

# Winterbourne Churches' Newsletter

[www.fromsidechurches.org.uk](http://www.fromsidechurches.org.uk)

[www.salemchurch.org.uk](http://www.salemchurch.org.uk)



## December 2023

## ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH

Church Lane, Winterbourne, BS36 1SE

Rector: Rev Malcolm Strange, 70 High Street, Winterbourne  
Phone: 01454 775529  
Email: m.strange@fromesidechurches.org.uk

Assistant minister Rev Julia Chard - contact via Benefice Office

Churchwardens Chris Greef 01454 774479  
Derek Andow 01454 775024

### BENEFICE AND PARISH OFFICE

c/o The Rectory, 70 High Street, Winterbourne, BRISTOL, BS36 1JQ

Administrator Nessa Jarman Phone: 07594 976301

Email: office@fromesidechurches.org.uk

Opening hours Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9am-1pm

### WEDDINGS/BAPTISMS/CONFIRMATION/FUNERALS

Enquires should be made to the Benefice Office - 07594 976301

### PASTORAL VISITING

If you need a pastoral visit or know someone who does, please contact Jo on 01454 775529 or Pearl on 01454 314184

**St Michael's Room Bookings** Watch this space!

## SALEM METHODIST CHURCH

Factory Road, Winterbourne, BS36 1QL

Minister Rev Leigh Maydew, 31 Quedgeley, Yate, Bristol, BS37.4JJ  
Phone: 07388 083488  
Email: leigh.maydew@methodist.org.uk

To whom enquiries for Weddings, Baptisms, or Funerals should be made.

Senior Steward Margaret Johnston Phone: 01454 773626  
Email: 123margaretjohnston@gmail.com

Hall Bookings Jayne Glass Phone: 07935 377790  
Email: jaglass103@gmail.com

# A message for December from Val Slade

## AN UNEXPECTED GIFT

After all the excitement and stresses of Christmas shopping, the presents sit under the tree waiting to be opened. As givers, we worry the gift will not be suitable, even though we have carefully followed a Christmas wish list. As receivers, we are concerned that someone has spent too much on ourselves and we cannot match their generosity. Perhaps we have forgotten to buy a gift for a relative, or left it too late to go shopping for our loved ones. These are some of the anxieties and expectations we experience when giving gifts at this festive time.



The main reason for giving gifts at this time of year is to celebrate the birth of **Jesus around 2000 years ago in an innkeeper's stable in Bethlehem.** Shepherds were the first to visit Mary and Joseph and their new baby; they may not have had gifts to give him but their admiration, being poor shepherds. They were followed a while later by Wise Men from the East, who presented Jesus with gifts from treasure-chests: gold, frankincense, and myrrh. These **represented symbols of the story of Jesus' life to be.** Gold is a gift of richness for a king. Myrrh is precious oil, used to anoint the dead. Frankincense is incense used in worship, fitting for a holy child (see Matthew 2.7-12).



The wise men had their treasure-chests containing physical gifts, but gifts cannot always be seen. Each of us has gifts and talents within us, and each of us can make an offering of our own. Our gifts are part of our own story in our work, our homes and our communities. Our gifts show who we are and what we bring to the world around us.



The shepherds in the fields near Bethlehem were the first people to be told of the gift of Jesus. A spectacular fanfare involving angels invited them to see this **baby, with a promise that he was special.** An angel told the shepherds 'I am bringing you news of great joy for all the people'. The angel went on to explain



that a Saviour had been born who would bring peace and joy to the world. They visited baby Jesus in the stable and told everyone they met what the angel had said about him, praising God before returning to their fields and their work (see Luke 2.8-20).

People have always given each other gifts; they would have helped to maintain friendships between different groups in early society. The Christmas traditions that we enjoy today were influenced by the Victorians when Christmas trees and Father Christmas also became popular.

Gift giving and receiving can be stressful but we must not forget that through the birth of Jesus we are given the greatest and most unexpected gift of all. His presence in our lives shapes how we use our inner gifts for others in our communities and families helping them to feel loved and valued. We are all invited to receive this wonderful gift.



Valerie Slade – Licensed Lay Minister

**St. Michael's Church - Winterbourne**

# Grand Christmas Draw

**1st Prize: £250 CASH 2nd Prize: £100 'Love to Shop' voucher**  
**Plus many more FABULOUS prizes**

The draw will take place at St Michael's Church  
on Friday 22nd December after the 6pm Carol service.



**Don't miss a chance to win £250 or another prize**  
Get your tickets £1 each from the Benefice Office  
on Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays 9-1  
email: [office@fromesidechurches.org.uk](mailto:office@fromesidechurches.org.uk) phone 07594 976301

# SUNDAY WORSHIP IN OUR CHURCHES

## ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH

3rd Dec	10.30	Parish Communion
10th Dec	10.30	Parish Communion
17th Dec	10.30	Parish Communion
24th Dec	10.30	Parish Communion
31st Dec	10.00	Benefice Communion at All Saints

also 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays Holy Communion at 8am

See page 13 for details of Christmas services

[www.fromesidechurches.org.uk](http://www.fromesidechurches.org.uk)

Recorded services are available on 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays  
on the Benefice website

[www.fromesidechurches.org.uk](http://www.fromesidechurches.org.uk)

where details of all services in the Benefice can be found.

## SALEM METHODIST CHURCH

### SUNDAY SERVICES at 10.30

3rd Dec	Rev Leigh Maydew
10th Dec	Mr David Carter
17th Dec	Carol service led by Mr John Barnet
24th Dec	Christmas Eve service led by stewards
31st Dec	No service at Salem



Further details on the website [www.salemchurch.org.uk](http://www.salemchurch.org.uk)

## SALEM PAGE

This year, I write at a time both of grief and yet of unconquerable hope, grief because of the horrors taking place in Gaza and hope because of the coming Christmas reminder of our Christian faith that God is **indeed with us, 'our God contracted to a span, incomprehensibly made man' (C. Wesley), that, as St Maximus the Confessor, the greatest of the Byzantine theologians put it, 'God so loved his creation that he willed his own embodiment within it'.**



That act of love reached its fulfilment on the Cross. Again, it is Charles Wesley that puts it so well.

**'Vouchsafe us eyes of faith to see  
The man transfixed on Calvary,  
To know thee, who thou art,  
The one eternal God and true;  
And let the sight, affect, subdue,  
And break my stubborn heart.'**

Would that the Holy Spirit would melt the stubborn hearts of the extremists on both sides in the current conflict in the holy land!

So, at Christmas, we remember that God entered, through his eternally beloved Son, into the experience of all the worst that the world can do and we can sing **John Wesley's favourite amongst his brother's Christmas hymns, 'All glory to God in the sky'.**

At this time of year, I also have to say something about the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (18-25 January) as that occurs before the next issue of the joint magazine. We will have a special service on the Sunday of that week, 21 Jan, at Zion Chapel. We will remember what Churches Together4Fromeside is doing, particularly in terms of providing for the needs of the least well-off in our area. **We will also be praying for the wider unity of God's one holy catholic and apostolic Church across the world.**

It is necessary for Christians to be united to show that it is possible for people of very different countries and cultures to be at one across all barriers and to profit from all the spiritual riches that the Holy Spirit has bestowed on the sheer multiplicity of the many Christian traditions with their varying styles of worship, fellowship and service, whilst recognising each community as one in the Christ whom we seek to follow.



In all of this Pope Francis is playing a leading role, in helping to direct us the priority of mission, in seeking through a recent Synod to listen, far more than was the custom under many earlier popes, to the faithful layfolk of his church as well as to the bishops.

In the past, Roman Catholics referred to Christ's promise, recorded in Matthew's gospel, 'you are Peter and upon this rock, I will build my church'. I rather suspect that Francis is more influenced by the command recorded in Luke's gospel when he prophesied that Peter would betray him (Luke 22:32). Yet he left Peter with a hope that he had far from finished with him. He said, 'and when you have repented, go and strengthen your brothers.'



It is precisely what Pope Francis does in his ministry to his own Church and, indeed, for the rest of us in our separate churches. He strengthens through encouragement, example, sound teaching. Almost day by day, I become ever more convinced that Francis is trying to do for the whole world what Wesley wanted in the 18<sup>th</sup> century to do for England, to re-kindle the joy of the gospel, accompanied by sound advice on what God intends in terms of a world of harmony, social justice and respect for the rest of creation. The loving and itinerant superintendency of Wesley in England and Asbury in the USA in their times is reflected in Francis style of global ministry today.

I am more and more convinced that there is a Petrine ministry of leadership and encouragement for the world Church, not a ministry of infallibility on theological statements, as understood in 1870 by Francis' then predecessor, Pius IX, but a real ministry of strengthening us all as we seek follow Jesus. We see that ministry being inaugurated by the Apostle Peter when he 'went here and there among all the believers' (Acts 9:32). You see it being exercised now as Pope Francis travels, despite age and ill-health. He also exercises it when he greets Christian leaders from all denominations in Rome-you can follow that from the details given on the Vatican website by the Pontifical Council for Christian Unity.

Of course, there will be many other things for us to think about in the Week of Prayer, particularly the heroism of many Christians and their churches in the war-torn state of Burkina Faso in West Africa-it is they who have prepared the material for study and prayer this January.

We at Salem wish you all a very happy and blessed Christmas and New Year,

David.

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# Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in  
Luke 1:26-56 & Matthew 1:18-25

In Israel, about 2000 years ago, a young woman, Mary, was going to marry Joseph. The weddings were in two stages.

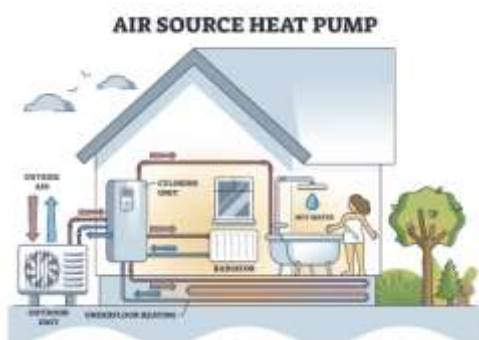


## Heating our homes affordably



So far this autumn we have been blessed with relatively **mild weather but many people's heating systems will now** be switched on for the winter. The resulting increase in household costs is a major concern for many. Sadly, the UK housing stock is not in a good state for keeping heating costs down. Much of it is old and poorly insulated and schemes to encourage and support people in making the necessary improvements are poorly developed.

For example, heat pumps are widely regarded as a good way of reducing costs, the reason being that for every unit of electricity used, up to four units of heating are produced (the best that a conventional boiler can produce is one unit of heating). The problem is that heat pump systems are expensive to install, although they save money in the long term - great in principle, but **no good if you can't afford the initial**



outlay. Also, they work far better in well-insulated homes. The take up of heat pumps in the UK is lagging well behind most of Europe. Last year, we were 21<sup>st</sup> out of 21 European countries in the installation of heat pumps: not surprisingly, the Scandinavian countries with their traditionally well-insulated homes did particularly well, installing 20 times as many as the UK, but even countries with warmer climates like France, Italy and Spain did 5 - 10 times better.

**That doesn't mean we can't do anything to help keep heating costs down. Some** cost nothing to do and others are very cheap to implement. Here is a list, with some cheaper options at the top:

- Turn down the thermostat by a degree or so
- Turn off the heating in unused rooms
- Close the blinds or curtains

- Turn off the heating when you're out
- Make sure the doors and windows don't let in draughts
- Good insulation in the roof is relatively cheap and saves a lot
- More expensive, but worthwhile if you can afford it,  
is cavity wall insulation and double glazing.

We know that the old and those living with health problems are particularly vulnerable in the colder months, so keep an eye on that neighbour of yours who might be struggling. It may be that you can help directly, but at least make sure they are seeking support through relevant channels: there are lots of possibilities out there, so perhaps a good starting point is Citizen's Advice, who can advise on what might be appropriate in individual cases

Chris Greef



The poster for the Winterbourne Repair Cafe features two photographs at the top. The left photo shows sewing supplies like a white cup, blue containers, and a blue cutting mat. The right photo shows two men working on a bicycle. The main text is in a teal and black font, announcing the event as a monthly gathering on the third Saturday from 10:30 AM to 12 PM, with dates from September 2023 to July 2024. It lists services including sewing, electrical, woodwork, jewellery, and bike repairs, and identifies the organizers as Cake and Company, All Saints Church Hall, and the Winterbourne Environmental Group (WEG).

**Winterbourne  
REPAIR CAFE**

**THIRD SATURDAY MONTHLY 10:30AM-12PM**  
 16 SEPT - 21 OCT - 18 NOV - 16 DEC 2023  
 20 JAN - 17 FEB - 16 MAR - 20 APR - 18 MAY - 15 JUN - 20 JUL 2024

**SEWING, ELECTRICAL, WOODWORK, JEWELLERY,  
AND BIKE REPAIRS  
CAKE AND COMPANY**

**ALL SAINTS  
CHURCH HALL,  
BS36 1BX**

**WEG**  
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cuppa



Crafts



Games



Singalongs



Quizzes

We meet on the first Wednesday and the third  
Thursday of each month  
Come and join us, we'd love to see you.

Further information from Edna Snaith 07789 662694

## Movement to Music for the over 50s EXTEND EXERCISES

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- Enhance quality of life
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When: Every Friday 9.30-10.30

Where: Fromeside Gymnastics Club,

Watleys End Road, Winterbourne, BS36 1PW

Telephone: 01454 776873

Email: [office@fromesidegym.co.uk](mailto:office@fromesidegym.co.uk)

Follow The Star  
Join the Song

WINTERBOURNE  
&  
WINTERBOURNE  
DOWN

Friday 22nd December at 6pm

## CANDLELIT CAROLS

at St Michael's Church

followed by mulled wine & mince pies

Christmas Eve at 5pm

## CRIB SERVICE

at All Saints' Church

Christmas Eve at 11.30pm

## MIDNIGHT MASS

at All Saints' Church

Christmas Morning at 10.30

## FAMILY COMMUNION

at St Michael's Church

[www.fromesidechurches.org.uk](http://www.fromesidechurches.org.uk)





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## CROSSWORD

### Across

1 Rely (Psalm 62:7) (6)

4 'He stretches out the heavens like a — , and spreads them out like a tent to live in' (Isaiah 40:22) (6)

7 What the dove carried the olive leaf in, when it returned to Noah's ark (Genesis 8:11) (4)

8 Annoy (1 Samuel 1:6) (8)

9 Judah's last king, who ended his days as a blind prisoner in Babylon (Jeremiah 52:11) (8)

13 'They all — and were satisfied' (Luke 9:17) (3)

16 Eliphaz the Temanite was one; so was Bildad the Shuhite and Zophar the Naamathite (Job 2:11; 16:2) (4,9)

17 National Association of Evangelicals (of the USA) (1,1,1)

19 Popular song for New Year's Eve, Auld — — (4,4)

24 Able dock (anag.) (8)

25 The number of stones David chose for his confrontation with Goliath (1 Samuel 17:40) (4)

26 Elgar's best-known 'Variations' (6)

27 Soak (Isaiah 16:9) (6)

### Down

1 Money owing (Deuteronomy 15:3) (4)

2 Conciliatory (Titus 3:2) (9)

3 'Do this, whenever you — it, in remembrance of me' (1 Corinthians 11:25) (5)

4 A group assisting in the governance of the Roman Catholic Church (5)

5 One of the gifts Joseph's brothers took with them on their second journey to Egypt (Genesis 43:11) (4)

6 'Reach out your hand and — — into my side. Stop doubting and believe' (John 20:27) (3,2)

10 Be outstandingly good (2 Corinthians 8:7) (5)

11 'What — — that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him?' (Psalm 8:4) (2,3)

12 Horse's feet (Judges 5:22) (5)

13 Notice (Deuteronomy 17:4) (9)

14 Comes between 2 Chronicles and Nehemiah (4)

15 One of Israel's northern towns conquered by Ben-Hadad (1 Kings 15:20) (4)

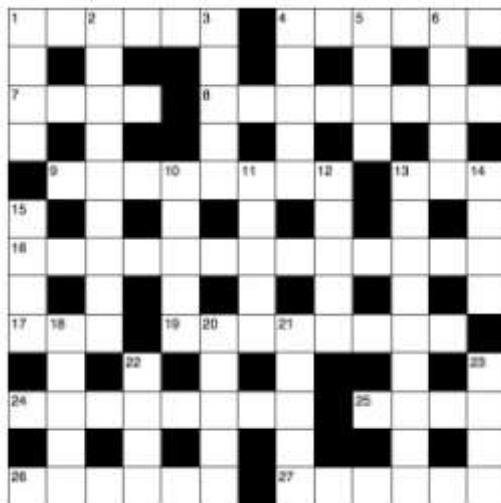
18 Narnia's Lion (5)

20 One of the two rivers in which Naaman would have preferred to wash (2 Kings 5:12) (5)

21 Avarice—one of the evils that come from inside people (Mark 7:22) (5)

22 Knight Grand Cross of St Michael and St George (1,1,1,1)

23 Jacob's first wife (Genesis 29:23) (4)



Answers on page 27

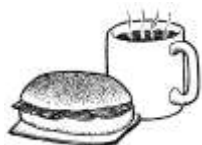
The season of Advent begins on November 3rd—a time of looking forward to birth of Jesus. During December we have services reflecting this, and also our regular outreach events and you are invited to join us.

**We begin December with a “Remembering” service on Sunday 3rd at 4 p.m.** This is a quiet service to remember loved ones we have lost, with a time to reflect, place names on the tree and/or light a candle.



On Wednesday 6th there will be our Christmas Coffee morning, beginning at 10 a.m. A time for meeting with friends and chatting over a cup of coffee/tea

The Film afternoon will be on Tuesday December 12th at 2 p.m. All are welcome to come and enjoy a much loved Christmas film.



The Saturday coffee morning with bacon butties and toasted teacakes will be on December 16th beginning at 10 a.m.

On Sunday December 17th is the Carol Service when we welcome Mr John Barnet . Please join us to sing some favourite carols and hear the Christmas story



A second Carol service on Christmas Eve at 10.30a.m. will be a child friendly Nativity service

**ALL ARE WELCOME TO ANY OF THESE EVENTS**

# Special events this month in & around St Michael's

Monday 4th December at 5pm  
CHRISTINGLE SERVICE  
in St Michael's Church



Saturday 9th & Sunday 10th December  
CAROLS IN THE BARN  
in Winterbourne Medieval Barn  
details on page 19.

Saturday 16th December at 10.30  
CAROL SINGING  
by Flaxpits Lane shops



Saturday 16th December from 3.30-5.15  
MESSY CHURCH  
in St Saviour's Church Hall

Sunday 17th December at 4pm  
HEALING SERVICE  
in St Michael's Church



Friday 22nd December at 6pm  
CANDLELIT CAROLS  
in St Michael's Church  
followed by mulled wine & mince pies  
and draw of winners in our Grand Draw  
see page 4.

Sunday 3rd December - 8pm - 12.15  
BARN DANCE  
in the Greenfield Centre  
A ticket only event  
see back page for details



I want to tell you a really encouraging good news story.



**First, I'd like you to think about the answer to this question. How are you feeling? Yes, right this minute. Stop and think about it. What score are you from 1 to 10, where 1 is the worst have ever felt and 10 is the best. Then there are two more questions. 1. What is stopping you from having a higher score? 2. What is stopping you from having a lower score?**

I learned to do this working as a mentor in another part of the country and its **one of the best things I've learned. It's so simple and yet so effective: it's helpful to do on one's own or with another person or in a group. The young people who do it in a group in school learn from each other as they share; acknowledging that we all have highs and lows and learning that we can support each other if we are able to share. It's something that as adults we perhaps forget to do – to check in with ourselves, to reflect and think and pray about why we feel like we do.**



**In Ignatian Spirituality there is something called the "Examen". St Ignatius, who founded the Society of Jesus, encourages us to reflect at the end of every day; to notice where the good bits were and to think about where God was; to think back and notice how we were feeling in different situations or conversations. We can then bring this to God in prayer and**

**thank him for things we didn't notice at the time, or ask, what would he have wanted me to do or say differently? What would I do differently if the same situation were to arise again is the "killer question"? By doing the Examen every day, we start to naturally respond to things in the day in the way that Jesus would want us to. Or to take it a step further to become "incarnational" ... to be Christ to those we meet every day.**

**Anyway, back to my story... Having moved to Bristol a few years ago, I missed JAC and the mentoring, so I approached Father Malcolm. To cut a long story short "Winterbourne JAC" was born and now we are starting our second year of providing mentors to about 10- 15 pupils a week at Winterbourne Academy. We play 1 to 10 every week and I know it's a blessing to the young people, the mentors and to me.**





So, why am I telling you all this... I want to encourage you and perhaps to challenge you to try it out for yourself, or maybe to become a mentor or support the work in the school. Perhaps you would also like to read or learn about St Ignatius and “the Examen” and try that out!



There is a wisdom that comes with reflecting, a privilege that comes with really listening and a learning that comes with sharing. Expect God to work through it and you will be surprised!



Here is a picture of 1-10 at school and the lovely bunch of mentors I work with on a Thursday. Love to you all and if you are reading this from somewhere else, why **don't you start a JAC mentoring scheme in your area... it really works!**

Helen Warwick



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Website

[sarahweavertherapies.co.uk](http://sarahweavertherapies.co.uk)



**Family Festive Crafts** - Sunday 3rd December, 10am or 1pm

Crafty Festive fun aimed at families with children aged 5-11 yrs. Cost is £3.75 per child and pre-booking is essential. A limited range of drinks & snacks is available.

**Carols in the Barn** - Sat 9th Dec 3pm, and Sunday 10th December 3pm or 6pm

**Enjoy Christmas drama from members of St Michael's Church, fitted around well-known carols** for everyone to join in. The barn makes a very atmospheric setting for re-telling of the Christmas story. Doors open 45 mins before the event for mulled wine or juice & a mince pie (included in ticket -£5 adult, £1 child). Do dress warmly - the Barn is a medieval agricultural building without central heating! Car-parking on site is only for those with mobility problems (reserve by email), but plenty of parking is available at Winterbourne Academy. Book online.

**New Year Craft & Skills Workshops**

Places are limited for workshops and pre-booking is essential. Full details online. A ticket for an event at the Barn could make an interesting Christmas present for a special person.

**Fused Glass Workshops** – Friday 26th January, 10am or 1pm

Join local glass artist Rachael Durkan to make a decorative glass hanging. The 2hr workshops are informal, fun & relaxing, & no previous experience is necessary.

**Whittling Workshop** - Saturday 3rd February, 10am - 4pm

Dan Bendel will teach you how to whittle a sculptural figure or head with a knife from a single piece of wood. Bring a packed lunch. Tea/coffee is provided. Free parking at the barn.

**Apple Grafting** - Saturday 24th February, 10am - 4pm

Learn how to graft apple trees on this one day course with Tim Andrews of Orchard Revival. You will learn how and why we graft fruit, and will make at least three newly-grafted trees to take home with you. Cost is £55 for the day, including tea and coffee. Bring packed lunch.

Book for these events from the website:

[www.winterbournebarn.org.uk](http://www.winterbournebarn.org.uk)

Winterbourne Medieval Barn, Church Lane, Winterbourne BS36 1SE

For further details about Winterbourne Medieval Barn Trust

see [www.WinterbourneBarn.org.uk](http://www.WinterbourneBarn.org.uk)

and [facebook.com/winterbournemedievalbarn](https://facebook.com/winterbournemedievalbarn)

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# Chase de Vere

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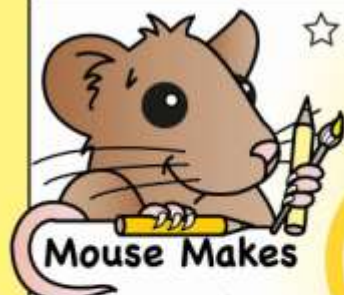
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## Mouse Makes



### GOD'S PROMISE

*Isaiah 9:6-7*

CHILD • BORN • SON  
GIVEN • WONDERFUL  
COUNSELLOR  
MIGHTY • GOD  
EVERLASTING  
FATHER • PRINCE  
PEACE • LORD



### AN ANGEL MESSENGER

*Luke 1:26-38*

ANGEL • GABRIEL  
JOSEPH • MARY  
FAVOUR • SON  
JESUS • GREAT  
THRONE • REIGN  
FOREVER • HOLY  
SERVANT • WORD

**ADVENT**  
comes from  
the Latin  
'AD VENTO'  
which means  
**ARRIVAL**

In Advent we  
celebrate Jesus' birth  
and look forward to  
the time when Jesus  
will come again.



### A LONG JOURNEY

*Luke 2:1-20*

BETHLEHEM  
REGISTER • BIRTH  
MANGER • INN  
SHEPHERDS • FLOCK  
ANGELS • JOY  
GOOD NEWS • PRAISE  
SAVIOUR • CHRIST



### THE BEST GIFT OF ALL

*John 3:16*

GOD • SO • LOVED  
WORLD • HE • GAVE  
ONLY • SON  
WHOEVER • BELIEVES  
ETERNAL • LIFE

V	R	P	R	I	N	C	E	L	R	O	D
W	O	R	D	C	F	A	T	H	E	R	E
J	A	G	M	A	N	G	E	R	G	E	B
O	W	H	O	E	V	E	R	W	I	I	J
S	J	O	Y	B	O	R	N	O	S	G	E
E	S	L	S	E	R	V	A	N	T	N	S
P	P	Y	J	C	H	I	L	D	E	P	U
H	R	O	S	H	E	P	H	E	R	D	S
F	A	V	O	U	R	E	F	R	W	S	O
B	I	R	T	H	S	W	O	F	O	D	L
I	S	A	V	I	O	U	R	U	R	L	O
F	E	C	O	U	N	C	E	L	L	O	R
A	N	G	E	L	B	J	V	K	D	V	D
B	E	T	H	L	E	H	E	M	G	E	S
L	A	N	G	E	L	S	R	G	O	D	V
I	G	A	B	R	I	E	L	T	D	S	M
F	P	G	I	V	E	N	A	H	U	O	A
E	E	H	G	A	V	E	S	R	W	N	R
S	A	E	G	R	E	A	T	O	N	L	Y
O	C	H	R	I	S	T	I	N	N	J	O
N	E	O	G	O	O	D	N	E	W	S	N
F	L	O	C	K	M	I	G	H	T	Y	B

Colour in one star each day until Christmas

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## St Michael's C of E Primary School

*Learn • Care • Enjoy*

Linden Close, Winterbourne  
Headteacher Mrs. Kirsty Robson  
Phone 01454 867105

This month, we have an exciting event to share with you. St Michael's Primary School recently had the pleasure of welcoming over 100 grandparents into our classrooms for an afternoon of inter-generational learning and fun. It was truly a heart-warming and enriching experience for all involved.

Grandparents from all walks of life joined us for a special day in which they had the opportunity to engage in their grandchild's learning journey, just as our little ones do every day. The school was buzzing with excitement, and laughter filled the air as generations came together to share in the joy of discovery. Throughout their time in our school, our special guests participated in



various lessons and activities, including art and geography, among many other subjects. The joy and enthusiasm on the faces of both grandparents and children were truly wonderful. It was heartening to see how art, history, and the natural world fascinated both young and old alike.

We watched in awe as grandparents, who have gathered a wealth of knowledge and life experience over the years, engaged in art projects and explored the wonders of geography with our students. Their presence added a unique and invaluable perspective to the classroom, bridging the generation gap and showcasing the power of shared learning. The grandparents made fantastic pupils for the afternoon, and their enthusiasm was infectious. They shared stories from their own school days, teaching the children about life in years gone

by. It was a powerful reminder of the importance of connecting generations and preserving the wisdom of our elders.

The school was filled with an atmosphere of joy and excitement, as grandparents and grandchildren collaborated on projects, asked questions, and learned from each other. It was evident that the bond between grandparents and grandchildren is something truly special and should be cherished.



We are delighted to announce that due to the immense success and huge response to our Grandparents' Afternoon, we plan to hold another opportunity for grandparents to visit later in the year. This allows us to welcome even more grandparents into our classrooms and celebrate the love of learning, family, and community that makes St. Michael's Primary School such a special place.



We want to extend our heartfelt thanks to all the grandparents who took the time to join us on this memorable day. Your presence, wisdom, and love added immeasurable value to our school, and we look forward to sharing another beautiful day of learning with you in the near future. Thank you for being a part of the St. Michael's Primary School family, and we can't wait to create more heartwarming memories together!

#### CROSSWORD ANSWERS

ACROSS: 1, Depend. 4, Canopy. 7, Beak. 8, Irritate. 9, Zedekiah. 13, Ate. 16, Job's comforter. 17, NAE. 19, Lang Syne. 24, Blockade. 25, Five. 26, Enigma. 27, Drench.  
DOWN: 1, Debt. 2, Peaceable. 3, Drink. 4, Curia. 5, Nuts. 6, Put it. 10, Excel. 11, Is man. 12, Hoofs. 13, Attention. 14, Ezra. 15, Ijon. 18, Aslan. 20, Abana. 21, Greed. 22, GCMG. 23, Leah.



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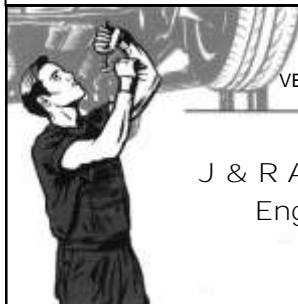
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Please send contributions for the February Newsletter by email to Gill Greef ([gill@gillgreef.com](mailto:gill@gillgreef.com)) or deliver them to the temporary Office at the Rectory, 70 High Street by Monday 15th January