



Dear Parents and Carers,

So powerful is the light of unity that it can illuminate the whole earth.

— Bahá'u'lláh

At the end of this particularly successful term, we reflect on the many positives. Above all, the strength of our community continues to allow our children to flourish. We are blessed to be surrounded by wonderful children, parents, staff, the church and wider community.

Firstly, we are delighted that our attendance continues to remain high at 97.72%, which is a result of your continued vigilance and support. Our children have been able to return to happy, 'normal' school-life, surrounded by their peers. Thank you for helping us to look after our school community.

Moreover, the children have all worked very hard and made progress - we are so proud of each and every one. A wide range of subjects are still being enjoyed by the children and the global citizenship curriculum has continued to inspire them; this has led to fantastic learning outcomes; from Tweets to David Attenborough on saving our planet to designing and making vacuum cleaners! Our specialist teachers continue to support: Mr Downes, Mrs Moodie, Ms Todd and our new member of the team Mr Akpalu inspire children in their subject areas. Children from Year 2 upwards have loved having Mr Akpalu for computing and we can see some great progress in this area.

One of the greatest difficulties of the time is that we all miss coming together as a school. Although we cannot gather together for whole school assemblies, we still have daily online assemblies and this has helped us to maintain the feeling of a whole school community. We would like to thank the staff of St Stephen's and St Stephen's Church for their continued support and inspiring videos. Our Reception and Year 2 Nativity contributions are particularly uplifting!

We continue to develop our blended learning and children have used online learning to keep up to date when it has been necessary for them to work at home.

The whole staff continue to amaze us with their commitment and resilience - they have not let a pandemic stand in the way of their desire for the children to have the best education possible. As we walk around the school, we can feel and hear the joy and excitement of learning. The office and premises staff continue to ensure school organisation and safety is maintained during these tricky times.

St Stephen's Church has provided us with a link to their [Carol Service](#) - a must to fire up the Christmas Spirit!



As you know, unfortunately we were not able to finish this term in quite the way we had originally planned. Nevertheless, huge thanks to all our parents for their patience and understanding surrounding the abrupt end to the school term yesterday morning. We are in the process of trying to reunite remaining coats and bags to those who could not get here yesterday afternoon. We will be in touch with more information as soon as we can.

We look forward to welcoming the children back on Tuesday 5th January for another exciting term. Please note that all our Covid procedures will remain in place, including staggered entry and exits.

We wish you all a relaxing, safe and happy Christmas! Many thanks again for your continued support.

Strive for full restoration, encourage one another, be of one mind, live in peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you.

2 Corinthians 13