**St James’ Pre-School Newsletter**

**November 2021**

We are happy to say all of our children have settled back in great after half term.

**FUNDRAISING NEWS**

Thank you to everyone who has supported our fundraising so far, as a not-for-profit charity we rely heavily on fundraising. Due to the pandemic, we missed out on many fundraising opportunities and fun events for everybody. The autumn fundraising disco was well attended, the children seemed to enjoy it. Thanks to everyone who supported us by buying tickets, raffle tickets, snacks, and drinks. Thanks to all for the generous cake donations too we raised an amazing £394.45.

We had our collection from Roberts Recycle on Friday 5th November, clothing, shoes and accessories were donated giving us a payment of £98.35. We will be having additional collections in the new year; all donations are welcome.

If anybody can donate any raffle prizes through their work, we would be grateful. We have seen a huge decrease in our fund-raising efforts due to COVID but now strive to make it successful again. If anyone is interested in helping with fundraising, please speak to Deb or Suzanne. Well done and thank you again, it has been a great start to the year!

**Famly App**

By now you should have all received an invitation to login to the Famly App. We hope you are enjoying the posts and photos of your child’s Learning Journey here at St James. Feel free to add any comments or share any news/photographs from home as it all adds to your child’s Learning Journey. Watch out for updates, Caterpillars will usually post a full summary of the weeks activities on Fridays and the Butterfly group post through the week, take a look at the fantastic learning opportunities they are experiencing. You can report your child’s absence on the app, if you do can you please add a comment to explain especially if absence is due to sickness. Thanks.

Glitter Season is approaching!!!! Apologies in advance for the Glittery Artwork that will soon be heading your way.

**NATIVITY AND CHRISTMAS FAIR**

We are delighted to announce our Nativity and Christmas Fair will be held on **Friday 17th 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 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 are now on sale**. We have a Luxury Food Hamper and lots of other 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 are on sale now** at a cost of £2.00. Everyone attending will require a programme to gain admittance.

We will also be holding a **Fancy Dress Week** from **Monday 6th December - Friday 10th 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 6th 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 can give some time to help on our stalls we’d love to hear from you.

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**Christmas Jumper Week** this year will be **Monday 13th December – Thursday 16th December** (Friday 17th 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 **Wednesday 22nd 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 Wednesday 22nd December and children will return on**

**Thursday 6th January 2022.**

**Dates for your Diary**

**Dress up Days - Monday 6th - Friday 10th December**

**Christmas Jumper Week - Monday 13th - Thursday 16th December**

**Nativity & Christmas Fair - Friday 17th December**

**Christmas Party - Wednesday 22nd December**

**Break-up For Christmas - Wednesday 22nd December -11.30a.m.**

**Return to Pre-school - Thursday 6th January 2022**

The team at St James would like to thank you for reading this newsletter!

St James’ Pre-School Woolton Ltd *A non-profit organisation*

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