

12 Courtenay Hill, Newry, Co Down, BT34 2EA
Phone: (028) 3026 2175

18 December 2020

Dear parents,

As we break up for the Christmas holidays, I wish you all a lovely holiday. You have juggled so much this term and have supported us in all that we have been doing, there is no doubt that everyone is fatigued and in need of rest and family time.

You will know that we did not have nativity plays this year. It has been a huge sadness for us as a school, because each year we rejoice in the wonder of our children telling the Christmas story in their own beautiful versions. We also know families enjoy these very much and have no doubt missed the spirituality and joy they bring to the Christmas preparation.

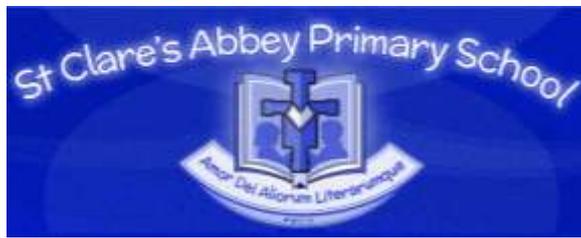
We have a collection of Christmas plays from previous years on our website in the menu "Christmas 2020". Snatch a few moments within your busy lives, if you can, sit down and allow yourselves transported back to a more typical Advent period.

I wish to alert you to the support we have received from Felix O'Hare & Company Limited, the contractor on the original build of our school. Its personnel have continued to support us in many ways big and small since we moved into the building. We wish to pass on our sincere gratitude for their continued support and kindness to the school in these challenging times, providing safety fencing panels to us to ensure that our staff and pupils remain in their 'bubbles' in the playground. The duty of care that they have shown to us has been remarkable and hugely appreciated.

I also wish to thank you, our very generous parents, for the overwhelming gift you have made to our staff in lieu of Christmas gifts. At close of business yesterday the total stood at **£1383.80**. I cannot believe it and will take great pleasure in writing two cheques tomorrow one to St Vincent de Paul and one to Newry Hospice. Sincere thanks!!

I finish by sharing a quote with you from Mother Teresa:

This Christmas when Christ comes, will He find a warm heart?



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Mrs McQuillan posted this on the school website and it sums up the preparations that we tried to make throughout the season of Advent with all our boys and girls. They are such lovely, lovely children and in the midst of all the excitement about Santa they are very open to the spiritual significance of Christmas. It is a true privilege for me and all our staff to be part of their lives at this time of year.

**REMINDER: SCHOOL FINISHES AT 12PM TOMORROW AND REOPENS ON
THURSDAY 7 JANUARY 2021**

I wish you and your loved ones a very happy, peaceful and healthy Christmas.

Yours in partnership

Mrs Monaghan