

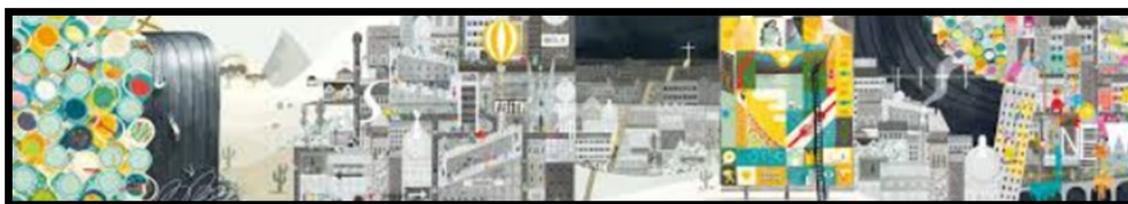
This week in school...

Staff Development Day

On Monday of this week, staff had a productive day in school learning about 'Read Write Inc. Phonics' – a new phonics programme which we will begin to implement this half term. Parents of Reception and Year 1 children will hear lots about this via Tapestry, Seesaw, parent meetings, letters...and hopefully from their children!

RE Day

On Tuesday we had an RE day in school when all classes looked at a piece of art (The Big Frieze) which depicts the 'Big Story of the Bible'. Using the frieze, we learnt more about the different parts of the story: Creation, The Fall, The People of God, Incarnation, The Gospel, Salvation and The Kingdom of God. Ask your children about the different parts of the Big Frieze; I'm sure you'll be amazed at what they know!



After studying the Big Frieze, each year group focused on one part of the story and every child created their own art work to depict this. There are some photographs of this wonderful work later in the newsletter. Additionally, each year group designed and painted a canvas illustrating their interpretation of the part of the story they had studied in depth. We are using these to create our version of the 'Big Frieze' which I will share with you once it has been installed.

New Playtime Equipment

Thanks to the PTFA, and the generosity of our parents, the children have enjoyed playing with some exciting new playtime and lunchtime equipment this week. £750 was donated (£50 per class) to purchase a range of giant games (jenga, connect 4, snakes and ladders, draughts, dominoes), balls, bats and balls, target games, ribbons on sticks, large skipping ropes, individual skipping ropes, French skipping ropes and target games. This equipment has been divided up to allow each bubble to have a box of play equipment. Each week the boxes are rotated (following a weekend of quarantine!) to keep playtimes varied and interesting. Thank you for your contributions to the PTFA and their fundraising efforts!

Seesaw

Thank you for embracing Seesaw – it is proving to be a great way to share and celebrate our children's learning. We welcome any comments relating to learning, but politely ask that you use the designated year group emails if you have any concerns or require a response from the teacher.

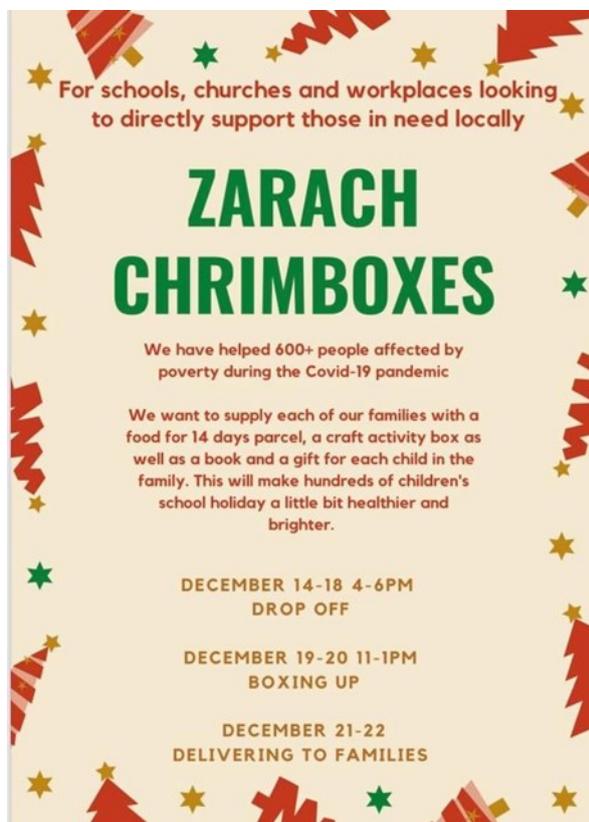
Covid-19 update

Today I have written to all parents and carers to remind everyone of the importance of adhering to the national Covid-19 restrictions. I understand that this is challenging, but we all need to play our part to reduce the infection rates in Leeds. I am hopeful that by acting now we will continue to keep our school bubbles open, our community healthy and our hospitals functioning in their widest sense.

Additionally, I am encouraged that we may be able to spend some precious time with our families at Christmas. Please can I ask that you read the letter sent home today to ensure you have a full understanding of what the current restrictions mean for you and your children.

Looking forward...

Christmas is coming, which is very exciting for many of us – but sadly not for everyone. Last year our reverse advent calendar initiative supported St Georges Crypt to feed and clothe many, many homeless people in Leeds. I'm sure you will agree that this year Christmas will pose an added challenge for many families. With this in mind, I would like to invite you to consider supporting Zarach. Zarach is an official charity, founded by one of our school families, which aims to ensure every child in Leeds has a bed to sleep in and food in their tummies. This Christmas, Zarach are hoping to support families in need with a "chrimbox". The 'chrimbox' will be filled with 2 weeks' worth of food, a small gift, a craft activity pack and a book. To do this, Zarach are asking for donations of specific items which are listed on the flyer below. To ensure we are supporting in a Covid-safe manner, **the Zarach van will be at school at drop off and pick up time on 10th December for parents to put their donations straight in.** Donations would then be left for 72 hours, before they are packed and delivered to families in need.



Christmas cards and gifts – designed by your child!

Please check out your child's beautiful Christmas artwork on 'mychildsart' there are some wonderful gifts for all the family! (More information in the PTFA section of the newsletter).

I hope you have a wonderful weekend!

Ashleigh Dunn
Headteacher

Our latest work

On Tuesday we had our RE drop down day. The children did lots of work on The Big Frieze.



Attendance

Well done to the following 3 classes with the best attendance for week 16.11.20—20.11.20

1J—100%

3W—100%

3L—99.2%

PTFA

We have more exciting Christmas news...

The children have completed their wonderful Christmas designs and they are ready for you to view and purchase your unique Christmas gifts for loved ones.

Due to COVID-19 and our ongoing work to restrict the spread of the virus, this year's designs have been uploaded to mychildsart where you can log in, order, pay and have your gifts delivered straight to your door!

Please visit the website to place your order at <https://mychildsart.co.uk/order/login/>

You'll find all the details on the image however if you're stuck don't fear, we'll be adding a process chart onto our Facebook page.

mychildsart
Working with **Manston St James Primary Academy**

Your child has uploaded a Christmas Drawing to our website!

To view, log into our website www.mychildsart.co.uk/order using your unique codes below:

Username

Password

NB: Username & password are case sensitive - so please be careful when entering the details into the portal.

VIEW NOW - This drawing

ST JAMES' CHURCH NEWS

During these next few weeks of lockdown, sadly once again, Churches are not being permitted to hold Services of Worship in their buildings, although we are not being asked to simply lock our doors for the next month—so we are thankful for that!

However, what is still possible is:-

We can still open for private / individual prayer at the times we designate and can safely oversee.

St James' Church will continue to be open for that purpose on a Wednesday afternoon between 1.30pm and 3pm (as has been our practice for some time now) and also on a Sunday morning between 9.30am and 11.30am.

During this time people can come into church and spend a brief amount of time in private prayer, or light a candle, or just have a bit of thinking time and space.

If you do come, you will be required to wear a face covering whilst in church and to adhere to our sanitising of hands and social distancing protocols as well being asked to sit in the seats designated. There will be people there to welcome and guide you through, and anyone is most welcome to pass through at those times.

Whatever these next few weeks may bring, be assured that following fast on their heels will be **Advent & Christmas**. As explained previously we are still keeping our tradition of POSADA – albeit in a rather different way. If you would like to take part in this way of 'welcoming the Christmas story figures' into your homes as we think of them travelling to Bethlehem, by placing a poster (or colouring a poster), to put into your windows on one of the days of Advent and saying / sharing a prayer as you do so, then please do still contact Angela Rhodes at – angela.rhodes120@ntlworld.com for more information and the necessary resources. Alternatively, simply keep your eyes peeled once Advent begins and look out for where you can see those homes in our Parish and neighbourhood which are displaying a poster.

We are very much hoping to be able to make further plans a little nearer Christmas for some other 'seasonal events' – but like everyone else we are having to be patient and to ***“Watch and Wait”*** – or should that be ***“Keep Calm and Pray”***!

With Love & Prayers for You All, at this time – Reverend Carolyn

carolyn.james117@btinternet.com Tel: 264 2685

Further, and updated, info available via **Web:** www.stjamesmanston.church or



St James the Great Manston

Notices

Communication—our main way of communicating at present is via text and email. This is done using our secure online Parentpay system. Please make sure your account has been activated. If you need assistance then please contact the school office.

Covid-19—if anyone in your household is symptomatic and goes for a Covid-19 test then the whole household must isolate. School MUST be notified once the test results are known. If the result is negative then your child can return to school.

Lost property—we have a lot of lost property that is unnamed. Can we please insist that school uniform, PE kit, coats, hat, gloves even shoes are clearly named so that we can ensure lost items are returned. A sharpie pen with name/initials and class works well, alternatively you can purchase washable stickers by following this link and using code 12872 <https://www.stikins.co.uk/>

Christian Value

Christian Value for this Term: *Perseverance*

‘Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up’ Galatians 6:9



At Manston St James we show Perseverance by:

- Overcoming challenges
- Believing in ourselves
- Not giving up and showing resilience
- Working hard and keeping practising
- Encouraging and supporting our friends

Dates for your Diary

Monday 14th December—PTFA Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 18th December—School breaks up for 2 weeks

Monday 4th January—school re-opens
Tuesday 19th January—PTFA meeting 7pm via Zoom

Safety

We take safety very seriously at our school. If you have any concerns or observations regarding health and safety please contact: ***Mrs Dunn or Mrs Cockerham.***

If you have any concerns or questions regarding Child Protection issues contact: ***Mrs Spofforth or Mr O'Dwyer***