



Dear Parents and Carers,

We are into our final days of our Advent term and what a term it has been! Well done to all our KS1 and Reception children for performing their socks off, they were really brilliant and we are very proud of them all. A big thank you to our school choir who have also performed at numerous events over the Advent season and wowing all the audiences they meet. *True Colours* is my favourite number this year and could hear it on repeat. The staff of English Martyrs' are looking forward to a well-deserved rest and family time, I will take this opportunity to say a big thank you on behalf of all the staff for your Christmas wishes and gifts.

Staffing Update

It is with a heavy heart that we will be saying goodbye to Miss Mitchell on Thursday who has made the tough decision to leave for personal reasons. We thank her from the bottom of our hearts for all the dedication, care and expertise she brought to our school. You will be greatly missed and hope to see you soon.

I am happy to say that Reception/Year 1 class will be welcoming Miss Copeland in January as their new class teacher and I am sure you will all make her feel welcome. Another new face this year has been Mr Monaghan, who joined our school community in October as our Executive head to support me in my role as Head of School for a day or two per week, whilst Mrs Mann is on secondment.

Road Safety



The dark nights, and wet, gloomy days have returned which has led to the number of cars increasing along Bracken Road. Please be mindful of toddlers and younger siblings who may be walking ahead of their parents when accessing the car park and of drivers coming out of the Outlook car park. The walking bus is always available unless in treacherous weather conditions and we will always notify you of any cancellations via the Parent Hub messaging system. The Co-op have agreed to let parents use the car park

behind the store to help ease congestion on Bracken Road.

After School Clubs

You will soon be notified if your child has been successful getting into the after-school clubs via the Parent Hub messaging system. The staff always try to pick some wonderful experiences for the children to take part in and next term we have invited the outside providers *Spaghetti Maths and Clay Creators* to offer the children after school clubs for a small cost.

Advent Carol Concert

Just a reminder that it is our annual Christmas Carol concert at St John's church in Stapleford at 6pm on Wednesday 19th December 2018. See you there!



Just a thought ...

This time of year can be very tough for some people and it is not always as joyful for everyone. Please think of those people who are lonely and spending Christmas without loved ones. Our prayers go out to those who cannot be with their family this Christmas.

It is also a time of year where money can be tighter than usual. We need to support our local community, especially at Christmas.



If you can donate food, money or your time to our local food bank, please visit, <https://longeatonsawley.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/> , for more information.

There is also information about how to get help for those people who have reached crisis point on the website.

Safeguarding Children

Being a parent or carer can be hard work. Most families face challenges in bringing up their children at some point, whether they are babies or teenagers. If you're worried about a child in the local area, it is vital you tell someone. If you'd like help and advice or you'd like to request support for a child during the Christmas break you can contact Derbyshire County Council via their website, <https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/social-health/social-care-and-health.aspx> or by telephoning 01629 535353 for advice. If you live in Nottinghamshire and have concerns about a child in your locality you can contact Nottinghamshire County Council via their website <https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/care/childrens-social-care/nottinghamshire-children-and-families-alliance/pathway-to-provision/multi-agency-safeguarding-hub-mash> , or by telephoning 0300 500 80 90.

All that is left for me to say is have a lovely Christmas, I hope it is a healthy one and I look forward to welcoming you back in 2019.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "E Jones".

Emma Jones
Head of School