



# Forward March!

UN CONVENTION ARTICLE 17:

You have the right to get information that is important to your well-being, from radio, newspapers, books, computers and other sources. Adults should make sure that the information you are getting is not harmful, and help you find and understand the

*With God's help  
we will  
live kindly,  
love each other,  
learn and  
laugh together!*



**December Newsletter 2021**



Dear Parents/Carers,

As we come to the end of our Autumn Term, I would like to wish you a very peaceful and Merry Christmas after such a busy and unusual year for us all.

Having worked hard on their return to school, the children will be ready for a break and the opportunity to recharge their batteries (whilst wearing yours out no doubt!).

Our Christmas performances are always very special events and I'm sure you'll agree that this years was no exception.

**I was recently asked by a researcher why we do the nativity and is it just an expectation now?**

From The March's point of view it's a rite of passage for the children, who are 'beside themselves' with excitement, and get plenty out of the nativity aside from the sheer joy of taking part and having a role whatever this may be.

They have so much pride in the fact that they can stand up and speak in front of a large audience, their parents and the rest of the school, even if it's just to introduce themselves or walk on the stage as an angel or baa as a sheep. We feel that it is important that they all get their moment to shine however big or small the role.

Teamwork and encouraging their classmates is also a key part of the nativity and supporting each other in their singing and roles. Whatever people think about nativities it is about reaffirming the true spiritual meaning of Christmas in a world where children are bombarded with material messages from TV adverts come December.



At The March we teach the children the Christmas story, and we say to them that people who are Christian believe Jesus was born on Christmas Day but we also highlight that Christmas is about family and being grateful for what we have at this special time of year. As a church school the Nativity is so important it is key to ensure that you get parental buy in to the Christian Ethos of the school when they start with us. The key values we support as a Christian Church school are the same family values that many hold dear.

Our children are comfortable talking about religion it is part of what we do as a school, so why would our Nativity not be any different?

I hope you enjoyed the shows as much as we did!

**Thank you to the PTA** for their hard work and commitment and to you for supporting our events so enthusiastically. The school Fair in it different format was well attended and we raised an **amazing £3600** and a few pennies.

**The winning class for the penny wars was Year 3 a huge well done!**

Many thanks must also go to you the parents and carers of our pupils because without your support over the covid pandemic with the difficult decisions we have had to make it could have been an even more challenging job. We can't always achieve everything or keep everyone happy but, we always aim to do make the best decisions for the children.

I sincerely wish you and all members of your family a very Merry Christmas and I look forward to seeing you when school reopens on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022

I am sure that you would like to join with me in thanking all of the staff and Governors at The March CE Primary School for their continued tremendous hard work and commitment to the pupils of the school during the year. They have worked tirelessly this term to ensure that the children continue with their learning and catch up. Thank you all.

*Merry Christmas*

*Mrs Nicky Metcalfe*

*Head Teacher*



# CHRISTMAS FAIR

The Christmas fair was a very enjoyable event after missing last years. We were so pleased to be joined by Father Christmas who read us wonderful stories in the grotto and listened to our children's Christmas wishes. A huge thank you to the our PTA in particular Tara Atkins and Patricia Dickie our Co Chairs and the many parent helpers and staff who worked tirelessly to ensure that this was such a success for all.

We had many stalls, craft stalls from outside providers, BBQ, Year 6 games, raffles, jolly jars and lots of yummy cakes and drinks.

Our choir were amazing and started the event in such a wonderful way. We all appreciate the support given to the Christmas fair when it is a busy time of year; but it wonderful to see the community at school coming together safely to support the children at these events.



## Nativity

The EYFS and KS1 Nativity performances were wonderful. Parents, children and staff all thoroughly enjoyed watching this. The singing, acting and dancing were amazing with the children looking great in all their costumes. It was truly lovely to have them all back together again doing the nativity

Well done to all the children for learning their lines and great singing throughout.



## Christingle

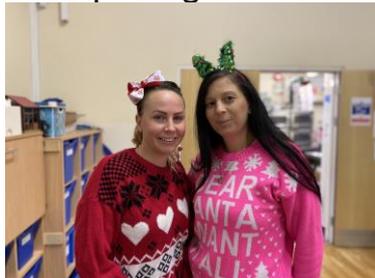
The Christingle Service is one of my favourite of the year as we prepare for Christmas. It is always lovely to have our service together and with all the candles alight on this special occasion. Christingle celebrations are named after the Christingles that are lit during the service. Christingles are made from an orange decorated with red tape, sweets and a candle. This year we will do 2 Christingle services as EYFS and KS1 and then KS2.



## Christmas Jumper and dinner



A huge thank you to our lovely dinner ladies who served 120 Christmas dinners today. They did a great job and the children had a great time wearing their festive hats and pulling crackers



**Hugo from Yapton Free Church** started our day with music and bible stories which as always the children thoroughly enjoy. Hugo has been in school throughout the Pandemic supporting us and raising spirits. Thank you Hugo we hope that you and your family have a wonderful Christmas.



### **Year 4 Tree Planting at Goodwood**

The children have been learning about the importance of looking after our environment and reducing our carbon footprint, so it was great to get involved in this project and help plant some Hazel and Oak trees. Despite close to freezing temperatures, we wrapped up warm and learnt how to plant the trees with help from the forestry team at Goodwood Estate. Everyone was amazed at how quickly over one hundred trees could be planted with the help of a class of busy children!



**In Reception** this half term our topic has been finding out 'What happens when I go to sleep?' We started the term learning about different bedtime routines that different people have before they go to bed. We also found out about all the wonderful workers who have to work during the night to keep everything going in the world. Lots of us knew somebody who had one of these jobs and we were very proud of them! We also enjoyed learning about nocturnal animals and even got to go on an adventure at Forest school to see the badger burrows, this was great fun! We got to do star baking with Miss White as part of our 'How to catch a star' story, which we thoroughly enjoyed. As it comes to the end of term we have been working hard learning all the songs for our Nativity, we can't wait for you to see it!



## **Year 6**

What an interesting and varied term it has been!

Our topic Blood heart has a predominantly science focus. So we have had an amazing talk on the circulatory system by Dr McGlone via Zoom that meant it was accessible to children who were isolating at home and for those studying at school.

We created synthetic blood and studied the pioneering scientist Karl Landsteiner. Dissecting a heart was a 'heart- stopping moment' [excuse the pun]; all the children were interested in the weight and function of the heart. We have designed a stethoscope in DT and studied pattern and texture through abstract art (Howard Hodgkin's and Mark Rothko).

One of our proudest moments was planning the stalls for the Christmas Fair. We independently created our own stalls, worked in a team and raised £106 for the school! We have sold eggs to parents and staff and regularly check the chickens and take care of the younger children in the school. We have had a very productive term!



**This topic, Class 3** have been looking at the wonderful world of food and how to keep healthy. We have made different and exciting snacks, from bread rolls to crumpet pizzas! Taste testing is our favourite part of making, we definitely have some budding Jamie Oliver's amongst the class. Making food had led us into thinking about the ways we can keep healthy. We have learnt about the human body, and how nutrients are an important part of keeping healthy. Unfortunately, sweets and chocolate do not form part of the eat well plate, and we should eat 5 vegetables per day to remain healthy. Alongside a healthy diet, exercise is important to remain healthy, we have been looking at our cardiovascular system and participating in circuit training activities.

In English, we looked at play scripts and what they are. We created our own scene to accompany 'A tune of lies'. The dialogue was brilliant and lots of expressive vocabulary was used between characters. We then moved onto looking at instructions and why they are needed. First, we looked at the structure of instructions, then created our own for the crumpet pizzas we made. After writing the instructions, it was time to look at adverts and how some adverts aren't always as honest as they seem. With our crumpet pizzas in mind, it was time to write the adverts for them. Some of the adverts were mouth-wateringly good, but not that honest with some children saying their pizza was the best in the world! Overall, we have enjoyed the topic of scrumdiddlyumptious (spelling this is a nightmare!) and can apply our knowledge to all the food we are going to eat at Christmas!



### Bronze Badge Winners – Well done everyone



### The March school Choir



The March Choir have done us all proud this term - singing at the Christmas Fair. They are practising so hard to sing at the O2 in London in Jan 2022. We are keeping our fingers crossed that they can go !- Keep it up choir



**In Year 5** this term we have enjoyed learning about the Tudors and developing our skills as historians, writers, artists and musicians. We found out about the life of Henry VIII and wrote his biography, as well as a story set in his court (inspired by dressing-up and drama). We thought about the causes and consequences of Henry's 'Break from Rome', when he became head of the Church of England. By reading historical accounts, we investigated what happened to his second wife, Anne Boleyn. We debated whether we thought she really was guilty of the crime of treason and wrote persuasive letters from Anne to Henry. In Art, we looked at Tudor portrait artists and developed our own portrait drawing and painting skills. In Music, we learnt to sing and play the song 'Greensleeves' on the xylophones.

During Anti-Bullying Week and throughout the term, we have focused on being kind in our actions and words. We worked together to create posters for our classroom and to complete 100 random acts of kindness. Many of the class represented our school at athletics and football events and won an award for Best Sportsmanship. Mrs Black and Mrs Renouf are really proud of the children in Class 5 for their kind and positive behaviour.



**Year 2s** topic has been Land A'Hoy and as well as learning all about different countries, explorers and map reading, they had a Pirate Day. They learnt to sing the Wellerman Sea Shanty and performed this outside and played PE treasure finding games. They had a workshop and got to look inside a smugglers box.

In science the children have been looking at the different properties of materials and investigating which ball is the bounciest, which fabric stretch and which materials are rigid or flexible.

