

## *St Mary's Church of England Primary Academy*

**A**t the time of writing, we are coming to the end of our Christmas term and what a great term we had. The children have been learning well, are happy and confident in school, and life in school has continued as normal. Our staff have remained positive and worked tirelessly with dedication and commitment. The children have been able to enjoy the usual Christmas celebrations and activities in school. We held collective worships and church services and our Christingle service, with Year 6 passing the light from the candles around, forming a circle of light and of hope. This has become quite a tradition. Our Year 1 bubble and Year 2 bubble have each rehearsed and performed their nativity, which will be recorded and sent out to parents and carers to watch from the comfort of their own home. The rest of the school took part in an IsingPop Christmas Watch Party which will be sent home for families to enjoy together; lots of dance moves to practise! We participated in Rudy's Run, raising money for St Barnabas Hospice, and so far we have raised over £2,000. Such generosity from our school community for such a worthwhile cause is incredible.

Our children and families have continued to donate food to the Welton Food Bank and members of our Collective Worship Council have been to church to help prepare the parcels during their Thursday lunchtimes.

Our Year 6 children have started a writing project which has been hugely successful; way beyond what we could ever have hoped for. Working with the village churches, our Year 6 pupils have written to people living in Welton, sharing experiences of Covid and what they have been doing in school. Thank you to Revd Jane for coordinating this for us. We have been overwhelmed by the response! Thank you so much to everyone who has taken the time to reply. Whilst the intention was for our children to spread love, happiness and hope widely through our community, what has happened is that this generosity and happiness has been reciprocated. Our children have absolutely loved receiving your letters and I know they will be treasured.

Helping children cross the road is an important job. Could you be our next school crossing patrol person? We would love to be able to fill this role. The times are the beginning and end of the school day, term times only. For more information contact our school office or Pam Street, Road Safety Officer, at [pam.street@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:pam.street@lincolnshire.gov.uk) or on 07876 035186.

Do you or a friend or family member have a child who is due to start school in September 2021? Families do not need to live in Welton to attend our school. You can apply for a school place up until 15th January using the online application system which can be found at [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/schooladmissions). If you are interested and would like more information e-mail [enquiries@welton-st-marys.lincs.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@welton-st-marys.lincs.sch.uk), phone us on 01673 860339 or take a look at our website [www.weltonstmarysacademy](http://www.weltonstmarysacademy). We can show families around our school (it is an outside tour). If you would like to visit, please call our school office team and make an appointment.

We are looking forward to 2021 and all the positives that it will bring.

***Mrs Nicola Gough, Headteacher***