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Delivering an outstanding learning experience for all children so they flourish and thrive; enabling them to achieve their own individual excellence.

17th December 2020

Newsletter 7

Dear Parents/Carers,



It is hard to believe that we are in our final week before Christmas. What a strange year it has been. In school, the children have kept to the festive spirit and have been engaged in all things Christmassy.

# 🕈 <u>Rudolph Run</u>

On Thursday 10th December, children from across the school took part in the Rudolph Run, in aid of St. Luke's Hospice. Donned in their reindeer antlers and red noses, each class spent around twenty minutes walking or running laps of the school field. Thanks to the generous donations of our school community, we have now raised over £950 for the charity. If you would still like to donate, please click on the link below: <u>https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/e</u> <u>xcalibur-primary-school-rudolph-run-</u> <u>2020?newPage=True</u>



## **Christmas Celebrations**

As we have been unable to hold our usual Christmas nativities and concerts, our children have been doing things virtually... The Infants have been very busy during last week, videoing their Christmas production for you to enjoy. Despite the challenge of not having a real life audience to perform in front of, the children have risen to the occasion and have

danced, sung and acted brilliantly. Prepare to be transported to the inns of Bethlehem where you will find Mary and Joseph struggling to find somewhere to stay. We hope you enjoy 'A King is Born'.

In addition, our Key Stage 2 children have worked tirelessly to produce a brilliant Christmas Celebration video which they hope will bring the joy of the festive period into your homes. Our children across Key Stage 2 eloquently deliver the message of Christmas and sing some of their festive favourites.

A link has been sent for parents and carers to access both of our productions. We would ask that the link provided is not shared on social media.



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# Christmas Dinner

On Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December, our children enjoyed a hearty Christmas dinner, courtesy of Mrs Preen. During their lunch, the children enjoyed a range of Christmas songs and were even surprised by a visit from Santa!



## A Zoom to Remember...

On Tuesday this week, our Year 2 were surprised to receive a zoom call with the Angel Gabriel! Earlier that morning Year 2, watched an outside broadcast of news reporter, Chrissy Mass, interviewing the characters involved in the Nativity story. In the afternoon, the children had the opportunity to pose questions to the characters. They came up with some carefully considered and interesting ones!



## Making Christmas Cards

Year 2 and Year 4 have been working incredibly hard, spreading Christmas cheer beyond the school gate. Both classes have made extra Christmas cards for the residents of Lavender House and people in the wider community.

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## **FOE hampers**

Many thanks to everyone who has supported the school by purchasing raffle tickets and providing prizes. The hampers looked fabulous. Thanks go to our Friends of Excalibur team who have done an amazing job in pulling all of this together and to Miss Ridler who has diligently organised and distributed the raffle tickets.

#### Christmas at St. Mary's

This year, as we are unable to celebrate Christmas in St. Mary's, children from Years 1 and 6 have produced some artwork for the banners inside the church. Many thanks to Rev. Michelle for displaying the children's work so proudly and for supporting us with the KS2 Christmas Celebration. This Christmas Eve, St. Mary's re-telling the Christmas Story at 2:00pm and 4:00pm. Bookings are essential and can be made by emailing <u>vicar@stmarysalsager.org</u>.



# **Inter-School Basketball Competition**

Last week, Year 6 took part in a virtual basketball competition as part of the Alsager Community Trust and Sandbach Sports Partnership. During PE on Wednesday, they competed in three basketball events which required shooting and dribbling skills. Results were recorded and the 10 highest scores will be submitted to the competition which is being held between schools from Alsager and the surrounding areas. The children performed brilliantly, showing a steely grit and determination to do their best and producing some outstanding scores in the process. Well done, Year 6!

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#### Parent Survey

Many thanks to everyone who responded to our recent Parent's Survey. We really do value your opinions and welcome your comments. The results of the survey can be found on our website

http://www.excalibur.cheshire.sch.uk/page/paren t-views/6331

#### Support Services

Christmas can be a difficult time of year. Below is a list of useful websites that may provide support.

<u>https://www.mind.org.uk/information-</u> <u>support/coronavirus/coronavirus-and-your-</u> wellbeing/

https://www.wearewithyou.org.uk/help-andadvice/

https://youngminds.org.uk/find-help/forparents/

Your support and understanding throughout the year has been appreciated greatly. I hope you find opportunities to spend much deserved quality time with families over the next two weeks.

May we wish you a very merry Christmas and an extremely happy New Year. We look forward to see you back in school on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January.

All the best...



Mrs Jones Head Teacher