



# A message from our Headteacher

We have had another very busy week in School as we prepare for the end of term celebrations for Christmas.

The children are settled in their lessons and are making good progress in their learning, continuing to take advantage of the many enrichment activities we provide, which helps bring their learning to life. We are finalising the autumn report for you this week and we are intending to send these home, by email early next week. If your child's report raises any concerns for you, please do get in touch with their class teacher to discuss.

We are being affected by a small increase in the number of Coronavirus infections amongst the school community and adapting our practices in accordance with the national guidance we are given daily. We continue to emphasise the importance of hand hygiene, social distancing where possible, mask wearing for adults and secondary aged pupils and regular lateral flow testing at home. Your support in reinforcing these messages at home is really welcomed. Test kits are available from the school office.



We have a number of activities planned next week to ensure the children (and staff) are ready to celebrate Christmas in the right way. On Monday, pupils will be having trips and activities with their class teams, in midweek we will have our Christmas Mass followed by Christmas dinner, which coincides with Christmas jumper day and at the end of the week class teams are planning some class-based parties during Friday afternoon. The children and staff are certainly excited for Christmas and the opportunity to spend some time away from School celebrating with family and friends.

Can I remind you please that the spring term starts on Tuesday 4th January at 9am?



Following the most recent Coronavirus guidance from the DfE we ask you please to;

- Please support us in encouraging your child to wear a face mask, when they are in communal areas.
- Please get your child to take a LFT on the evening of January 3rd or the morning of January 4th before coming back to school.
- If you attend SJV school for any planned meeting in the near future, please take a LFT before attending.

We will be testing all pupils who we have previously received consent from, with LFTs in School on January 4th. If you would like your child to be tested in school after the Christmas break, please contact the Admin office to provide us with the necessary consent.



The second weekly theme for Advent is 'Peace' and we have shared with the children this week the value of securing inner peace and also the peace we can give and get in our relationships with others. I do hope, as we continue to prepare for the birth of Jesus, that you and your families have a peaceful and restful weekend.



Mr A Moloney, Headteacher



#### Stars of the Week

Each week a 'Star of the Week' is chosen by the class team to celebrate achievements both academic and pastoral.



This week we are celebrating the following achievements:

- Dylan- for having an excellent week and joining in Bread and Butter
- Thomas- for trying really hard in his lessons and helping his classmates
- Sian- for a performance in poetry
- Micah- for showing empathy to his peers.
- Shawn- Shawn takes a pride in tidying up the classroom.

  Thank you Shawn!
- Rhys- for trying really hard to self regulate, during a period of time he usually finds difficult!
- Rayyan- For coming out of his comfort zone and interacting with the therapy dog Havoc.
- Mia- for building positive relationships with her friends.
- Filip- Filip for being a good friend to James and for always engaging in his lessons. Well done Filip.

- Rome- for making good choices in the classroom and on the playground.
- Chael- for responding well to change this week, when his teacher has been off.
- Leah- for making the right choices, attending all lessons and speaking politely to all staff and students.

#### SJV Class News



Class 13 continued their brilliant work at the new Bread and Butter charity at St Joseph's School in Longsight. Well done on packing 70 bags.





Class 1 got creative this week, learning all about Advent wreaths and their origin. They all worked really hard to create their own.











Class 12 recently did some great work on keeping themselves safe.



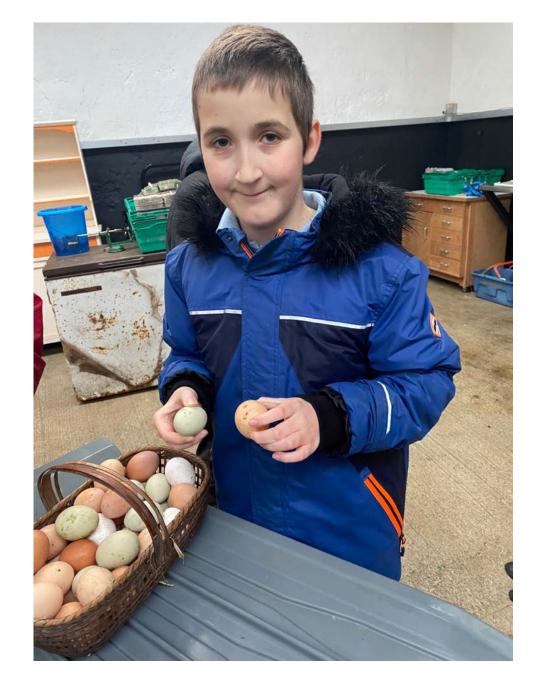
We discussed trust, people who help us and where to go if they need support. Well done everyone.





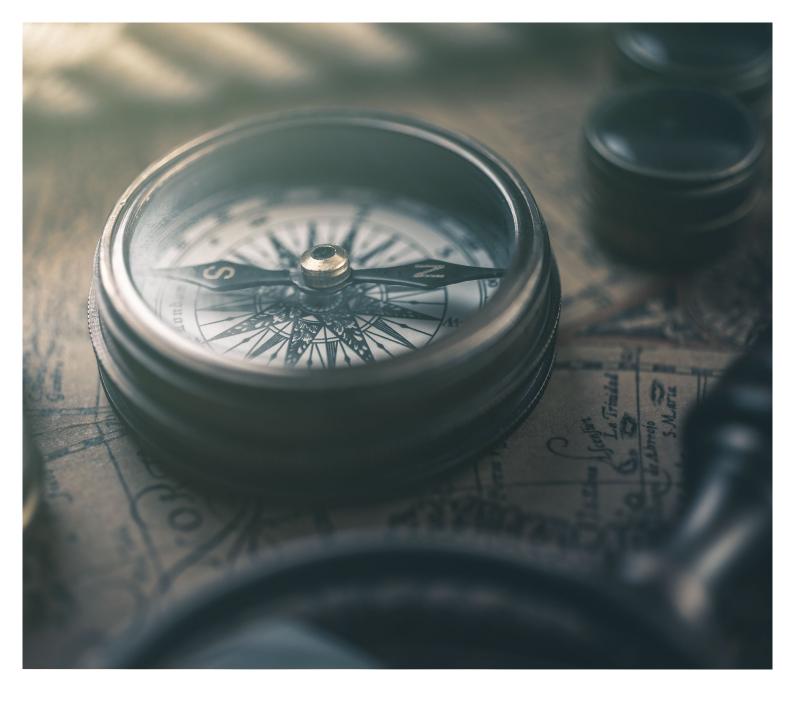
It was Class 3's last session at the farm today. We have had the best time visiting Cronkshaw Fold Farm during the last half term and look forward to our next visit later on in the school year







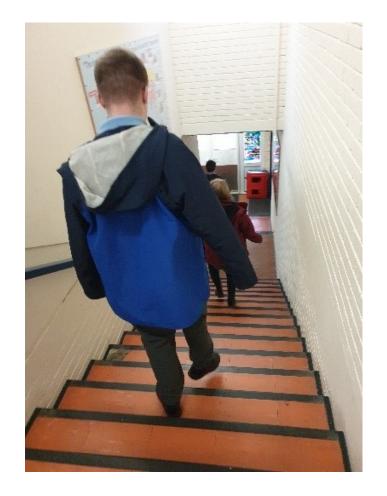




Class 9 have been learning about directions and maps in maths. They really enjoyed following the map and directions around School to find the treasure at the end.

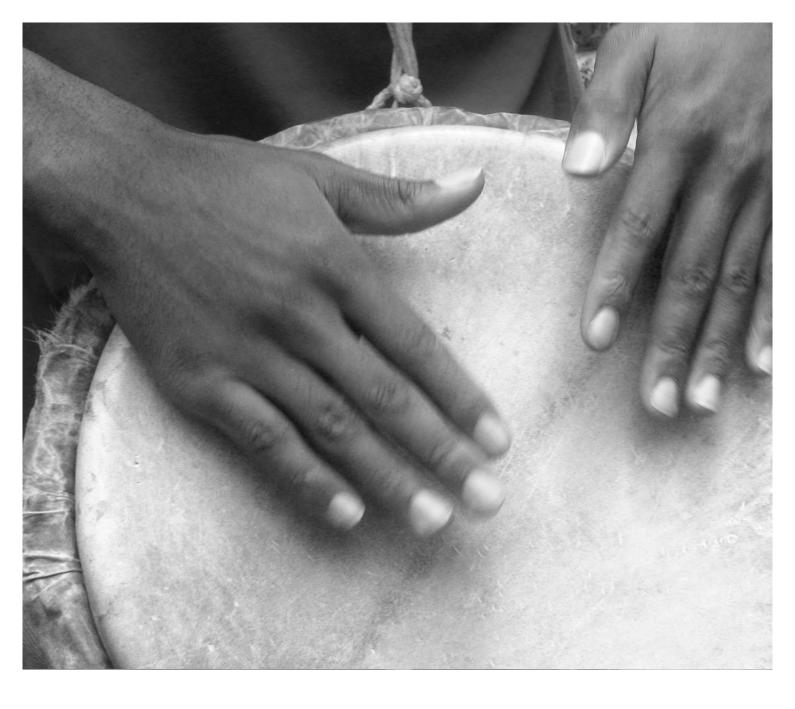












Class 4 really enjoyed trying out Mr Dumville's new drum machine.



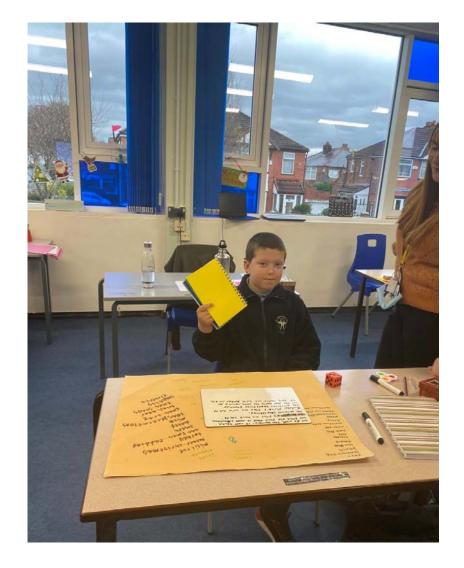


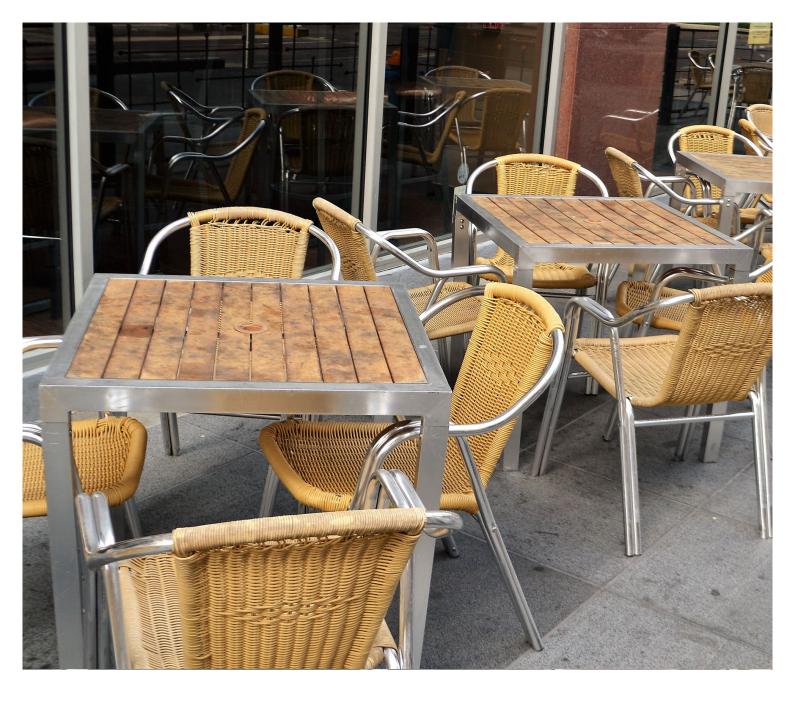


Class 8 have been working on a 'secular' Christmas versus the real meaning of Christmas. Great engagement and discussions well done everyone!









Class 6 have been developing their independence skills this week, by going to Costa and ordering themselves a drink!





### Class 11

Class 11 have really enjoyed the creative project they have been developing at Gorse Hill Studios this term. They have shown their amazing creative thinking skills and great team spirit. We are all looking forward to seeing the fruits of their labour, in the form of a film, very soon. Well done you wonderful class!







## Our Catholic School

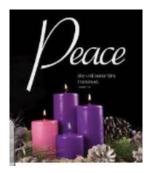
By Mrs Garfin

This week we celebrated the 2nd week of advent in our preparations to celebrate the birth of Jesus. The second theme of Advent is Peace;

Jesus said; 'I offer you a peace that the world cannot give, therefore do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God and Trust in me. Always remember you are loved by God.'.

We are drawing nearer to Christmas. Are we any more prepared than last week? Have any of us thought about how we are preparing our hearts? Are we using the Advent season to prepare for the coming of Christ? We can prepare for Jesus by being kind and generous to other people, and by saying sorry for all the things that we've done wrong.

Within SJV we have been preparing by focusing on our friendships this week to follow this week's Advent theme of Peace.



SJV has extended the hand of friendship this week by inviting a group of refugees and asylum seekers in from REVIVE. The Chaplaincy/ CARITAS team got inspiration from

meeting the refuges at REVIVE, when we took our food collection over to them. SJV are proud to take part in 'CARITAS; Refugee Come Dine with Me. The project quite simply encourages and assists ordinary people to invite local refugees for a meal. It is a very simple, but effective way of welcoming people into our parishes, who have left their homes and families to seek refuge and safety amongst us. When people sit together to share a meal, especially people from different cultures and life experiences, there is an opportunity to share more than just food.



Within RE this week we have continued to look at Advent and how we can best prepare ourselves. We have been looking at all things Christmas and how secular Christmas is becoming and what we can do to keep Christ in Christmas.

A word from our Family Liaison Officer and Deputy Safeguarding Lead

#### Mrs Julie Griffin



A GM Autism and Learning Disability Housing subgroup are seeing if there is a need in Greater Manchester for a specialist housing advocacy organisation. They would love to hear your views. There are two surveys – one for autistic adults and adults with a learning disability and the other for organisations that offer support. Please respond if you can by 31st December.

Here is the latest North West SEND Regional Network Newsletter with information and events around the region.





#### Stuff to do!



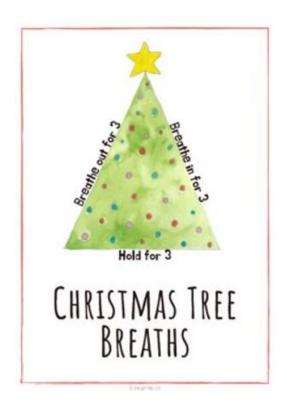
Many of you enjoyed the activities at the Platt Fields' Market Garden this year. We Are Mud are holding a <u>Winter Market Garden</u> over two weekends in the run up to Christmas, with local makers, gifts and crafts, food and drinks, kids activities, workshops, winter trail. and a huge, cosy marquee with seating, heaters and live music throughout the day. The Market Garden and car park are at the main entrance to Platt Fields Park, off Mabfield Road.

#### Christmas Extravaganza - Festive Fun with Libraries

The whole family is invited to join <u>Central Library's</u> free Christmas celebrations on Saturday 11th December, 10-4pm. There'll be choirs singing songs, Christmas crafts for children, and mulled wine, hot chocolate and festive treats to warm you up in the cafe. The big man himself may also put in an appearance!

Click on the blue text to find out more....

## Mindful Minute



A message from Mr McLoughlin, Assistant Headteacher.

Following recent developments surrounding the new Coronavirus variant, Omicron, we have been asked by the Government to complete the following; We would like all secondary schools to prepare to test their pupils once on-site on return in January...., as testing continues to play a vital role in keeping COVID-19 out of schools. After this test on return, pupils should continue to test in line with government guidelines.

I would encourage those parents and carers who have not previously given consent for testing, to consider giving permission for their child to join our testing programme in the New Year. Consent forms are available by contacting the School office and should be completed and returned before the end of term.

The government guidelines continue to ask that pupils and staff home test and record their results twice-weekly. Testing kits are available from the School office, in addition to pharmacies in your local area.

Mr P McLoughlin, Assistant Headteacher



My name is Matt Pilkington I'm the Disability and Inclusion Coordinator at Manchester United Foundation. I would like to offer SJV students the extracurricular opportunities we have running at the moment.

We currently run a 'Rooney's Inclusive Reds' football session at Manchester Health Academy, Wythenshawe. On a Monday evening.

5-6pm for ages 8 - 12 years old

 $7-8pm\ 12 - 18-year\ olds.$ 

We also run a PAN Disability session on a Friday evening at **The Cliff, Salford.** 

Under 16's - 7-8pm

Over 16's - 8.15 - 9.15 pm

In addition to those sessions we have recently partnered up with FA to become a talent hub for young people with one of the following; Cerebral Palsy, Visual Impairment and Hearing Impairment. With this session it provides players the opportunity to be put forward to represent their country. This session is for all Under 16's.

The Talent Hub runs once a Month at Eccles College. Dates to be given when participants have signed up.

All our sessions are Free of Charge.

If any of SJV students would like to access any of the above sessions, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Kind regards,

Matt

Matthew Pilkington

Disability & Inclusion Coordinator

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Email: matthew.pilkington@mufoundation.org



# Christmas jumper day

Christmas Jumper Day will take place on the same day your child has their Christmas dinner. A small donation of £1/£2 would be appreciated; which we will then donate to charity. If your child has outgrown their Christmas jumper/t-shirt or you have any spare, please could you send them in so that we can distribute/exchange with other pupils.

# Enjoy your Weekend!

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