



Next Steps @ St Johns



Working together to build a firm foundation for learning and caring

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20th December 2024

This week at Nursery . . .

What an exciting week we have had at Nursery! The children have enjoyed making some festive 'Rice Krispie' cakes and of course, a few couldn't resist licking the bowl to ensure everything was safe for the others; taste testing is always allowed when baking!



The children impressed us so much with their fantastic behaviour when we went to church on Wednesday. They walked to and from the church really well, and once inside they sat beautifully. Their singing was adorable and we felt really proud to see them all stood at the front, confidently singing 'Away in a Manger'. We hope that those of you who joined us enjoyed the service and the wonderful singing. We would like to extend a huge thank you to the parents (and grandparents) who volunteered their time to help us walk the children to and from church; we really appreciate your support.

The children also enjoyed a festive Christmas lunch on Wednesday afternoon. They spent some time making sparkly reindeer party hats (which of course meant that they needed little red noses too!) and wore them to the dinner hall. Once there, they soaked up the Christmassy atmosphere with music, Christmas dinner and lots of helpful members of staff from across the school to say hello!

The day was then rounded off so nicely with our pyjama party! It was lovely to see all of the children in their snuggly outfits, it felt very festive and cosy! They enjoyed watching the 'Stick Man' film with us and then had hot chocolate and a gingerbread biscuit, before heading to the studio to sing for you all! The singing was fantastic and again, we felt so proud of them. They have worked really hard to perfect the lyrics and the Makaton signs; well done to them all!



STAR OF THE WEEK



Remi

for making good choices
and showing great
listening skills.

Well done !



Next term, we will run a Forest School session on a **Tuesday**. If your child attends on a Tuesday, they will be invited to join in with going to the woodland space. If you would like to provide a waterproof suit and wellies please do so at the beginning of the term (ensuring they are named/labelled). We do have some nursery spares to protect clothing if needed.

We would like to thank you for the kind cards and gifts you have been sending in, - we are certainly not going to be short of chocolate for a long time!

We hope that you all have a wonderful Christmas time with family and friends. We cannot wait to hear about the things the children get up to, and if they were lucky enough to have a visit from Father Christmas! What an exciting couple of weeks ahead!

On a personal level, I would like to extend my thanks to the wonderful staff team at Next Steps who have worked really hard this term (as always), to ensure that the children have been able to enjoy so many Christmas experiences. Their dedication to the children and our families often goes above and beyond what is expected and I am sure you join me in hoping that they enjoy a restful time with their families. It is definitely time to re-charge the batteries and switch off for a little while; very well deserved!

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Libby, Lou and the Next Steps Team.



REMINDER

As the school is closed next Monday (23rd December), please remember to send in a packed lunch. Please also remind yourself of the Nursery closure dates and when packed lunches will be required.

Finance

A reminder that if you intend to claim Working Parent Entitlement funding for the Spring Term, please ensure that you have applied for, or renewed, prior to December 31st 2024.

Please note that if you intend to claim any funded hours for the Spring term, a declaration form will need to be completed. These have been e-mailed out for completion and should be returned to the nursery or the school office as soon as possible.

Dates for the Diary

23rd December: School closed. Please bring a packed lunch.

24th December - 2nd January: Closed for Christmas holidays.

3rd January 2025: School closed. Nursery WILL be open. Please bring a packed lunch.

6th January: School INSET Day. Nursery WILL be open. Please bring a packed lunch.