**St James’ Pre-School Newsletter**

**November 2019**

Welcome to our November edition of the Newsletter.

**FUNDRAISING NEWS**

Everyone had fun at our **Autumn disco** and we raised £308.67 thanks to your generous support.

We had our first collection from Roberts Recycle on Friday 8th November, 100KGs of clothing, shoes and accessories were donated giving us a payment of £50. We will be having additional collections in February and June, all donations are welcome.

We rely heavily on fundraising efforts like these so thank you again to all those who supported these events.

With a very busy term ahead and Christmas just around the corner, we’ve got some important dates for your diaries.

**Photographer visit** – Phil the photographer will be visiting pre-school on **Friday 22nd November** with photographs available to buy shortly afterwards. If your child does not attend Pre-School on a Friday, you are welcome to come with your child at the start of the session and have their photograph taken. Children who attend our Parent and Toddler group are also welcome, to have their photographs taken.

**NATIVITY AND CHRISTMAS FAIR**

Our Nativity and Christmas Fair will be held on **Friday 13th December** at **9.45a.m.** in **St James’ Church**. We would like to ask that the girls come dressed as **angels** and the boys as **shepherds**. Costumes should be kept simple with angels wearing as much white as possible (e.g. white top, white tights and silver tinsel for headdresses etc.) Shepherds can be dressed in dad’s striped shirt or pyjama jacket with a tea towel and tie for the head. Costumes can be bought or made so it’s time to get creative!

All of our boys and girls help to make the Nativity a success – some of the older children will be allocated a part – we’ll let you know, as soon as possible, costumes will be allocated shortly. The children will be working hard in Pre-School learning the songs for the Nativity, but we would be grateful if you could also practise the songs at home. A song sheet is attached – we want the boys and girls to enjoy themselves and have fun, so it doesn’t matter if they’re not word perfect; *it’ll be alright on the night!*

We ask that you drop the children off at Pre-School for registration at **9.15** as usual and then make your way over to Church. We also ask that the children come already dressed in their costumes, ready for their performance. Parents will be given the opportunity to take photographs at the end of the performance and then you will be able to collect your child back at Pre-School where they must be signed out by a member of staff. Normal fees will apply, but as it is an extremely busy morning, we would be grateful if you could let us know if your child will be attending the Nativity and, if possible, pay the fee in advance.

Following on from the Nativity will be our **Christmas Fair**. Stalls will include tombola, toys, books, cd’s, dvd’s, bottles, cakes etc. (volunteer cake makers needed please!) If you have anything to donate (new or good condition items to be used for prizes in the tombola) please bring it to Pre-School during your child’s normal attendance on the run up to the Nativity and Christmas Fair.(Cake donations can be brought along on the morning of the Fair).

Raffle tickets will be on sale shortly and we’ll have lots of fantastic prizes. (The raffle will be drawn at the end of the morning of the Christmas Fair so please buy some tickets and good luck).

There will also be a Café available selling various refreshments and Santa will be paying a visit and is looking forward to meeting the children.

Programmes for the Nativity will be on sale shortly at a cost of £2.00. Everyone attending will require a programme to gain admittance.

We will also be holding three **Fancy Dress Days** on **Monday 2rd December, Wednesday 4th December** and

**Friday 6th December**. The children can come to Pre-school on these dates dressed in fancy dress or as their favourite character. We’d be grateful if children taking part could donate an item to be used as prizes on our tombola stall (bottles/new or nearly new gift sets/chocolates etc.) **One** donation covers the whole week and donations can be brought in at any time during the week beginning Monday 2rd December.

**The Nativity and Christmas Fair is our main fundraising event of the year and your support is extremely important to us** **so please donate generously.** Thank you for your continued support, if anyone is able to give some time to help on our stall’s we’d love to hear from you.

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**Christmas Jumper Week** this year will be **Monday 9th December – Thursday 12th December** (Friday 13th Nativity). For a donation of £1, the children are welcome to wear their best festive jumper all week. One £1 donation covers children for the whole of Christmas jumper week.

Our **Christmas party** will be held on **Friday 20th December**.

All Pre-school children are welcome to attend and should arrive at Pre-School at the usual time of 9.15 a.m. **Children can be collected after the party at 11.30 a.m.** Normal fees apply and we would be grateful if you could let us know if your child will be attending and pay fees in advance.

**Pre-school will finish for the Christmas break on Friday 20th December and children will return on**

**Tuesday 7th January 2020.**

As some of you may know, we've recently created a new 'closed' Facebook account for pre-school parents, staff and trustees. We've been sharing lots of information about pre-school life and you are welcome to join the group by clicking on the link below:-

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/378524612735939/?ref=share>

Our Assistant Manager, Suzanne Welsh, is an administrator for the account and she will approve all posts/photographs and requests to join the group. However, if you do not wish photo's of your child to be included, please let Deb or Suzanne know as soon as possible.



**Dates for your diary**

* Photographer visit - Friday 22nd November
* Dress up days - Monday 2rd, Wednesday 4th, Friday 6th December
* Christmas Jumper week - Monday 9th – Thursday 12th December
* Nativity and Christmas Fair - Friday 13th December
* Pre-school closes for Christmas break - Friday 20th December (Party day)
* Children return to Pre-School - Tuesday 7th January 2020

The Team at St James’ would like to thank you for reading this newsletter.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

St James’ Pre-School

*A non-profit organisation*

*Charity number 1160127*

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