

### Journeying our way through Advent



Dear Parents,

We are rapidly approaching the end of term and are busily putting the finishing touches to the Christmas performances ready to share with you next week. The Christmas tree, adorned with decorations made by the children in EY, is standing tall, providing Christmas cheer in the school hall and it has been lovely to start displaying the crib scenes that the children have created, having taken the posadas home for the evening. Please continue to send these in if your child has brought the travelling crib home to host in your house for the evening.

The year 4 children across both of the partnership schools enjoyed joining together with other children from the Catholic pyramid for an Advent service at St Benedict's last week. The service provided the children with the opportunity to reflect on the true meaning of Christmas through the contributions made by each school. The children in Early Years have visited the Discovery Centre at the Cathedral over the past week to attend an advent workshop too.

We have spoken to the children in school this week about Christmas cards and have asked that as per the past couple of years, if the children would like to send a Christmas card to their class that is fine, but that we're not encouraging children to send individual cards to all class mates as we're trying to be eco friendly.

As ever, the last day of term is busy with Father Christmas visiting in the morning and the opportunity to enjoy a delicious Christmas dinner together with all the children in the key stage. The children can wear party clothes on the last day of term, but please be mindful of the time of year and ensure that the children are going to be warm enough!



### Eco council trip

Last week the Eco council, along with Miss Bridge, Mr Richardson, Mrs Vince and Mrs Bailey visited the recycling centre at Great Blakenham as part of their ongoing work to support us in recycling as efficiently as we can. During their visit they had the opportunity to see the recycling lines in action from various viewing platforms and strengthened their understanding of the different kinds of items that can and can't be recycled.

They had a quiz to help them learn more about recycling too. We're looking forward to them sharing more of the information they learnt with our whole school in the new year. In the meantime, they're continuing to monitor our classrooms and work spaces as part of their 'Switch Off' Fortnight campaign to reduce our energy usage .



## Yr 5 Trip to Duxford



Earlier this week the children in Yr 5 visited Duxford as part of their current history topic, learning about WW2. During their trip they had the opportunity to visit the Battle of Britain hanger and were shown a Doodlebug. They had a really informative gentleman who guided them round the exhibitions and shared his wealth of knowledge. The children saw an Anderson shelter and also visited the operations

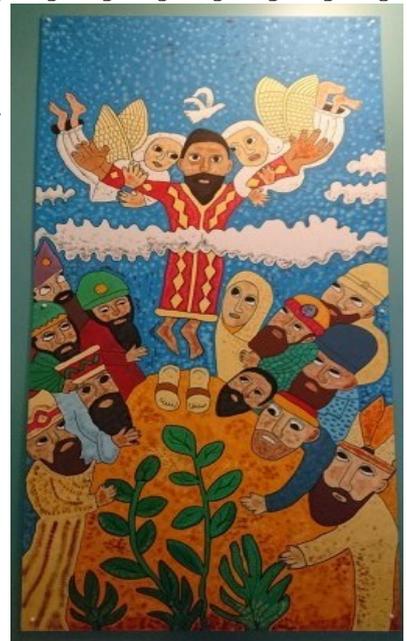
room too.

An added bonus to their trip was the timing of a Spitfire taking off! The children stood and marvelled at its sight and sound. You can't get much more authentic than that!



## Works of Art!

In the last newsletter I said watch this space for the completed murals which the KS2 children created during St Edmunds week. Well here they are! I'm sure you'll agree, they are stunning. Keep an eye out for them when you're in school as they look even better in real life!



## Toys from home

We are regularly reminding children that they shouldn't be bringing toys from home into school to play with. This is partly so that they don't get lost or damaged, causing unnecessary upset. It is also very difficult to identify who these belong to when they're not named. Most recently we've been inundated with questions about 'Moon balls' and whether these are allowed in school. The answer is no! Please help by reminding your child that items from home such as toys or games are not permitted. Thank you.

## Diary Dates

Mon 11th Dec	Yr4 trip to West Stow
Mon 11th Dec	EY/KS1 Dress rehearsal
Wed 13th Dec	EY/KS1 Concert - 2pm
Thur 14th Dec	Whole School Mass - 9am
Thur 14th Dec	EY/KS1 Concert - 6:30pm
Mon 18th Dec	KS2 Carol Concert 2:15pm
Tue 19th Dec	Christmas Lunch (Last day of term)
Wed 3rd Jan	PD Day (Children not in school)
Thur 4th Jan	Children return to school
Fri 26th Jan	EY/KS1 Disco 6-8pm