



# St Mary's C of E Primary School Newsletter

Friday 9th December 2022

[www.stmarykilburn.camden.sch.uk](http://www.stmarykilburn.camden.sch.uk)

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Go, shine in the  
world and live  
as Jesus lived.



Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to all of the parents, friends and families who joined us at St Mary's Church on Monday for our Carol Service. We enjoyed listening to and joining in with the carols. Well done to all the children for singing so beautifully and to the Year 5 and Year 6 children who confidently shared readings and thoughtful prayers.

Please have a read of the information/advice about Strep A/scarlet fever below, which we hope is helpful.

With best wishes, Miss Mitchell (Head of School) and Mr Webb (Executive Headteacher)

## Christmas Parties...

All children have enjoyed celebrating Christmas by having a special Christmas party this week. The children enjoyed playing party games, dancing, eating a yummy party tea and watching a Christmas film.



## Scarlet Fever and Group Strep A Infections: Advice from the Department of Education

The Government is closely monitoring the increased cases of Group A streptococcus (Strep A) and scarlet fever. They are working closely with the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA), who are leading on the response. UKHSA is reporting an increased number of cases of Group A streptococcus (Strep A) compared to normal at this time of year. There is no evidence that a new strain is circulating and the increase is most likely related to high amounts of circulating bacteria and social mixing.

### What are scarlet fever and Strep A?

Scarlet fever is caused by bacteria called Group A streptococci (Strep A). The bacteria usually cause a mild infection that can be easily treated with antibiotics. In very rare occasions, the bacteria can get into the bloodstream and cause an illness called invasive Group A strep (iGAS).

### What are the symptoms of Strep A/scarlet fever?

Strep A infections can cause a range of symptoms that parents should be aware of, including:

- Sore throat
- Headache
- Fever
- A fine, pinkish or red body rash with a sandpapery feel
- On darker skin the rash can be more difficult to detect visually but will have a sandpapery feel

**If a child becomes unwell with these symptoms, parents are advised to contact their GP practice or contact NHS 111 (which operates a 24/7 service) to seek advice. If a child has scarlet fever, advise they stay at home until at least 24 hours after the start of antibiotic treatment to avoid spreading the infection to others.**

## Attendance...

Congratulations to **Year 2** who have been awarded Barney, our Attendance Bear, for having the **BEST ATTENDANCE** last week.

**The whole class attendance was 97%.**

Please make sure your child is in school every single day this term unless they are too unwell to come to school.



**Parents, please trust your own judgement and if your child seems seriously unwell call 999 or go to A & E if:**

- Your child is having difficulty breathing – you may notice grunting noises or your child's tummy is sucking under their ribs
- There are pauses when your child breathes
- Your child's skin, tongue or lips are blue
- Your child is floppy and will not wake up or stay awake

Do you have any questions about school life?

We are of course, really happy to answer any questions about school, no matter how small :)

Do phone the school office to ask questions or ask to arrange an appointment to see the class teacher.

If you are worried about something, see us straight away. Don't let a little worry turn in to a big one. We also like to hear your good news. It helps to keep us going with a smile :)

## Important dates for your diary.....



**Wednesday 14th December**— Christmas lunch

**Friday 16th December**— Last day of term

**Tuesday 3rd January**— Start of Spring term— all pupils back at school

## Do you receive income support? Are you pregnant or do you have any children under the age of four?

You may be eligible for a Healthy Start prepaid card. The Healthy Start payments can be used to buy milk, fruit, vegetables, and infant formula.

If you are eligible, you may receive: **£4.25 each week from the 10th week of your pregnancy, £8.50 each week for children from birth to one year old, £4.25 each week for children between one and four years old.** [Apply online.](#)

Pregnant women and children under the age of four are also eligible for free vitamins from children's centres. Find your local children's centre [here](#).

## Spelling Quiz at Kilburn Library...

Would your child like to take part in a fun spelling quiz?

Then go along to Kilburn Library on **Wednesday 14th December at 3.45-4.30pm.**

All children from Reception to Y6 welcome. Parents must accompany their children.



## Y5 visited Westminster Abbey...

Last week, as part of their RE curriculum, Y5 visited Westminster Abbey. The children enjoyed learning about the history of the abbey and how, throughout the ages, Christians have gone to the abbey as pilgrims to visit the shrine of Edward the Confessor and spent time praying and reflecting on God and their faith.



## Work of the Week...

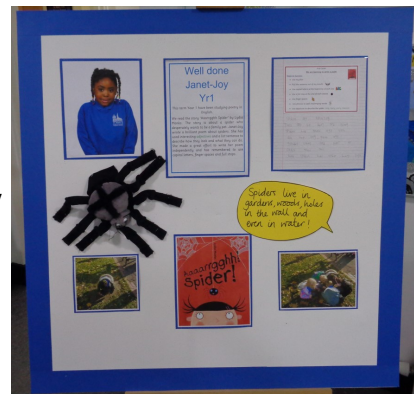


Every week a great piece of children's work is showcased in the school lobby.

As part of their English learning, Year 1 have been reading 'Aaarrghh Spider' by Lydia Monks.

Janet-Joy has written a brilliant poem about spiders. She has used interesting adjectives to describe what they look like and what they can do.

Well done, Janet-Joy!



## Our prayer of the week...

Sunday will be the third Sunday of Advent, next week we will reflect on the message of joy as we light the third candle. We will be thinking about how we are preparing ourselves.

**Jesus,**  
You are joy even in the saddest times. Help us to praise you when we are upset or sad. Shine joy into our hearts. Help us to share joy and thankfulness with our friends and family.  
**Amen**



## Person of the Week!

- Reception - Jana
- Year 1 - Harper
- Year 2 - Amanah
- Year 3 - Rama
- Year 4 - Fatimah
- Year 5 - Ali
- Year 6 - Benjamin



The Camden Libraries'

# Winter Reading Challenge

Suitable for children aged 0-12

Starts on 1st December 2022 and ends  
on 20th February 2023

Sign up at your local Camden library

To find your local library visit us [www.camden.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.camden.gov.uk/libraries)

Read four books or more to complete  
the challenge and receive a certificate.



Write a book review, win prizes  
and your review will be shared on  
our website.



Our  
Camden  
libraries