



## Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Dear Parents

As we approach the end of another busy term, we've a few reminders for parents:

Term ends on Wednesday 14th December, infants at 11.45am, juniors at midday and seniors at 12.15pm. Pupils may come to school in non-uniform clothes on the last day of term and for the privilege should bring in a £1 charitable donation. A reminder to senior pupils to bring lockers keys which are so often forgotten on non-uniform days.

If we experience extreme weather conditions during the coming months school will remain open as much as possible. Parents should consult the school website for information.

We wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year. Spring term commences on Monday 9th January.

### Carol Service at Saint Mary's Church

Following a break last year, the Christmas Carol Service will return to its usual venue at Saint Mary's Church in Churchgate Street on Tuesday 13th December at 2pm. All junior and senior pupils will attend, and we'd like to extend an invitation to junior and senior parents. However, the church has recently undergone some refurbishment and the seating has been reorganised and space is **EXTREMELY LIMITED** so some parents will have to stand at the back. There are limited parking opportunities in Churchgate Street so it would be preferable for parents to park in the school playground from 1.30pm and walk along to the church.

### Reception Reindeer Walk

Form RA went on a reindeer walk with bells and puppets.



## Dates for your diary

**Infant and Junior Christmas parties Monday 12th December.** Infant and junior children will be playing party games and enjoying 'being festive' on this afternoon. Children should bring some party clothes to change into in the afternoon. Please ensure your child's party clothes are in a named carrier bag. Miss Jones has requested that infants bring a coat and wear sensible shoes.

Party food for the infant party should be brought to school on Monday morning.

**Infant Pantomime trip Tuesday 13th December.** Children must be in school at 8.10am sharp. They will all need a packed lunch and one small bottle of water.

**Senior trip to see The Wizard of Oz Wednesday 14th December.** Tickets have now all gone. The coach will leave school at 5pm and return at approximately 11.30pm.

## School Clubs

After school clubs have now finished for this term. We have information about two new clubs which will commence in the spring term:

### NRG Soccer Elite

We have a new football club starting after Christmas, and as an introduction, the club will also run every day from Monday 19th-Thursday 22nd December. NRG Soccer Elite will be an evening club ie it will start at around 6pm on probably Monday and Wednesday evenings. It will also run on Saturday mornings. Full details of the club are attached. The club is open to all Saint Nicholas pupils and forms must be handed to the school office by **Tuesday 13th December**. Final details will then follow from the organisers. Please speak directly to the organisers (contact details on the attached form) if you have any queries.

### Dance Action

The new junior street dance club will commence after Christmas. Uptake has been a little slow so if your child would like to participate in this exciting new club please ask the school office to will add his/her name to the list. Further details will then follow from the organisers.

# The Friends Saint Nicholas School

The Friends would like to thank parents, pupils and teachers for supporting our various projects and events this term. Congratulations to Erin Norris from the infants and Daniel Winter from the seniors who won the Design a Poster Competition (the junior winner will be announced in the next newsletter). Well done to St Albans who brought in the most donations for the Christmas Fayre and won 50 extra house points. Results: St Albans 48, St George 43, St Francis 35 and St Christopher 32.

Next term we look forward to some exciting events, starting with a charity fund-raising coffee morning at school on Friday 13th January.

## Senior Trip to Berlin



GCSE German and history pupils enjoyed a trip to Berlin last weekend. The trip included visits to the Brandenburg Gate, Plötzensee Prison, Bebelplatz and the Christmas markets. Thank you to Mrs Pantall, Mr Banks, Mr Ayres and Mrs Newland for accompanying the pupils on this wonderful trip.

## Where Are They Now?

Richard Geddes (class of 2003) and Louise Lacey (class of 2007) popped in recently to tell us about their new ventures. Richard has recently become a driving instructor and drives for Red Driving School, and Louise has opened a pet grooming parlour in Harlow. Richard can be contacted at [Richardwithred@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Richardwithred@hotmail.co.uk)/07841 867671 and Louise is at [the-grooming-room@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:the-grooming-room@hotmail.co.uk)/07939 072015.

Ben Southon (class of 2005) is a photographer. More information about Ben's work can be found at [www.bensouthonphotography.com](http://www.bensouthonphotography.com)

## GCSE Science

Parents and pupils may access the AQA website via the link below to download past GCSE science papers and mark schemes. There are plenty of papers, both Foundation and Higher, for pupils to use in preparation for Units 1 and 2.

[http://web.aqa.org.uk/qual/newgcse/science/new/scienceb\\_materials.php?id=03&prev=03](http://web.aqa.org.uk/qual/newgcse/science/new/scienceb_materials.php?id=03&prev=03)

## Term Dates 2011 – 2013

### *Autumn Term 2011*

#### **Term ends**

Wednesday 14th December

### *Spring Term 2012*

#### **Start of term**

Monday 9th January

#### **Half Term**

Saturday 11th to

Sunday 19th February

#### **Term ends**

Friday 30th March

### *Summer Term 2012*

#### **Start of term**

Monday 23rd April

Bank Holiday Monday 7th May

#### **Half Term**

Saturday 2nd to Sunday 10th June

#### **Term ends**

Friday 6th July

### *Autumn Term 2012*

#### **Start of term**

Monday 3rd September

#### **Half Term**

Saturday 20th October to Sunday  
4th November

#### **Term ends**

Friday 14th December

### *Spring Term 2013*

#### **Start of term**

Monday 7th January

#### **Half Term**

Saturday 16th February to Sunday  
24th February

#### **Term ends**

Wednesday 27th March

### *Summer Term 2013*

#### **Start of term**

Monday 22nd April

Bank Holiday Monday – 6th May

#### **Half Term**

Saturday 25th May to Sunday 2nd  
June

#### **Term ends**

Thursday 11th July

## Senior Student of the Month



Very well done to Year 10 pupil Emily Long (pictured left), who has been voted Senior Student of the Month.

Congratulations also to Emily O'Ferrall, Jennifer Brummitt, Chloe Macklin, James Fosh, Joshua Filler, Katie Templeton-Knight, Charlotte Pigott and Emma Weeks who were all nominated for the award.

## Junior Panto Trip

The Juniors enjoyed a Christmas treat when they all went to see the pantomime "Peter Pan" at the Harlow Playhouse.

Favourite scenes amongst the Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 pupils included: Smee climbing the curtain to the "Mission Impossible" music, Smee serenading Tiger Lily, the pirate Starkey moving in slow motion, Michael and John when they started flying by the necks of their pyjamas, Captain Hook threatening to hook up the teachers, the crocodile eating Captain Hook, special effects for Tinkerbell flying, glow in the dark fish and the Indian dance. Most children said their favourite character was Smee as he was funny; also, we were especially pleased to see William Bailey from Y11 starring as John in this performance!

## Spring Term Sporting Calendar

Year 3-11 inter house cross country 17/1-27/1

U11 Basketball tournament 24/1

U11 Basketball finals 31/1

Regional ISA cross country U9/U11/U13/U15/U16 at Gosfield School 1/2

Sport for Schools event 24/2

U11 Regional ISA football @ Stoke College 3/2

National ISA cross country at Princethorpe College 3/3

U9/11 cross country relay at Coopersale Hall School 8/3

Year 8 football v Friends School (H) 3.30pm 8/3

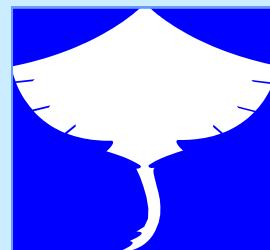
U11 National ISA football @ Dixie College 16/3

U9/11/13 football and U11/13 netball v St Aubyns (H) 4pm 20/3

U14/16 National ISA Rugby 7s TBC

U16 National ISA hockey TBC

Please view the calendar on the school website for up to date information on fixtures. Parental support is always welcomed at fixtures.



# Christmas party for local elderly

Well done to Year 11 pupils who arranged a wonderful party for 50 local elderly people. Our guests enjoyed a festive tea, a visit from Santa and entertainment from children throughout the school.

