



Established 1676

St Chad's Church in Wales Primary School

'Always looking to the future'

Headteacher/ Pennaeth
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Dear parents/carers,

As we approach a very welcome Christmas break may I take this opportunity to thank you and our staff for the tremendous work undertaken during this term. Reflecting on 2023, it has been a privilege to continue to lead this wonderful school, and welcome new children and their families to our St Chad's family. I feel we have grown even closer as a school over the last year and our relationship with you has become stronger, this has been very evident with the attendance and feedback we have from our 'Reading Cafes' and our 'What we are proud of' afternoons and we look forward to continuing these in the new year.

This term has been very busy and the children have all been fully emerged into the 'Everyone Reads' topic. From finding a dragon egg in Forest School, fact finding about brown bears, twisting fairy tales, discovering evidence of the Three bears and Goldilocks on a walk around Hanmer and of course all the festivities of Christmas. We look forward to more exciting opportunities in our next topic 'Tales from Wales'.

I must congratulate the staff here at St. Chad's and how they have gone about ensuring that the pupils have had the best education and put the children's needs at the heart of everything they do. Staff, I hope you have a very restful Christmas and enjoy your well-deserved break.

The Christmas festivities started early at the end of November with both our Winter Wonderland visit in Telford where we found out that we are all luckily on the good list and our Christmas fayre, which raised over £500! The money raised has funded our new sounds system that was very beneficial for our Christmas performances. Thank you for your support.

Our traditional Christmas tree walk was a little bit wet this year but we persevered and through the mud and puddles came back with a delightful tree. A big thank you to Lady Hanmer and her family for the donation of the Christmas tree and our greeting on the way back to the Village by Father Christmas and his elf, courtesy of Hanmer Stores.

Our Christmas Carol Church Service got us into the Christmas spirit. The Church is always a special place for us and it was wonderful to celebrate Christmas with singing, prayers and performances. A thank you to Mrs Birch who plays the organ for us and is very patient with us when we have rehearsals!

This year we decided to perform our Christmas plays in Church, I'm sure you will agree, the ambience made the plays extra special. Our Nativity, 'Hey Ewe' was so beautifully performed by our Foundation Phase classes and the shepherds did a fantastic job of looking after those sheep! Their singing was so angelic and it definitely had the cute factor. Our Class 3 and 4 performance of 'Lights

Camel Action' was absolutely fabulous darlings! Both plays help us to remember the true meaning of Christmas, although I'm not sure there was a hip swinging donkey in the stable! Thank you for your support with helping them to learn their lines and with providing their costumes and a huge thank you to all the staff who put their all into the plays.

Our other Christmas festivities have included our Christmas dinner, which was a success with lots of children eating it all up! A big thank you to Miss Cotton. We had a lovely visit from the man himself- yes Father Christmas came to St. Chad's! He gave a special gift to each child, thank you to the team of elves who helped him to wrap these gifts!

I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to our school governors who volunteer in their role and do a fabulous job at ensuring our school continues to develop and provide the best education and environment for our children.

A special mention to our children, who make this school a brilliant place full of positivity, laughter and love. I hope you all get some lovely presents for Christmas and enjoy spending time at home with your families and friends.

I was also like to inform you that Mr Williamson will be taking early retirement at the end of January. I am sure that you will join me on behalf of the whole school community in wishing Mr Williamson every happiness for the new, exciting road ahead.

On behalf of the staff and governors, I wish you all a wonderful Christmas and the opportunity to spend some valuable time with your family, friends and loved ones and best wishes for the New Year. We look forward to seeing you on Tuesday 9th January 2024 when we will also be welcoming our new Early Education children.

Warm Wishes

Nicola Locker

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nicola Locker".

Headteacher

Merry Christmas

From All the Staff and Children at
St Chad's Church
in Wales Aided School

