And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus."* Luke 1:30-31.

### Shrigley Hall

The Federation wishes to send a huge thank you to Shrigley Hall for their generous Christmas Raffle gifts to each school, and for the lovely lunch they provided the choir after they sang. A huge £137.78 was raised for the Children's Society this year.

### St John's Christmas Plays

The children are getting very excited about performing their Nativity and Christmas play to you all next week. If you haven't already sent in the required costume items, please can you do so by Monday at the latest. Class 3 and 4 (Years 3 to 6) are performing at 2pm and again at 7pm on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December. Class 1 and 2 (Reception to Year 2) have their Nativity at 2pm and again at 6pm on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December. Please ensure your child is back at school 20 minutes before their evening show, thank you. The School will be collecting donations as usual and we appreciate your support.

### St John's Christmas Fair

The PTA would like to thank all the children, parents, carers, teachers and school staff who made the Christmas Fair such a great success on Saturday. We hope everyone enjoyed themselves, looking round the stalls; helping the elves prepare for Christmas; sharing their Christmas lists with Santa; having their face painted; eating from the delicious barbecue and the generously donated cakes. Congratulations to those who won on the raffle and tombolas. Together we managed to raise an astounding £1800, all of which will be used to continue to advance the education of children in the school.

### Christmas Jumper Day

The Federation's final non-uniform day for this year is on the last day of term (Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December) when the pupils will be invited to join the nation in wearing their super-silly festive knits. Each £1 donation will help save children's lives.

### AquAid and the Africa Trust

We are delighted to announce that through our AquAid watercooler we have in school, we are making a valuable contribution to The Africa Trust. An Elephant Pump is to be installed in Africa on our behalf. We will keep you updated on the progress of the well and look forward to sharing photographs of it with you. In the meantime, please do visit our website for further information on this project ([www.pottstjohns.co.uk/page/aquaid-and-the-africa-trust](http://www.pottstjohns.co.uk/page/aquaid-and-the-africa-trust).)

### Theatre Visit in January

We have arranged for a theatre company to visit St. John's School on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2017 to perform 'The Selfish Giant' for all the children in the Federation. More details will be sent home after the Christmas holiday, but please make a note of this date in your diaries.

#### Pott Shrigley Church School

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## Pott Shrigley and Bollington St John's Church of England Primary Schools



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### **Pott Shrigley Nativity**

Well done Pott Shrigley for a wonderful Nativity on Thursday. As always the occasion was made extra special by performing in the church.

### **Local Authority**

As mentioned in a Home Contact earlier this week a statement from the Local Authority is on the Federation website. It is located in the News section on the homepage.

### **Congratulations**

Finally we send our congratulations to our Chair of Governors Richard Lofthouse and his wife Jenny on the safe arrival of their new baby son Samuel. We cannot think of a better time of year to welcome a new baby.

### **In school next week**

Mon - Mrs Walker at St John's am and Pott Shrigley pm.

Tues - Mrs Walker at Pott Shrigley am and St John's pm.

Wed - Mrs Walker at Pott Shrigley am and St John's pm.

Thur - Mrs Walker at St John's.

Frid - Mrs Walker at Pott Shrigley am and St John's pm.

Please remember messages for Mrs Walker can be left at any time.

### **Curriculum update**

**Class 1 St John's** – This week we have continued to look at measuring using non-standard units and then rulers. We have been ordering and extending our language to describe different measurements. In literacy, we have been writing our letters to Father Christmas and writing cards and labels for our friends and family. We have been practising for the Nativity all week and we are excited for our shows next week.

**Class 1 Pott Shrigley** – We have looked at a lovely Christmas book called 'Harvey Slumfenburger's Christmas Present' where the children have predicted the contents of a parcel. Class 1 have also been practising for 'Catch a Falling Star' our School Christmas Play.

**Class 2 St John's** – This week in literacy we have been writing our own shape poems about robins based on the story 'Coming Home'. In maths, we have been doing column subtraction and number stories. In the afternoon we have been working ever so hard getting our Nativity play ready for you all to enjoy on Wednesday.

**Class 2 Pott Shrigley** – Our week has been spent gearing up to Christmas, with our School Christmas Play being the highlight of the week. We performed like stars! We have also been doing lots of Christmas problem solving in maths.

**Class 3 St John's** – In maths, Nemo and Minions have been learning to divide with remainders. The Jessie and Sulley children have been dividing by chunking. In IPC, we have been looking at the uses of plastic and glass. For English, we have been focusing on speech punctuation and commas. Star Readers have also been rewarded with a hot chocolate party for getting their reading records signed every week. Also, Miss Hammersley has adopted a jaguar for the children instead of buying a Christmas present this year (chosen by the children.)

**Class 4 St John's** – This week, Class 4 have been investigating shapes and their properties in maths. In English, we have continued to explore different forms and styles of poetry. In RE, we looked at The Parable of the Unmerciful Servant and created freeze frames to retell and explore the story. We are very excited about the Christmas Play next week and have been working hard in our rehearsals.

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