



PUPIL POST

18th December 2022 4th Sunday of Advent Year A

Although we closed on Monday,
thanks to Mr. McLellan and his
super snow clearing, we were
able to open on Tuesday.





Fun in the snow!

On Tuesday
it was
Christmas
Jumper
and Dinner Day



Delicious
Christmas
dinner!
Yummy!

Thanks
Herts Catering
team!





Thank you to Cook for 28 years service in
our kitchen with HERTS CATERING
- with best wishes for a very happy and well
deserved retirement!

*"Making candy,"
"I got three!"
"I made eight!"*



Fantastic performance from our Brass group

*Watch and hear us
playing here:*

<https://twitter.com/i/status/1602628836184801280>



The Nursery children explored
the journey of the
“Little donkey, little donkey...”
and are becoming increasingly
independent when meeting their own
needs.



“Look
donkey!”

PIC•COLLAGE

We focused on Mary during our
WEDNESDAY WORD assembly



God of the meek and the simple,
strip away the complexity we make for ourselves.
Free us from the things we think we should do,
and turn our minds and hearts to what you ask of us.
Help us to let go of worry and anxiety, judgment and
resentment, anger and self-righteousness.
May we faithfully embrace trust, gratitude, simplicity
and contentedness. Amen.



Wednesday

14th December

Good News

for Families

Enjoy reading this Sunday's Gospel

This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His mother Mary was engaged to a man called Joseph; but before they could be married she became pregnant by the power of the Holy Spirit. Joseph was a good man and did not want to embarrass Mary so he made plans to break the engagement privately. But the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because it is by the power of the Holy Spirit that she is going to have a son. You must name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." When Joseph woke up, he did as the angel of the Lord had told him to do and took Mary into his home as his wife.

From the Gospel of Sunday 18th December 2022 Matthew 1:18-24 (the 4th Sunday of Advent, Year A)

Which words stood out for you in this Gospel, and why? What does the picture make you think about? Now enjoy exploring this Wednesday's word, which is **MARY**.

"Mary is the first and most perfect model of Jesus."

St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross

Mary accepted God's will with a thankful heart; she is a perfect example for all people - someone full of thoughtfulness, kindness and joy. How can you show thoughtfulness and kindness and bring joy to others in this final week of Advent? Perhaps you can: give lots of smiles; cheerfully do what your parents or teachers ask you to do; be a good and patient listener; get involved with a charity that helps to feed some of the poorest children in the world (e.g. visit marysmeals.org.uk or Cafod.org.uk); help someone who may be struggling in some way. You may like to finish your time of prayer by saying together, on behalf of another person, a 'Hail Mary' or the Rosary.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

WEDNESDAY WORDSEARCH

SMARTSEARCHERS FIND THESE EIGHT WORDS EITHER ACROSS OR DOWN

JOSEPH

DREAM

ANGEL

APPEARED

MARY

SON

JESUS

SAVES

SUPERSEARCHERS FIND THE WORDS BACKWARDS OR DIAGONALLY

S S E V A S D V S M S

A N G G U H D A O P A

N J O S E P H R N D V

G V E S O J A Y E V E

J J O S Y M J R Y A S

A E A P P E A R E D M

J E S U S E N R R E R D

V E A Y P M G N Y P R

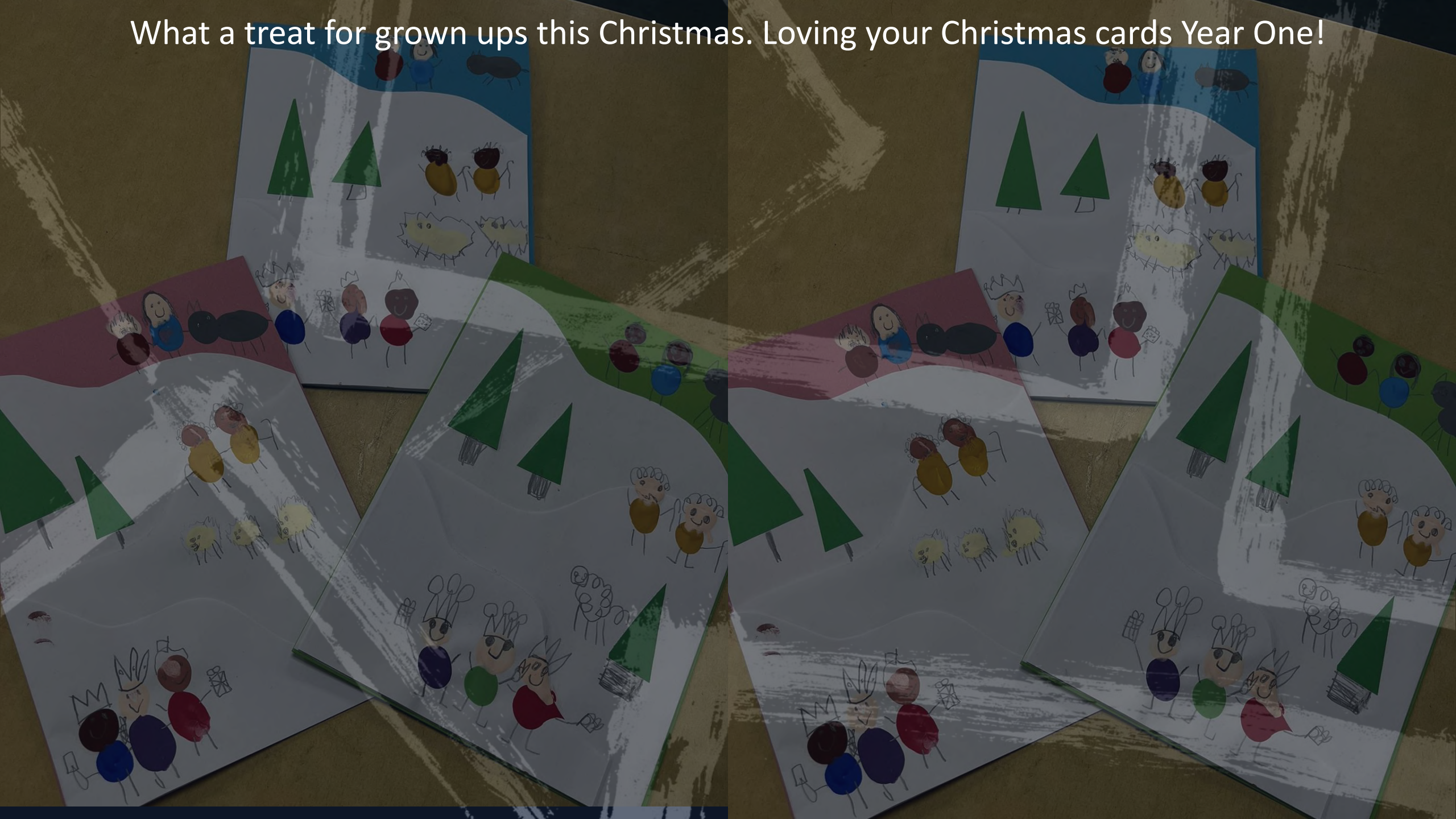
P A S P H P E S O J

S M A R Y V L E G N

M Y N O S N A Y R Y

Honouring Mary, our Mother, in Year One which fits perfectly with this week's **WEDNESDAY WORD**. Have fun with the puzzles!

What a treat for grown ups this Christmas. Loving your Christmas cards Year One!



**Lovely paintings
in Year 4 too!**



This week,
Reception were
learning all about
patterns!

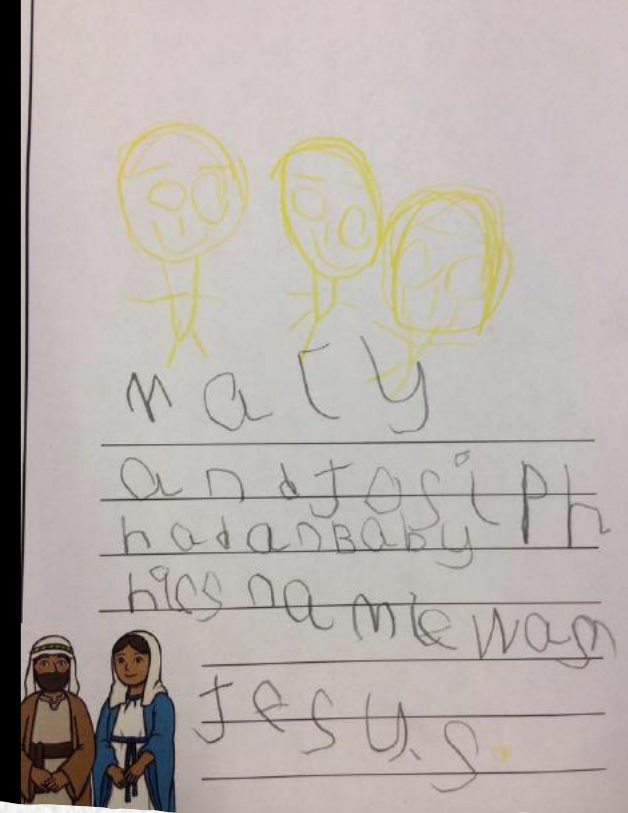


Patterns, patterns and more patterns!

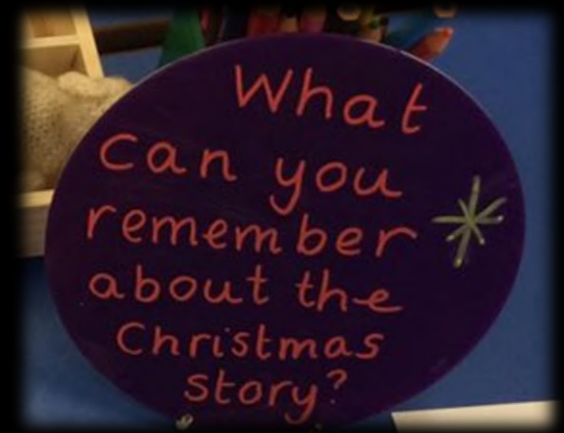


**Button play
and acquiring mathematical
vocabulary
'bigger than', 'smaller than' in
preparation for our first story
of the Spring term.**





...with some great writing
about the Christmas story
too!



The Christmas Story for Nursery parents and carers...





And a wonderful KS1 'Fireside Nativity' raising funds for MacMillan Cancer





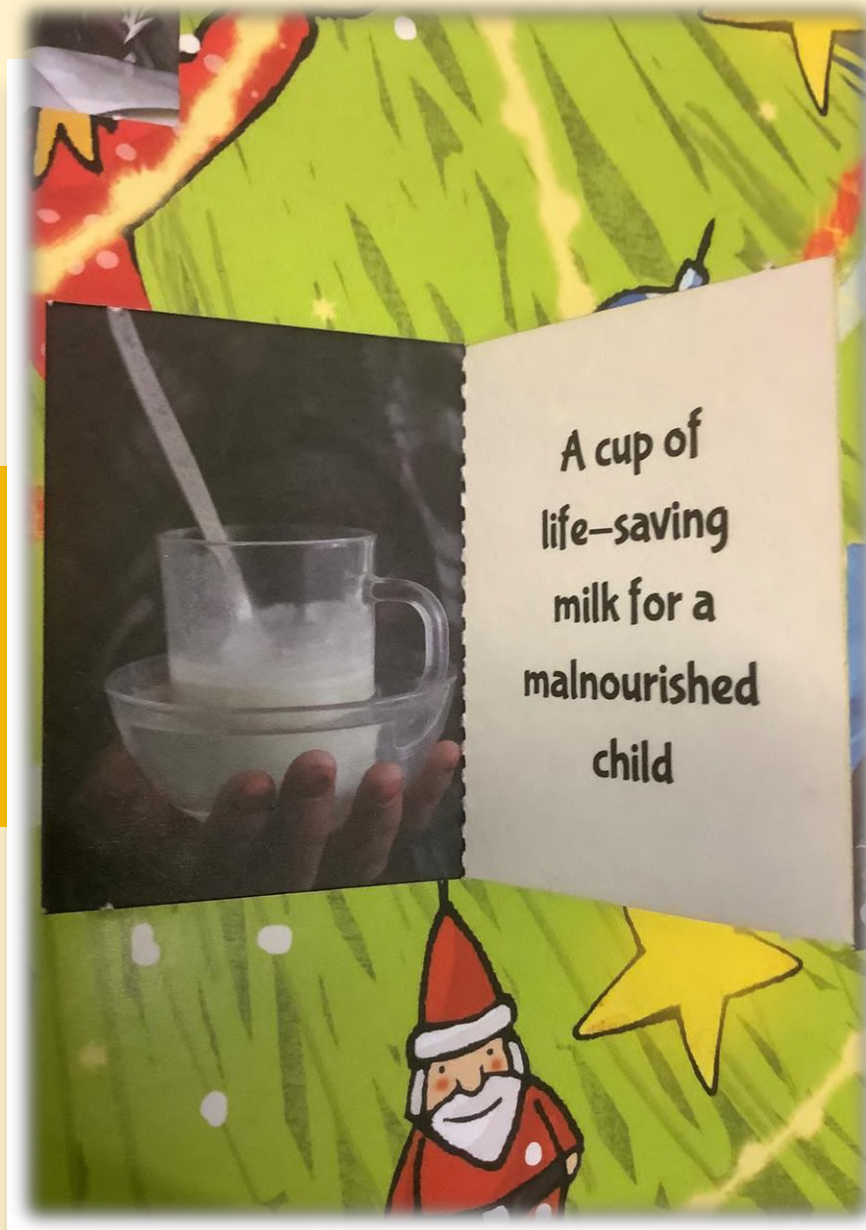
**Year 4 had
a fabulous
games
afternoon**

Nursery children
have been
exploring 'snow
art'.





“What’s in the box Mrs Humphries?”
Christmas baubles!



SEASON'S GREETINGS FROM UNICEF

UNICEF INSPIRED GIFT ADVENT CALENDAR

Thank you for buying this special UNICEF Advent Calendar!

Each day will reveal a surprise that will help vulnerable children live, learn and play around the world. Behind each window you'll find one of UNICEF's Inspired Gifts, including a blanket to keep children safe and warm, vaccines to protect them from diseases, and school supplies to help children learn.

Enjoy seeing how you are helping children each day right up to Christmas Eve. Thank you.

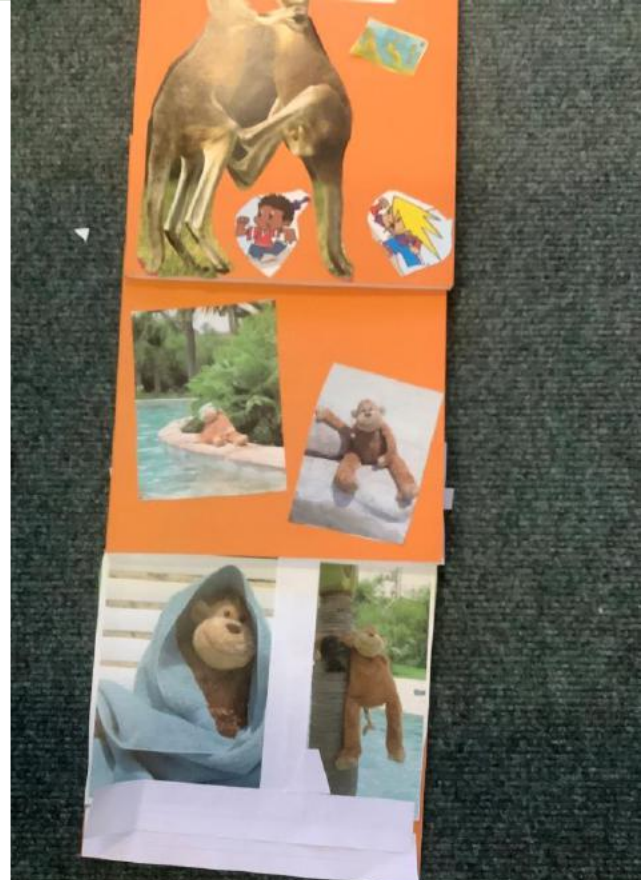
To see the full range of UNICEF Inspired Gifts visit [unicef.uk/inspire](https://www.unicef.uk/inspire)

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We are
loving the
end of the day
Advent
Calendar
opening in
Year 4.
On Thursday,
after opening,
we sang along
to this

[https://m.youtu
be.com/watch?
v=XyijhpaaEs8...](https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=XyijhpaaEs8...)

LOVE SHONE
DOWN



Year 4 have also been very creative,
making use of damaged books to design
their own book covers

Thank you for joining us for our Christmas in Song event at 9.30am and 1.30pm on Friday which involved all 420 pupils. The children were in fine voice although singing without accompaniment as our choral director, Yvette Murphy, from the Westminster Diocese Education Service, was poorly so missed the debut performance of the choir she had formed. The show had to go on!



**£271 was raised for the Catholic
Children's Society over two
performances.
Thank you for your generosity!**



Watch and listen to us here:
<https://twitter.com/i/status/1603778920402128896>
<https://twitter.com/i/status/1603780149396344834>
<https://twitter.com/i/status/1603780149396344834>
<https://twitter.com/i/status/1603780149396344834>



Exciting
announcement
from your PSA
team regarding
our Christmas
fundraising
events

The PSA team are absolutely over the moon to announce that the Christmas disco has raised an amazing

★ £1,833.36 ★ for the school.

Combining this with funds from both the My Child's Art campaign and the Christmas raffle, that is an amazing
★ £2,856.96! ★ raised from our Christmas events.

Thank you so much to our wonderful school community for making this possible! Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas your PSA team 🎄

THE DANGERS OF FROZEN WATER

TOP TIPS TO STAY SAFE

NEVER GO ON THE ICE UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES

This includes attempting to rescue another person or animal who may have fallen through the ice.

ONLY USE WELL LIT AREAS

Try to take walks in the daylight but if you must walk in the evening, only use well lit areas and avoid anywhere with water.

KEEP AWAY FROM THE EDGE OF THE WATER

Never go close to the edge or lean over to touch the ice. You may over balance or trip and fall in.

ALWAYS WALK WITH AN ADULT OR A GROUP OF FRIENDS

Look out for each other and if someone does fall through the ice there will be others around to raise the alarm and get help

WHAT TO DO IF YOU SEE SOMEONE FALL THROUGH THE ICE

Shout for **'HELP'** and dial **999** or **112** if you can

DO NOT walk on to the ice to attempt a rescue

Shout to the person to **'KEEP STILL'** and offer reassurance.

If they are close enough, **LIE DOWN TO AVOID OVERBALANCING** and falling onto the ice, and try to reach them with a tree branch clothing tied together or anything else which can extend your reach.

If you cannot reach them, **SLIDE SOMETHING** which floats across the ice, such as a plastic bottle or a football, so that they can hold on to it to stay afloat whilst help is on the way.

If they are too far away, **WAIT FOR THE EMERGENCY SERVICES** and reassure the casualty from the safety of the bank.

Every year children are at risk when they are tempted to play on the ice formed on open waters and adults find themselves at risk as they attempt to save them. Over 50 % of ice related drowning involved an attempted rescue of another person or a dog.

Areas with frozen waters can be beautiful to look at but they are also extremely dangerous. Here are some useful tips to help you enjoy these areas safely.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU FALL THROUGH THE ICE

Keep calm and shout 'help'

Spread your arms across the surface of the ice in front of you

Try to kick your legs and pull yourself out of the water and on to the ice

Lie flat, spreading your weight across the surface and pull yourself to the bank. you may find it easier to roll.

If you cannot climb out, wait for help and keep as still as possible. Keep your head above the water, press your arms by your side and keep your legs together

Once you are safe, it is important that you go to hospital immediately for a check up



We were all saddened to hear of events in Solihull. The children, their families and community are in our prayers.



Please share this advice with your child.

Cost of Living SUPPORT



Please check your ParentMail for a COST OF LIVING update, detailing school, local & national support available.

Please remember that the school operates an emergency fund for families who may need some additional support.

Here with a link to our latest newsletter: <https://t.co/4HoWeSwsFw>



We are called to be the hands and face of Jesus as we learn, love and grow together

Headteacher: Mr J White BEd (Hons) NPQH

St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Primary School
Bedwell Crescent, Stevenage, Herts., SG1 1NJ
Tel: 01438 729555
Email: admin@stvincent.herts.sch.uk
www.stvincent.herts.sch.uk

12th December 2022

Dear parents and carers

It has been a busy half term. I hope that you have enjoyed seeing images of the exciting things that your children have been up to on Twitter, Instagram and in the weekly Pupil Post document which has been ParentMailed to you. Before we find ourselves in the excitement of the final days, I wanted to update you on several matters.

Snowy surprise!

Heavy snowfall overnight has taken us all quite by surprise! Unfortunately, it was not possible to make the site safe enough to open today – our Site Manager is currently clearing and gritting all the paths ready for tomorrow. Many of our teaching staff live outside of Stevenage and the journey would have been treacherous for them today. Home learning is available as downloadable packs on the class pages of the website to keep everyone busy in between snow fun! Apologies to those parents who were due to attend today's first performance of the Nativity. I am unsure whether we will be able to fit in another performance but there are performances still on Wednesday & Thursday. The school site looks beautiful today.

Wednesday & Thursday
were our last days for the
**REVERSE ADVENT
CALENDAR**

giving.
Some of your donations
have already been
delivered to the **FOODSHED**
[@CaritasFood](#)



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But the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because it is by the power of the Holy Spirit that she is going to have a son. You must name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." When Joseph woke up, he did as the angel of the Lord had told him to do and took Mary into his home as his wife.



From the Gospel of Sunday 18th December 2022 Matthew 1:18-24 (the 4th Sunday of Advent, Year A)

**"The Birth of Jesus brings us
the good news that we are loved
immensely and uniquely by God."**

Pope Francis



Please read and
reflect upon the
gospel together



Hail **Mary**, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.