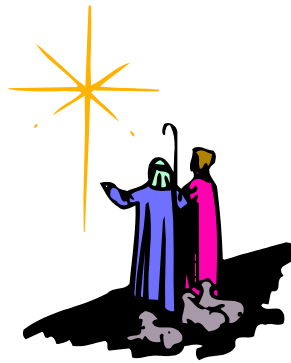


MILLENNIUM GOOD WISHES
FOR A HAPPY CHRISTMAS
AND EVERY BLESSING FOR THE YEAR 2000



The "spirit" of Christmas or Christmas "spirit", I am not sure which! sees us humbled by your generosity where a simple thank you seems somewhat inadequate. The support you have given to a number of charity appeals reported in detail elsewhere and most recently at the Junior Concert Evening which raised £216.50 and at the two Infant Concert Evenings £383.50 making a total of £600 for the two very worthy causes nominated this year. I will ensure the monies raised are issued to the nominees before we close at the end of term. The work of the staff in staging the Carol Service and Infant Concerts is made even more worthwhile by the support. Thank you to one and all.

I would also, once again, extend the thanks of both I and my staff to all parents and children for the numerous cards and gifts received. We hope you will be sympathetic to the difficulties faced in managing to thank you individually for such kindness, which is greatly appreciated. Please accept this note as a general thank you on behalf of us all.

The conclusion of this term sees us a third of the way through this academic year. It is without doubt one of the busiest times of the school year and I would extend my personal thanks to all the school's staff: teaching, classroom support, administrative, catering and premises for all their support and hard work. I would extend this also to the Governors, Friends Association and all parents. As a community I feel we have experienced in this Advent season, through the many activities in which we have already been involved, the true meaning of Christmas and we look forward in confidence to future challenges of the next millennium. (NB E-mail addresses below no longer valid. E-mail stjamesthegreat@stjamesthegreat.org)

BOOK FAIR

Thank you for the support you gave to our annual Book Fair. This was successful in raising commission securing over £1,000 of book purchases to add to the school's book resources. Well done again to Mrs Faik and Mrs Lawless.

SALVATION ARMY

I have received a very appreciative letter from the Thornton Heath Salvation Army who clearly are most grateful for the donations they received from our Harvest Assembly collection. The groceries will assist them locally in their work and have gone to a very worthwhile cause – thank you again for your support.

OTHER ITEMS

HARVEST LUNCH

Classes 3.1 and 3.2 would like to thank all the parents and friends who supported them in their fund raising efforts. The final profits exceeded £83 and was donated to CAFOD 2000. Frances Gilbert, the St Andrew's representative, will be visiting St James in the New Year, on behalf of CAFOD to personally express their appreciation.

THANKS FROM THE GRECH FAMILY

The Grech family have asked us on their behalf to extend their very sincere thanks for the considerable amount of support they have received from many families at the school following the incident at St Andrew's.

MISSING CHILD'S NAME FROM THE INFANT CONCERT PROGRAMME

Apologies to Ellen Lands for our omission of her name from the Concert Programme.

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH, BROOK ROAD: Our Parish Church will be staging four family sessions of Christmas songs, meditations and activities between 4 and 5 pm Monday 20th to Thursday 23rd December. All are welcome.

CHRISTMAS CARD RECYCLING

We are participating in the Post Office's Christmas card recycling scheme and will accordingly be a collection point for Christmas cards after Christmas. Please send them into school once the children return.

POP UP PEOPLE

Need some time to get ready for Christmas or just time for yourself to prepare for the busy time ahead? Here you have the opportunity. Bring your children to the Pop Up People Christmas Workshops at St Andrew's Hall. Monday 20th, Tuesday 21st, Wednesday 22nd and Thursday 23rd December from 10 am to 12 noon. For more details please refer to the poster in the school porch or ring Silvia on 771 1751.

SCHOOL RE-OPENS: JANUARY 6TH 2000 – THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY

The whole school will attend Mass on this day at 2.15 pm at St Andrew's Church. All are welcome to attend. Parents are asked to collect the children from the church at approximately 3.15 pm. Children not collected by 3.25 pm will be brought back to school.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

Congratulations to the following children who were elected by their classes to the newly formed school council: Leisha Boreland, Sam Elliot, Steven Dodd, Sophie Golding-Spittle, Marie Da Silva, Kiran Andradi, Jessica McGowan, Gavin Da Silva, Martin Dalgado, Anne Lemince, Gemma Barry, Ricky Lawless, Kerry Johnson, Ben Martin, Lyndon James and Jade Li Tai Leong.

SCHOOL GOVERNORS

Congratulations to Steve Pollock on his nomination by the Local Education Authority to our school's Governing Body as an LEA representative. This brings our Governing Body up to full strength.