



# Friday 10th December 2021

## Achievements

Martin de Porres:  
Reception Class  
stars:

Year 1 Class Stars:

Year 2 Jacinta:  
Class Star: Anna &  
Elijah

Year 3 John Paul  
II:  
Class Star:

Year 4 Faustyna:  
Class Star:

Year 5 Teresa:  
Class star: Lola

Year 6 Drexel  
Class stars: Aidan  
M & Nikola

## This week:

In this, the second week of Advent, we lit the Bethlehem Candle, symbolising faith. Our EYFS children have been practising for their Nativity and the sounds of Christmas Carols have been echoing throughout the building!

The timetable has been a busy one, with every class working on assessments. It has been great to see the children's focus and determination, especially our Year 6 pupils, who have completed their first full set of mock SATs.

Christmas Craft Fayre preparations are now well under way. It is so lovely to feel the buzz of excitement as they cut, chop, stick, roll, draw, paint, glue and glitter away! Sales are only by way of pre-order this year, so if you haven't already, please get your forms back and your money in! As always, half of the proceeds will go to charity (Watford New Hope Trust) and half to support enrichment activities for the pupils.

Our Reverse Advent Calendar donations will be split between Watford Food Bank and Sewa Day Watford, both charities which support those in our local community who are in need of food packages, hot meals and other essentials. Thank you for your generosity. We are still short of jars of pasta sauce, tinned/cartons of custard, long-life milk and long-life fruit juice. I appreciate that these items are heavy. Please wave down a roundabout monitor if your child needs help carrying them in.

Yesterday was Tanzania's Independence Day. Congratulations to the members of our school community who are of Tanzanian heritage! Thank you to Karina in Year 1's mum for sending in absolutely delicious home-made Cozonac to celebrate Romanian Day! The staff absolutely loved it!

It was fantastic to have our first JLT meeting. Our Year 6 JLT are filled with enthusiasm and have great ideas of initiatives they would like to introduce. Next week they are going to speak to each of the classes and get feedback on any issues or ways we can improve the school.

Another first was EYFS's Secret Storyteller. The kids loved Luca's mum reading Boogie Bear to them! We look forward to many more secret volunteers!

On Monday, we will be celebrating Kenya's Independence Day. Please don't forget to send your child in with a flag, or in the colours of Kenya if they are of Kenyan heritage. We look forward to celebrating with them.

We are looking forward to Father Paul visiting on Wednesday. He is hoping to see each of the classes and stay to watch Miss Stanton's class sing carols in the prayer garden. We will also be providing him with decorations for the church and a goodie-bag for the elderly community's Christmas Dinner.

Finally, thank you to the Tyas family for their generous donation of two real Christmas Trees, picked by Alby, Eddie and Pearl. They are absolutely stunning! Thank you also to our Night Owls crew, who decorated them beautifully.

Wishing you a safe, healthy and stress-free weekend!

God bless,  
Ms Kane

Be who God created you to be and you will set the world on fire.



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## This week:

In the Martin de Porres Unit this week, we have been working extremely hard on our Phonics and Maths assessments. The children have made us extremely proud with the determination and maturity they have shown this week. We have also been non-stop practising for our Nativity! We can't wait to do our dress rehearsal and then film it for you next week! In RE, we have been looking at the Nativity story from the Bible. We found that our practise of our own performance really helped us to understand the different parts and people involved. We have loved learning about Jesus' birth and what a special day Christmas Day is because of this.

Assessment week and Year 2 showed resilience and courage, tackling every activity with a can-do attitude - well done, Jacinta! In addition to assessments, we spent time in the Chapel reflecting on 'Courage' learning behaviour and the ways we show courage in our everyday activities. In RE we learnt about Isaiah's message about the 'Coming One', we thought about the different names used to describe Jesus. We have been working hard at our Phonics; explored who John Dunlop was, in Science; began work on our Christmas Fayre crafts; as well as thinking up rules for our mini-matches in PE whilst getting some fresh air and much needed exercise in the process.

In Year 3, we have worked through a range of assessments, putting our knowledge to the test! It has been a very successful week, and we have tried our best. In Science, we made our own fossils! We learnt about the process of fossilisation and discussed the layers of the Earth. In RE, we looked at the symbolism within 'The Annunciation' by Harmonia Rosales. We also looked at the Nativity story and the viewpoint of the Shepherds. We discussed how God chose the Shepherds to be the first and what a great honour this truly is!

This week in Year 4 we have worked incredibly hard to complete our assessments. As well as this, we had a go at Herts for Learnings 'Christmaths' activities and enjoyed the challenge of doing them. We also had time to research information for our non-chronological reports on the Roman Army and wrote our introductions too. In RE, we explored the importance of Gaudete Sunday and learnt about the gifts of the Wise Men. We also did a hot seating activity to learn more about the them! In Science, we learnt about what the digestive system does and in Topic we loved learning about what the Romans had for entertainment.

Year 5 have worked incredibly hard this week with their assessments. We embraced the challenge and displayed resilience and growth mindset to complete them. After assessments, we started making our Christmas Craft Fayre orders. We put in a lot of thought to design our personalized, bespoke and sustainable bags for our friends and family. They look amazing and we can't await to take them home. We ended our assessments with whole class game of "Kick Ball Rounders" to reinforce our PE values and to get children to work together. We were especially impressed by the leadership and teamwork shown by the class! Well done Teresa!

In Year 6 this week, we have been working hard to show all of our learning in our assessments. We completed them in the hall to help us prepare for SATs in May. We all tried our absolute best and showed great resilience and determination. In the afternoons, we have learnt about the Annunciation, looked at the Angelus prayer, wrote newspaper articles about the second coming of Christ and completed an RE assessment about the advent wreath! Phew! We learnt how to create classification keys in Science, which we did find a bit tricky! We also began our Christmas Craft Fayre projects. We have well and truly earned an amazing, relaxing weekend.