



Bapchild & Tonge CE (Aided) Primary School and Nursery

Headteacher: Mr C Kelly

School Lane
Bapchild
Kent ME9 9NL

email: office@bapchild.kent.sch.uk

Tel: 01795 424143

Friday 19th December 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Wow it is nearly Christmas! It seems to have come upon us very quickly and as we move towards Friday, when we break up to spend time with our families and friends, we can reflect on the time full of learning, experiences, development and progress while living out our school Christian Vision and Values. We have seen so many children win awards for reading, sports, and living by the Christian Values, plus classes winning the golden boot for the most eco journeys to school and houses winning the house point award each week.

The Governing body has continued its monitoring role this year. We review the School Development Plan which sets out the current key objectives for the school in some detail and by speaking with the senior leaders, staff and children we are able to see the progress being made. We are always provided with a huge number of reports and a lot of data from the Senior Leadership Team and the subject champions and we thank them all for this as it helps us see a realistic view of the school. Wellbeing is still a high priority, encompassing the whole school community and is at the heart of the school and everything we do. In the current economic climate, finance is at the root of many of our discussions especially with ever increasing costs, income that doesn't increase quite as much and the uncertainty of future price rises. The basis of every decision, however, is the will to make the best choices for the children of our school. Safeguarding and the systems in place to ensure that the school is a safe place for all our children to flourish is vital and all governors continue to undertake safeguarding training as a priority. I have also had the privilege of chairing the first two SEND Parent Forums initiated in a changing landscape of SEND and acknowledging that as a school we listen to parents' views, to learn and then develop the provision for the children in the school and improve the experience for everyone.

In the run up to the end of term, the Governors have been enjoying the festive celebrations. The infant nativity, A King is born, performed by Year R, 1 and 2 helped us to remember the true story of Christmas helped by a very strict King Herod, some extremely cool sheep and an angel with a beautiful voice. All the children were so impressive and remarkably confident performing on the stage in the spotlight. They remembered their lines and performed them so clearly. Their singing was just beautiful. Thank you to all parents/carers who helped with costumes and listened to lines and songs for many weeks!! It was wonderful to see so many of you coming to enjoy their performances. I have also had the amazing opportunity to join the children, families and staff for the Community sing a long performed by year 5, the Nursery Nativity and the Christmas Church services. No wonder it is just my favourite time of year!!

As usual, we must send a huge thank you to the members of FOBS who continue to work tirelessly to organise events to raise money for the school and for the whole school community to enjoy. The highlight of these must be the Christmas Bazaar at the beginning of December after which the hall is still looking extremely festive.

Mr Kelly and his staff at Bapchild are truly amazing and we are so lucky to have a team who put the children's needs at the heart of everything they do. We say a temporary farewell to Mrs Unsworth and Mrs Ward and hope that all goes well for them in the coming weeks and can't wait to welcome some new babies!!! To all the staff I hope you have a very restful Christmas, with an opportunity to recharge your batteries - enjoy the break.

The real stars we need to remember are 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.

On behalf of myself and the whole Governing Body we wish you all a very happy and healthy Christmas and send best wishes for the New Year.

Yours sincerely

S Butcher

Susannah Butcher

Chair of Governors