



ST CATHERINE'S PREP NEWSLETTER

"Be who God wants you to be, and you will set the world on fire." St Catherine of Siena

11 DECEMBER 2020



TAKE A PEEK!

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A NOTE FROM MRS MCPHERSON HEADMISTRESS

What a wonderful end to this busy term! The girls have been full of life this week, with their Christmas jumpers and special lunch; one look at our Prep shows that whatever has been going on outside school, everything onsite continues in the same cheerful spirit.

This was especially evident on Monday evening, when the Year 6 girls enjoyed their Introduction to the Senior School – they also very much enjoyed their special ice-cream cone cupcakes.

And, of course, the Nativity and Prep Carol Service films have been a wonderful finale to the term. I am sure that we all agree that the music, readings and beautiful smiles set the scene for a lovely festive season.

With very best wishes for a happy, safe Christmas,
Mrs McPherson

A NOTE FROM MRS MARSH HEAD OF PREP

What a wonderful term we have had, albeit a little different. I am so proud of how the girls have adapted to new protocols and taken advantage of all that has been offered in school and virtually. The beautiful Nativity from Early Year and Years 1 and 2 is posted on our YouTube Channel, as is our Carol Service which I do hope you have enjoyed.

We have had a busy last few days of term, with many Christmas festivities and Year 6 Christmas Challenge, photos of which you can enjoy in this newsletter.

We look forward to the Spring Term and in the meantime I would like to wish you all a very happy and peaceful Christmas.

With best wishes,
Mrs Marsh

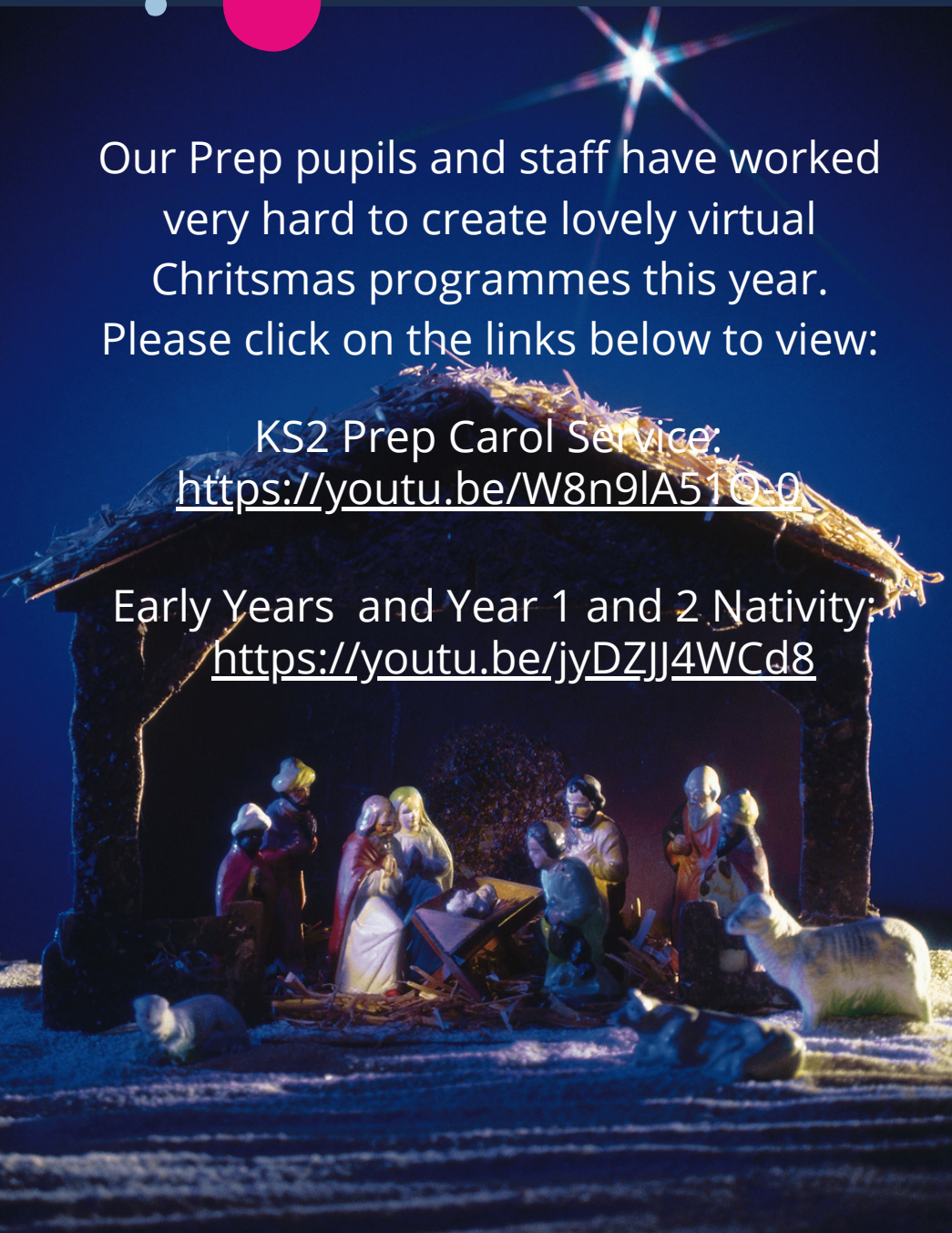




Our Prep pupils and staff have worked very hard to create lovely virtual Christmas programmes this year. Please click on the links below to view:

KS2 Prep Carol Service:
<https://youtu.be/W8n9IA51O-0>

Early Years and Year 1 and 2 Nativity:
<https://youtu.be/jyDZJJ4WCd8>



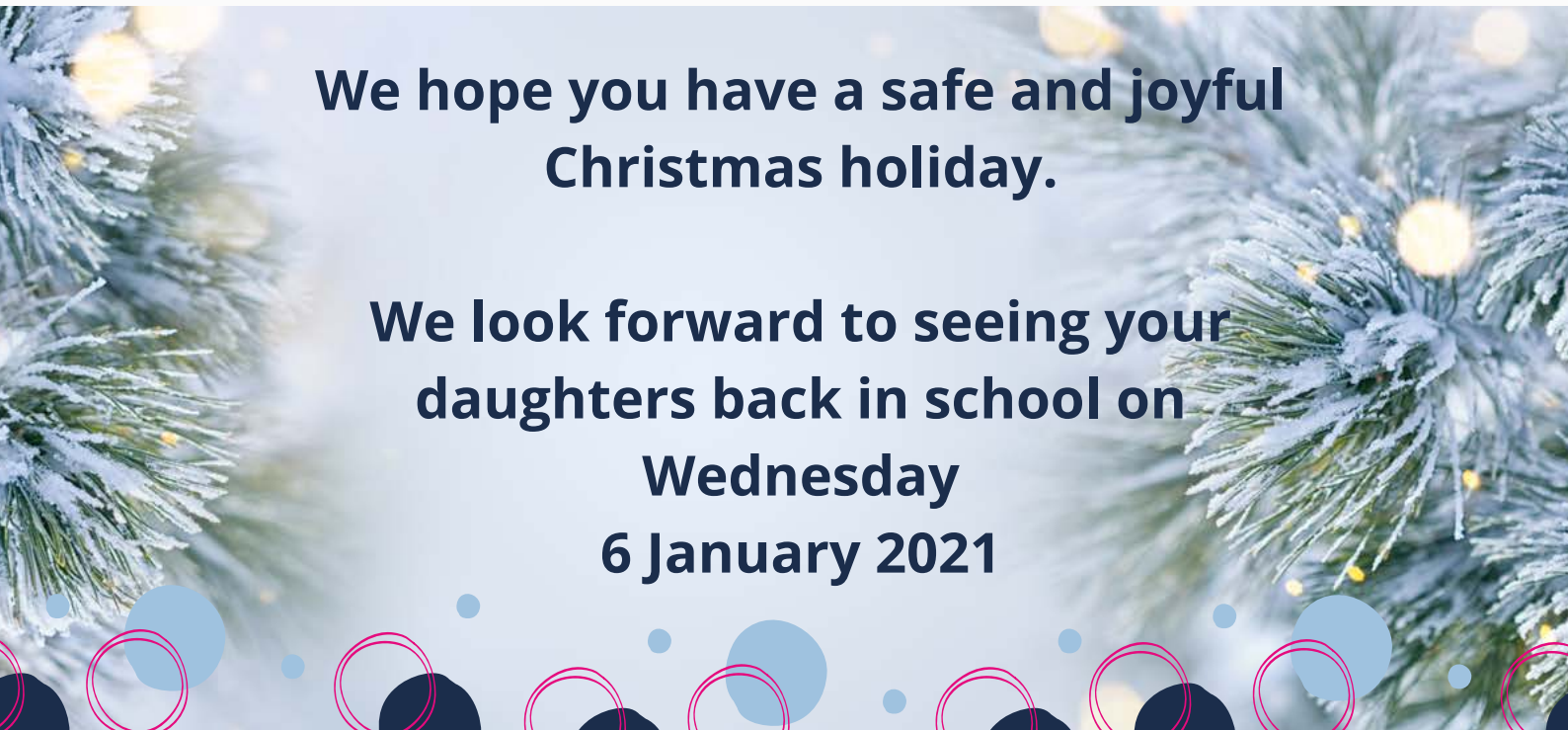
Holiday Clubs

We are looking forward to seeing pupils from Bubble 1 next week during Holiday Club.

Please note that some of our trusted external club providers may be running holiday clubs and activities over the Christmas period. Please contact them directly for further information.

We hope you have a safe and joyful Christmas holiday.

**We look forward to seeing your daughters back in school on
Wednesday
6 January 2021**



EARLY YEARS

The Nursery girls ready to be stars in the Nativity.



Nursery and Reception girls celebrating Star of the Week Assembly.



***The stars this week in Early Years are:
Stella for fantastic writing skills and all of the
Reception Class for being such Super Stars.***

YEAR 1 & 2



Years 1 and 2 had a special retreat afternoon in the Chaplaincy with Miss Ryan this week. Our focus was on the story of Michael Mouse, who was so eager to get to Bethlehem to see the baby Jesus, he completely forgot to bring a present. However, he realised that he had actually brought the best gift of all; he gave Jesus himself, for as long as Jesus needed him.

We took time to think about the gifts we have that can be shared with others; such as our smiles, kindness, laughter and helpfulness, among others. The pupils were full of chatter and questions and thoroughly enjoyed their afternoon.



Year 1 and 2 have been busy preparing this year's Nativity performance with Early Years. We have tried our hands at acting, singing, directing and filming, and we hope you all enjoy the show.

We have also been braving the colder weather to experience our Science topic of 'Forces' out in the playground. This week we made our own parachutes to observe gravity and air resistance in action.



YEAR 3

Year 3 prepared for Christmas, both spiritually and physically.



Advent Prayer

Think about the meaning of each of the words
HOPE, LOVE, JOY, PEACE.

Use two of the words above in
a short prayer of your own.

Dear Father God,

put hope into each and
every one of our
hearts, let peace stay
in the world everlasting.

Amen



In Maths, we found a fun way to practise our times tables.

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On 24 November, Year 3 took part in Tune Up Tuesday, a national initiative aimed at encouraging children to get involved in the arts and learn about its positive impact on young people's mental health and wellbeing. We did some body percussion!

PREP SCHOOLING

YEAR 4



Year 4 investigated old maps and navigation equipment to find out how discoveries were made in the Golden Age of exploration.

Year 4 thought like Roman architects and builders as they used Lego to recreate the aqueduct at Segovia.



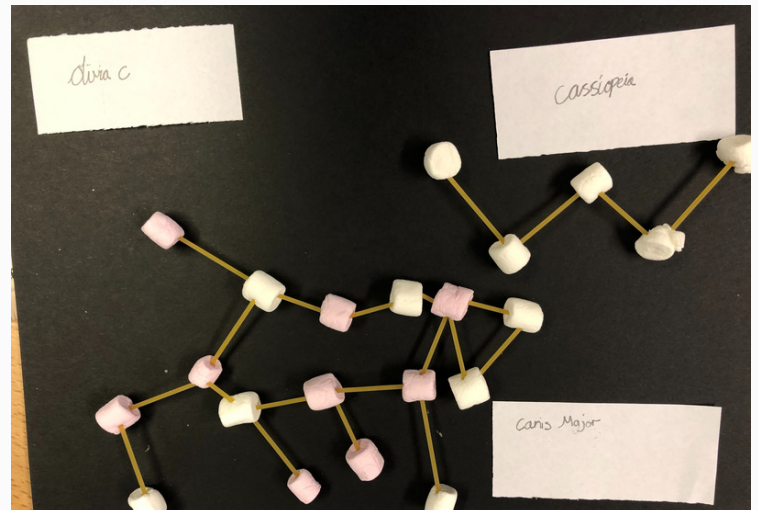
Year 4 enjoyed a virtual visit to the National Archives at Kew, where they learned to be historians. They thoroughly enjoyed being detectives, looking at primary sources and trying to find out what they can tell us.

PREP SCHOOLING

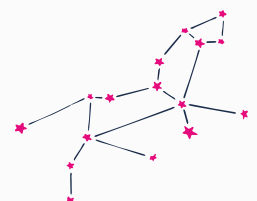
YEAR 5



Year 5 made some lovely paper snowflakes and handmade Christmas tree decorations using backstitching.



To round off our topic on Space, Year 5 learned about and recreated the different constellations using spaghetti and mini marshmallows.



YEAR 6

Year 6 elves in Santa's decorations workshop and some of the girls starting to make festive lights decorations using their knowledge of circuitry from Science lessons.



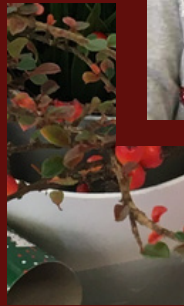
Year 6 prepared for a Victorian Christmas and created their own wallpapers inspired by William Morris.



Year 6s made a Christmas tree using bread dough and chocolate spread, which looked and smelled delicious!

PREP CHRISTMAS

Prep enjoyed lots of festive activities this week, including Christmas lunch, Breakfast Club biscuit making, and the Year 6 Christmas Challenge.



INTER HOUSE NETBALL

Another week, another inter house netball tournament! Well done to Year 5 for their fantastic efforts and determination. We saw some excellent netball skills and wonderful sportsmanship. It came down to the final game between Cavell and Nightingale but a draw was enough to see Cavell lift the trophy! Nightingale followed in second, Bronte in third and Pankhurst in fourth.

Congratulations to the following pupils who were voted 'Girls of the Game' by their peers: Otilie, Annabel, Isabel, Ania, Bella, Edie, Erin, Lottie, Cecilia, Charlotte and Imogen.

Full results:

Pankhurst 0 v 1 Nightingale

Bronte 0 v 1 Cavell

Nightingale 0 v 0 Bronte

Cavell 1 v 0 Pankhurst

Pankhurst 0 v 2 Bronte

Cavell 1 v 1 Nightingale

YEAR 5



Amidst all the changes this year has brought us, it was fantastic to be able to return to one thing we all know and love; inter house netball! Year 6 competed with great spirit, determination and outstanding sportsmanship in their annual inter house netball tournament. It was a close finish between first and second, but with 3 wins out of 3, Cavell were victorious! Bronte took second, Nightingale third and Pankhurst fourth.

Congratulations to the following pupils who were voted 'Girls of the Game' by their peers: Alice, Artemis, Meghan, Isla, Hannah, Gemma, Bella, Eva and Jenya. A special teacher's mention from Miss Beacroft and Mrs Walters to Tia for her resilience and Holly for her wonderful shooting.

Full results:

Pankhurst 0 v 0 Bronte

Cavell 2 v 0 Pankhurst

Pankhurst 0 v 1 Nightingale

Cavell 2 v 0 Nightingale

Nightingale 0 v 2 Bronte

Bronte 0 v 2 Cavell