



Headteacher writes:

**“I am not afraid of storms, for I am learning how to sail my ship.”**

— *Louisa May Alcott, Little Women*

What a great start we have had to our Christmas celebrations. The sing-a-long was well attended and it was wonderful to share this with St John's Church. A huge thank you to Matt and his team for hosting us. On Wednesday, we held our annual Winter Fair at the infant site. As usual, it was well attended and we will let you know the amount raised for The Friends of Chester Park soon. Both of these events are good examples of bringing our community together. Thanks to all who organised and supported these events and for making them so successful.

We know that concerns relating to safeguarding increase as we approach the school holiday at Christmas. The reasons for the rise in risks to children has a number of reasons. Poverty and financial pressures impact families which can lead to conflict in the family home. Reports show there are spikes in domestic abuse and substance misuse during holidays. There is a risk that children have more unsupervised time on the internet. There are also reduced access to services due do public holidays and reduced capacity during holidays. If you are worried about any of these areas as Christmas approaches, please do speak to the school who will be able to offer signposting to areas for support and work with you to support safeguarding.

Gifts can be memorable and focused on wellbeing and experience and not necessarily on cost. Children often remember the excitement and shared experiences more than the item itself. Sometimes pairing gifts with an activity such as a family walk, a low cost outing or playing together can make lasting memories. Personal touches such as notes, photographs or handmade gifts can add emotional value. Gifts that link to creativity and play can be long lasting and support children in active engagement. Children value attention and connection so focusing on this may also be supportive.

Over the next two weeks, there are a number of opportunities where parents and carers can visit the school to see their children perform and sing. We do hope that as many of you as possible can come to these events. The children and staff have worked hard to prepare for these events and it is always lovely to see the joy that these aspects of school life bring.

Yours in partnership,  
Mike McNama, Headteacher



**Staff News**

Congratulations to Miss Amy Ford who has given birth to a baby boy!

Congratulations to Uzma Ashfaq and Gloria Acheampong who will be joining our learning support teams from January 2026. Charlotte Ostrehan will be returning from maternity leave in January 2026 and Roula Kanafani, playleader will be leaving us at the end of this term. We wish her good luck for the future.

**City Church at the Junior School**

City Church recently held a Christmas pudding event at the junior school. 60 puddings were made and over 100 people attended, including quite a few from the school community and some neighbours of the school. There was a real community feel which was lovely.

City Church would also like to invite you to their Carol service at the Junior School at 11am on the 14th December. The service will last about an hour and involves readings, carols, a short talk and activities for the children.



*You are invited to watch the junior school performances*

## Wednesday 10th December

Year 3 & 4 Christmas Performance 9.30am  
Year 5 & 6 Performance 2pm  
at Junior School

## Thursday 11th December

Year 5 & 6 Christmas Performance 9.30am  
Year 3 & 4 Performance 2pm  
at Junior School



### Christmas Jumper Day



On **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December**, we will be supporting **Save the Children's Christmas Jumper Day**. Please send your child to school in a festive jumper, if you have one, with a £1 contribution to the appeal.



Save the Children  
**CHRISTMAS  
JUMPER DAY**

### Christmas Lunch

On **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December**, we will be serving the Christmas menu only. There will be no other meal choices other than the ones below. If your child does not want the Christmas menu, you will need to provide a packed lunch. Thank you.

FOOD FESTIVAL  
**FESTIVE FUN**

**Friday 12th December**

Roast Turkey & Stuffing  
Or  
Roasted Vegetable, Cranberry & Cheese Puff Pastry Wreath  
With  
Roasties, Yorkshire Pudding, Christmas Vegetable Medley and Gravy  
Rudolph's Nose Cookie  
Or  
Christmas Shortbread

FOOD FESTIVAL  
**FESTIVE FUN**

**Friday 12th December**

Halal Roast Turkey & Stuffing  
Or  
Roasted Vegetable, Cranberry & Cheese Puff Pastry Wreath  
With  
Roasties, Yorkshire Pudding, Christmas Vegetable Medley and Gravy  
Rudolph's Nose Cookie  
Or  
Christmas Shortbread

Everyone is very warmly welcome to any of these Services.

It would be lovely to see you.



with Christmas wishes  
St John's Church,  
Lodge Causeway

## **CHRISTMAS AT ST JOHN'S CHURCH**

### **Saturday 15th November**

10.00am-2.00pm Christmas Fair

### **Sunday 7th December**

10.30am Family Advent Service

### **Sunday 14th December**

4.00pm Eucharist and Christingle

### **Thursday, 18th December**

7.00pm Carols in the Pub  
(The Spotted Cow)

### **Sunday 21st December**

10.30am Morning Eucharist  
6.30pm Carols by Candlelight

### **Christmas Eve**







5.30pm Crib Service  
11.15pm Midnight Mass

### **Christmas Day**

10.30am Benefice Service at  
St John's Church

### **Sunday 28th December**

10.30am Benefice Service at  
St Aidan's Church, Fir Tree Lane,  
St George

	<b>Dojo Hero</b> 	<b>Pot of Gold</b> 		<b>Dojo Hero</b> 	<b>Gold Card</b> 
<b>Class</b>	<b>Infant School</b>		<b>Class</b>	<b>Junior School</b>	
<b>Badger</b>	Zakariyya		<b>Pine</b>	Bruno	Elsie, Lyra
<b>Rabbit</b>	Rozita	Jihanul	<b>Willow</b>	Benedict	Jason, Aliyah
<b>Squirrel</b>	Izzy		<b>Cedar</b>	Anaya	Hussein, Kairo
<b>Bumblebee</b>	Georgina		<b>Hazel</b>	Alana	Ayse, Ela, Saaliha
<b>Hedgehog</b>	Hajra	Nella, Grace	<b>Chestnut</b>	Alara	Mohammad, Kyrell
<b>Otter</b>	Izzy		<b>Hawthorn</b>	Caiden	Phoebe, Aliyah
<b>Owl</b>	Haider	Haider, Annabelle	<b>Sycamore</b>	Theo	Ollie
<b>Fox</b>	Peggy	Oliver, Subhaan, Vinnie, Ewan	<b>Maple</b>	Prince	Amaya, Nadrin
<b>Ducklings</b>			<b>Ash</b>	Ethan	Elaina, Leo
			<b>Whitebeam</b>	Safwaan	Joseph, Raheeq
			<b>Hornbeam</b>	Kumba	Daniel, Kevin
<b>Congratulations to this weeks winners!</b>			<b>Oak</b>	Shayla	Jayden, Ollie

<b>Class</b>	<b>Weekly Attendance</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>Weekly Attendance</b>
<b>Badger</b>	87.1%	<b>Pine</b>	94.0%
<b>Rabbit</b>	88.8%	<b>Willow</b>	91.2%
<b>Squirrel</b>	86.9%	<b>Cedar</b>	91.9%
<b>Bumblebee</b>	93.2%	<b>Hazel</b>	96.8%
<b>Hedgehog</b>	87.9%	<b>Chestnut</b>	91.1%
<b>Otter</b>	96.3%	<b>Hawthorn</b>	98.3%
<b>Owl</b>	88.0%	<b>Sycamore</b>	98.4%
<b>Fox</b>	91.2%	<b>Maple</b>	82.6%
		<b>Ash</b>	96.3%
		<b>Whitebeam</b>	90.0%
		<b>Hornbeam</b>	90.4%

# Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 10th December—Year 3 & 4 Christmas Performance 9.30am & Year 5 & 6 Performance at 2pm at Junior School

Thursday 11th December—Year 5 & 6 Christmas Performance 9.30am & Year 3 & 4 Performance at 2pm at Junior School

Friday 12th December—Christmas Lunch & Festive Jumper Day

Tuesday 16th December—Year 2 Christmas Performance—2pm

Wednesday 17th December—Year 1 Christmas Performance—2pm

Thursday 18th December—Reception Year Christmas Performance—2pm

Friday 19th December—Christmas Party Day

Friday 19th December—End of Term 2

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Monday 5th January—Start of Term 3

Tuesday 10th February—Share our Learning Evening 3.30-6pm

Thursday 12th February— Share our Learning Evening 3.30-6pm

Friday 13th February—End of Term 3

Monday 23rd February—Start of Term 4

Wednesday 4th March—Friends of Chester Park Holi Colour Run—More information to follow

Thursday 5th March—World Book Day— Children can dress as a book character for the day!

Friday 13th March—Red Nose Day

Thursday 19th March— Inset Day—School Closed to all pupils

Friday 20th March—Inset Day—School Closed to all pupils

Monday 23rd March—Eid Party & Coffee Morning—More information to follow

Week Beginning 30th March—Easter Cake Sale—More information to follow

Thursday 2nd April—End of Term 4

Monday 20th April—Start of Term 5

Tuesday 19th May—Infant School Sports Day

Wednesday 20th May—Junior School Sports Day

Friday 22nd May—End of Term 5

Monday 1st June—Start of Term 6

1st—5th June—Chester Park Belonging Week—More information to follow

Friday 5th June—Belonging Picnic and Summer Fair from 2pm

Tuesday 21st July—End of Term 6

## City Church Carols 11am 14th December at Chester Park Juniors

Everyone is welcome to join us at our carol service. The service will include carols, readings, activities for kids, and a short talk. Festive refreshments will be served after the service.



# strengthening families strengthening communities



Every Thursday from 15<sup>th</sup> January 2026 for 11 sessions, excluding school holidays. Last session on 2<sup>nd</sup> April.

9.15am to 12.15pm, Settlement Site, Ducie Road, BS5 0AX

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