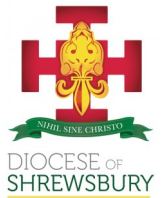




St. Monica's Primary School

Newsletter 8th December 2023



Dear Parents and Carers,

This week we were really pleased to welcome to our school the inspirational speaker Bart Gee. Bart has a rare physical disability called Arthrogryposis which means that he has weak muscles and stiff joints. After Bart was born, doctors said he would never walk and may not ever have the strength to be able to sit up independently, and he would have a bleak outlook to life. Bart spoke to the whole school about his life growing up, and explained how he has overcome some of the many challenges he has faced, and faces every day.

Following that our Year 1 - 6 pupils had workshops with Bart where they had a taste of what life with Bart's particular physical challenges can be like. The pupils were in awe when Bart showed them videos of his triathlon achievements, and then he wowed us all with his beautiful piano playing.

The overall message, and theme of the afternoon, was "Turning disability into possibility" and Bart's message to all of our children was that hard is still possible, difficult is still possible, challenging is still possible, so don't give up on things, but persevere to find the way that you can learn or accomplish something that you want to do.

At the end of the afternoon it was wonderful to hear how inspired the children were by Bart, and how much they had enjoyed his talk. I hope that they shared some of what they learnt and reflected on with you at home.



As we move into the Second Week of Advent, where we light the candle of Peace, I wish all of you the peace and joy of Christ in your lives, and hopefully the chance to find a small slice of time for yourselves in this busy season.

Mrs J. Pearson

Headteacher

School Christmas Fayre

Today we hold our annual Christmas Fayre and I would like to take this opportunity to thank the FOSM committee, the class reps for all their work in organising the event, and thanks to you, our supporters.

Contact :
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Plea for sponsorship

With the school budget being as tight as it is, I would like to reach out to our St Monica's community for sponsorship help with some projects in school.

Our first project we would really appreciate help with is to upgrade the facilities in the staffroom. Our kitchen area for staff is small, and our appliances are now coming to the end of their life. In particular our fridges (we have two small ones) and our dishwasher are not working to their optimum, and have parts broken due to age. Do you know a kitchen company who would take this on as a charitable project? Do you know someone who can sponsor us to raise money to replace the white goods? Any help you can provide in talking to contacts would be highly appreciated. The children and their resources always come first, which is how the staffroom has not had the share of the love it desperately needs.

Parking - Disabled access to school

It has come to my attention that our disabled parking bays at the front of school are regularly being taken up by people parking without badges. We have parents who require the disabled bays on a daily basis, and this is causing them regular issues with access.

Can I ask you to please be considerate to other visitors and leave these bays free for their purpose. Thank you

Junior Safety Officers

We would like to thank everyone who took part in our competition. We will display as many entries as possible on our JSO noticeboard.

KS1

Winner: Gabrielle

Runner up-Marisa

KS2

Winner-Naya

Runnerup-Liesel



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ST JOSEPH'S FAMILY CENTRE CHRISTMAS APPEAL 2023



Suggested Donations

You can donate online <https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/24366> or by **scanning the QR code**.

You can also donate food items to help fill our Christmas hampers.



Chocolate Treats	Gravy	Tea	Cereal
Cooking Sauces	Tinned Fish	Tinned Fruit	
Christmas Puddings	Mince Pies	Stuffing	
Biscuits	Tinned Potatoes	Crackers	Custard
Rice Pudding	Tinned Meat	Jam	

Thank you for your kindness and generosity!

St Joseph's Family Centre

As Christmas approaches, we are reminded of the importance of family and community.

This year, St Joseph's are asking for your support in raising money to provide families with vouchers to put food on the table, purchase gifts for their children and help create cherished memories. Everyone deserves to feel the warmth and kindness that Christmas can bring. Your help and support can make that a reality.

St Joseph's Family Centre, 9 Museum Street, Warrington WA1 1JA
Registered Charity No. 1180172. Tel: 01925 635448 Email: contact@sjfc.org.uk

Advent Giving Tree - St Joseph's Family Centre, Warrington

Just as we did last year, during Advent we would like to reach out to our Warrington community and think of others who may not be in the financial position to have full tables at Christmas. We would invite you to join us in donating something from the provided list to go to St Joseph's Family Centre for their Christmas Hamper appeal. Please drop items into school and we will put them under our school tree until we take them over to the centre the week that we break up.

Important Dates for Diaries

Tuesday 12th December	Infant Nativity at Church 17:00 (Please note that this is an amended time)
Wednesday 13th December	KS2 Strings Concert in the Hall 09:30
Wednesday 13th December	KS2 Drama Club Panto in the Hall 18:00
Thursday 14th December	School Christmas Dinner—please order in advance
Thursday 14th December	KS2 Carol Concert at St Monica's Church at 18:00
Friday 15th December	Rock Steady Concert in the Hall at 10:00
Monday 18th December	KS1 Christmas Party after lunch in the Hall
Tuesday 19th December	KS2 Christmas Party after lunch in the Hall
Tuesday 19th December	School closes for Christmas at 15:30

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