



Headteacher: Mrs Lorraine Collins BA(hons), MA

12<sup>th</sup> January 2024

## Our Value this half term is Forgiveness

Dear Parents, Carers and Pupils,

**Blessing for 2024** In worship on Monday, as part of our Epiphany service, we invited God to bless our school community and show that everyone is welcome here by 'chalking the door'.

The chalking of the door is a traditional way of blessing your home and those who live there. The writing outside the door is also a symbol of welcome. Each class then wrote 20+C+M+B+24 next to their classroom door (see photos on following page). Inside the dates of the new year (20-24) are the initials of the names traditionally given to the wise men who came from the east; Caspar, Malchior, and Balthazar. Their initials also abbreviate the Latin words, *Christus mansionem benedicat* which means "May Christ bless the house."

We also said this prayer:

"Loving Father, Bless our home, all who live here and those who visit us. May this home be a place of goodness, kindness and patience, where everyone shows love for each other. May everyone feel welcome, safe, accepted and supported here. Amen."

**Author visit next week** We are looking forward to author C. S. Clifford visiting us on Wednesday and Thursday next week. Years 1 - 6 will receive a writing challenge followed by class workshops linked to the visiting author's books.

Children may purchase a copy of one of C. S. Clifford's books on the day; alternatively, to secure a copy, they can order a copy in advance using the slip in the e-mail sent earlier this week. Please look at the following website: [www.csclifford.co.uk](http://www.csclifford.co.uk) to decide which book you wish to purchase. **Slips and money must be sealed in a named envelope with the child's full name and class and returned by Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January. Please enclose the correct money as change cannot be given.**

At the end of the day, Steve Clifford will be available to sign any purchased books and meet parents and children.

**Reading for Enjoyment** As a school we promote and encourage reading for enjoyment with all our children. We would like to extend this to parents and carers. Inside our entrance is a small bookcase with books that you can borrow; please just return them when you have finished them.

If you have a book that you have enjoyed and would like to leave it for someone else to read, please do. We would welcome any books in languages other than English so that we can meet the needs of our diverse school community. Thank you very much, and happy reading!



**Safety Online Simplified 14**

**Does your child have a STEAM account?** This is one of the most popular social gaming networks that allows you to chat with other players or friends, as well as to buy and play games online and store them in the cloud. Use the [safety guide found here](#) (PDF or video format) to keep you up to date and keep your children safe.

### Achievements

Each week we focus on a learning behaviour and one or two children who display this behaviour in each class will receive a certificate in celebration of this. Our learning behaviour this week has been **Questioning**.

Congratulations to: **YR:** Andrzej; **Y1:** Freya & Harry; **Y2:** David; **Y3:** James; **Y4:** Habel; **Y5:** Nathanael & Beau; **Y6:** Adwraith.

Next week we will be focusing on *Teamwork*.

### House points

We are keeping a weekly tally of the number of House points each House has as well as a running total.

The overall total number of points so far this year for each House is:

St Andrew:	1344
St Francis:	1321
St Catherine:	1310
St Clare:	1296

We said a fond **farewell to Mr Emmings** on Wednesday, who has retired after 13 years here. He is still part of the Friends of the school so we can look forward to seeing him here at some events in the future. Please do say 'hello' to our new Site Manager, Mr Wildman, when you see him at school.

**Cold weather procedures** Please keep an eye out for an e-mail which we will be sending home today with details of our cold weather procedures, should they be necessary in the coming weeks. Thank you.

Have a great weekend! **Mrs Collins**

**Learning, Loving, Living in God's Family**

*"But I am like an olive tree flourishing in the house of God; I trust in God's unfailing love forever and ever. Psalm 52:8*

# Blessing for 2024



**Year 2** wrote theirs on the wall opposite the classroom so it could be seen by them all day.



**Year 4**



**Year 4**  
(second wall)



**Year 6**

## Diary Dates

- **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January** – Deadline for Reception applications to start in September 2024
- **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> & Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January** – Author visit
- **Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January** – Y4 Swimming begins
- **Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> – Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January** - Y5 Cycle Training
- **Monday 19<sup>th</sup> – Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February** – Half Term
- **First week after half term** – Parent/Carer Consultation evenings (details to follow)
- **Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March** – Last Day of Term – Early finish 1:30pm - No After School Club
- **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April** – Back to School