Another term gone so quickly! I have enjoyed the Nativity Plays and Carols at the latter part of the term and I know the children have enjoyed taking part. It has been wonderful to see so many of you coming in to see your children take part in these events.

The Nativity plays were lovely and I am sure all will also enjoy the Carols with Candelight service Tuesday night.

The children across school have been very busy this term and there has been so much wonderful learning going on—we should all feel very proud of their achievements. I have been particularly impressed with some of the writing I have seen—we shall start to put some amazing writing on the website so that you can all enjoy this!

We all enjoyed the Christmas decorations day and the school was beautifully decorated for the Christmas Fair with their colourful baubles—unfortunately they did set the alarm off a few times! Apologies to Mr Langridge who kept getting phone calls!!

This morning we have enjoyed a lovely short concert by our many guitar players—they did really well performing in front of the whole school.

We are very pleased to confirm that Mrs Collier and Mrs Beach will be returning to school after the holidays. Mrs Beach will be joining Class 2 on Thursdays and Fridays and Mrs Collier will be in Class 6 on Mondays and Tuesdays. Mrs Collier will then be working in the office on Thursdays and Fridays. This means that we will be saying goodbye to Mrs Jacks. We have to say a big thank you to Mrs Jacks as she has made such a large contribution to the school in the short time she has been with us and the children in Class 2 have enjoyed learning with her.

We will also be saying goodbye to Mrs Reeves who has worked at St. Mary’s for many years and is now moving up to Yorkshire to start her new teaching career.

I wish you all a very Happy Christmas and very Best Wishes for the New Year 2019.
concert. We liked our hockey and
dance lessons in PE.

Class 5
We are reading Barnaby Brocket
and it’s very good. We also
enjoyed PE when we do netball
and hockey. We enjoyed RE when
we learnt about Jesus and how he
was born. We have enjoyed
learning about area and perimeter
in Maths and Asexual and sexual
reproduction in Science. We also
enjoyed watching the younger
children in their Nativity Plays.

Class 6 by Josh and Siena
We have enjoyed buddy time with
Class R. We really enjoyed the
work about the Invictus Games
and The Greatest Showman. We
loved learning to sew with Mrs
Andrews and designing our own
circus costume.

We have enjoyed taking
responsibilities with our Year 6 jobs.

Carols with Candlelight
It is our carols service this evening for
Key Stage 2. This is an important part
of the year for us as a Church School
and we look forward to seeing all the
Key Stage children with us.
Teacher highlight

Congratulations to Laura Reeves who qualified as a teacher with an outstanding report—fantastic! It has been a pleasure to support her in her training and the Year 6 classes have really benefitted from her input.

Laura is now moving on to start her new career and we wish her all the best as she moves up North!

Our teachers have been doing lots of learning themselves this term. 3 teachers have enjoyed Talk for Writing and I am sure the children will enjoy the activities from this approach in their writing. The whole staff team updated their knowledge of Safeguarding and Child Protection on the INSET day following the half term.

School Association

Thank you to the School Association who held a wonderful Christmas Fayre at the school raising a fantastic £1955! Thank you to all who came along.

I must also say a big thank you to the old School Association team who made so many wonderful contributions to our school over the past few years and a big welcome to the new team.

Attendance 3rd Sept—7th Dec 2018

Class R—96.0%
9 children with 100%

Class 1—94.4%
7 children with 100%

Class 2—95.6%
6 children with 100%

Class 3—96.8%
8 children with 100%

Class 4—97.6%
13 children with 100%

Class 5—97.0%
9 children with 100%

Class 6—97.4%
9 children with 100%

St Mary’s Church

The church now has a new website—do have a look on www.stmaryschurcheg.co.uk

Don’t forget the Christmas club at the Church and the lovely services they will be holding over Christmas—you will all be very welcome.

Last weekend was the Christmas Tree Festival in the church. Class 6 put together a tree using some of the pom poms they have been making to raise money for WaterAid. The visitors to the festival were impressed by the thoughtfulness of the children with this project and we won the ‘favourite tree’ competition—well done Class 6! A great demonstration of our Values of Responsibility and Service.
**St. Mary's Sports!**

Our Netball and football teams have been busy this term and have enjoyed some positive games. In school we have had kicks dance coaches in working with some classes and they have enjoyed this. We have had different sporting opportunities such as Girls fitness festival, sport hall athletics and cross country. Hopefully everyone has found some form of physical activity that they have enjoyed!

**Safeguarding/ E safety news and support**

Please ensure you are keeping an eye on the games and apps that the children are using on their phones and tablets—we have had some incidents in the past year of children accessing sites and having inappropriate ‘friends’ on social media sites.

We wanted to draw your attention to a social network game that appears to be doing the rounds recently called ‘Blue Whale’ which seems to be encouraging children and young people to self harm and ultimately commit suicide!

There is also a Whatsapp/facebook/youtube account called Moma that has been linked to threats and suicide.

I have attached the most recent Ditto magazine which is all about online safety.

**Readers/ Volunteers**

We are always looking for volunteers to help out in school—every class would welcome in readers and in class assistance with a range of projects.

Next term we will be starting to look at our Reflective garden and will be looking for anyone who can help out in the garden area—tidying up and digging!

**Our Christian Values**

The children have all been thinking about the value of **Perseverance** when learning about Growth Mindset and how important it is when learning.

**Parent Questionnaire**

We were very pleased with the outcomes of the recent parent questionnaire—please find attached a summary of the results. We have put some of your suggestions into place already as you will see from the comments.

**Upcoming Dates**

3rd January 2019—school opens
15th February 2019—school closes for half term
25th February 2019—school opens
28th February—Charlotte’s web show
7th/ 12th March—Parent Consultations
11th March—class photos
21st March – choir to Voice in a Million
1st—5th April—Year 6 France Residential
5th April—Stations of the Cross
5th April—End of Term

**Prayer Space by Luke H Class 6**

Dear Father

Please help people who have to spend Christmas on the streets or without loved ones. Thank you for all our presents. We are sorry for taking things for granted.

Amen