Our Christmas prayers, wishes and blessings, peace and happiness to all from 40

My prayer for Christmas is that everyone can have a Christmas dinner on their tables. Shaya

My prayer for Christmas is that all poor or lonely people could have a good Christmas. Lily

I pray for Santa. R.J.

My prayer is that the children in Africa could one day celebrate Christmas. Abby

My hope for Christmas is that we could all work together to help the endangered animals. Madhav

My hope for Christmas is that the people in Paris can all be safe and happy. Kiara

Our prayer for Christmas is that doctors can find cures for people who have illness and disabilities. Jarrad & Ryley

A spirit centred community of learners inspired by Jesus, seeking integrity and fullness of life.

Week 8 Term 4 Thursday, 3 December 2015

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From The Principal

Dear Parents and Carers

As we draw to the end of another school year, it is a good opportunity to review the highlights and challenges we have experienced as a school. In any community, as in any family, we have the opportunity to celebrate the achievement of our goals and aspirations as well as focus attention on new learning and the things we would do differently! Resilience is a most valuable character trait and it is needed more than ever in a society that is constantly changing and the ability to cope with multiple pressures that stretch our patience and sometimes goodwill.

At All Saints, there have been many achievements. As I was meeting with the P & F Committee yesterday, we reflected on the past year and it became obvious there is much to celebrate. We have had many successful events such as Sports Day, Pancake Day (Shrove Tuesday), Meet The Teacher/AGM evening, Italian Day and Children’s Discos to mention just a few.

As a teaching team, we are very proud of the development of a new Literacy strategy, continuing in our Reggio Emilia knowledge, strengthened parish partnerships and our big focus this year on the development of a new Behaviour Education Plan. Indeed the same holds true, there are many more achievements and like every bright star, there is a shadow; that is, there are continued challenges that need our attention, commitment and wisdom. As Principal after my first year at All Saints, I remain very impressed with the resilience of the staff and the vast number of children in our school.

While there is still much to do, we are very excited about the promise of new initiatives, facilities and partnerships in the wider community. For example, as you are all aware, we will be embarking on a significant building programme commencing early next year. It is also no secret that All Saints will be launching an Arts programme for our children and a new look Middle school. There are, of course, more opportunities which you will hear more about in the new year. I hope you share in our confidence and outlook for a great year ahead.

Please remind your child/ren about the importance of keeping safe at all times when not in the care of parents or staff members. If your child walks home it is particularly important to ‘play out’ scenarios so if there ever is a concern, they have a pathway to safety. We certainly revisit safety regularly.

A letter will be coming home next week to explain a change of dates for Pupil Free Days in Term 1, 2016. Briefly, the dates are no longer Monday, 1 February or Friday 11 March. The new Pupil Free Days are Wednesday, 23 and Thursday, 24 March, 2016.

Finally, I wish to thank you for your trust and partnership not only for the whole of 2015 but especially over the last few months as we have been shaping our new cohorts for 2016. The discernment has been very deep and decisions about the best placement for your child is almost complete. I know the children are already speculating about who their class teacher will be but the truth is your child will have many ‘class teachers’ as we collaborate more strongly in the future to bring richer experiences to the children.

I trust that you will prepare your child for change and support them in accepting that not getting their ‘best friend’ (if this is what happens) is actually a wonderful opportunity to build resilience and new friendships; skills which we know are important for true success in life!

Wishing you and your families a joyous Christmas and very Happy New Year. I look forward to seeing you all when we return on Monday, 1 February, 2016.

Regards
Justin Cavuoto
Principal
All Saints Annual Christmas Hamper Collection
Each year All Saints collects items that will make Christmas extra special for families in our local community. If you would like to contribute please bring non-perishable food, drinks or treats to add to the Christmas basket in your child’s classroom. The hampers will be distributed this year by the Seaford Ecumenical Mission (SEM). We are happy to accept donations right up to the end of the term. We would like to thank you for your generosity in advance. *Matthew 25:35*

Advent
The word ‘advent’ is taken from the Latin word ‘adventus’, meaning the coming or arrival of a very important person. For Christians, Advent is the time in which we wait and prepare for the birth of Jesus. It is a time for Christians to reflect upon what they can share with others in return for all the gifts God has given them, especially the gift of Jesus. The children have been exploring the significance of each of the candles.

**First Sunday of Advent:** The first violet candle is lit and is known as the Prophet Candle.

**Second Sunday of Advent:** Second violet candle is lit and is known as the Bethlehem Candle.

**Third Sunday of Advent:** The rose coloured candle is lit and is known as the Shepherd’s Candle. This candle represents Gaudete Sunday. The word Gaudete means ‘rejoice’ in Latin and signifies that it is time to rejoice, for the Lord is near. **Fourth Sunday of Advent:** The third violet candle is lit and is known as the Angel’s Candle.

End of Year Thanksgiving Liturgy
On Tuesday, 8 December at 6:00pm we will come together under the sails for the End of Year Thanksgiving Liturgy and Year 7 Graduation. It is an expectation that all children attend the liturgy to farewell the 2015 school year. The children will meet their teacher in their classrooms at 5:45pm in their full Summer Uniform. It is a good idea to bring along a jumper as it can get quite fresh. The children are also welcome to bring a small cushion to sit on throughout the liturgy. The liturgy will be an opportunity to farewell not only our Year 7 children but several staff members: Carina Dallwitz, Victoria Brown and Emily Saunders. A blessing for our departing children and staff:

*May the feet of God walk with you,*  
*and His hand hold you tight.*  
*May the eye of God rest on you,*  
*and His ear hear your cry.*  
*May the smile of God be for you,*  
*and His breath give you life.*  
*May the child of God grow in you,*  
*and His love bring you home.*

Reconciliation
On Wednesday, 25 November a group of 18 All Saints children celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation at St Luke’s. The children prepared for the celebration gathering with children from St John the Apostle Parish School for workshops exploring the importance of forgiveness in our Catholic community. The children will continue with their sacramental journey next year, with the celebrations of Confirmation and First Eucharist. Congratulations to the following children Holly, Azalea, Emily, Jayden P, Christopher, Sian, Thomas, Anthony, Shannon, Kayla, Melody, Lorenzo, Jayden S, Megan, Evie, Maximilian, Jordan and Leanna.

Merry Christmas
Last Sunday an enthusiastic group of children and staff took part in the Christies Beach Christmas Pageant. The All Saints float was celebrating the birth of Jesus as Mary and Joseph sat peacefully in the stable surrounded by Wise Men and Shepherds. Many angels appeared to celebrate the birth! The All Saints children handed out treats that they spent hours writing on to the crowd, giving Christmas blessings to the community!

*Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel. Isaiah 7:14*

Kate Turner  
APRIM
IMPORTANT INFORMATION

♦ The Uniform Shop will be closed during Week 9, Term 4 for stocktake and relocation.

♦ The Uniform Shop will be open for one day in the school holidays: Friday 29 January from 9:00am—3:00pm.

♦ As of 2016 there will no longer be a shopfront, all uniforms must be ordered via the website or Front Office using the Order Form. Orders will be filled on a day to be announced and delivered to your child’s class. If any items need to be exchanged this will need to be done through the class box with a note attached. Second hand uniforms will be located in the hall and will also be accessible on a day and time to be announced.

♦ When placing an order please use one of the following payment options: cash, EFTPOS or cheque. The option of adding School Uniform Orders to your school fees is no longer available.

Thank you
All Saints Uniform Shop Team.

ITALIAN CORNER

Ciao, adesso ci troviamo all’ultima edizione dell’anno scolastico.
(Hello, now we find ourselves at the last edition of the school year).

Recently in Italian we have been focusing our learning on Il Natale (The Christmas). In classes we’ve been reading the story of La Befana – the kind old woman from the hills of Italy who comes out on the eve of Epiphany every year to deliver presents to all the good children, and coal to the naughty ones.

Nel frattempo (in the meantime) we’ve also been spending time watching a video about Italy’s Christmas traditions, making Christmas cards and many of the children have enjoyed singing the folk song ‘Domenic The Italian Christmas Donkey’. Some of the children have also been using their Italian to compose letters to Babbo Natale (Father Christmas) and designing their own presepe (nativity scenes).

Last week we had the pleasure of cooking Struffoli with the children in Year 6. Struffoli is a traditional southern Italian Christmas dessert made by rolling dough into small bite size balls and deep frying them before drizzling them with honey.

Here is a recipe for anybody who would like to cook some over the Christmas break: Food Network—Struffoli

Grazie a tutti il personale, bambini, genitori e altre persone della comunità di All Saints per un’anno meraviglioso. (Thankyou to all staff, children, parents and other people in the All Saints community for such a marvellous year).

Buon Natale e Felice Anno Nuovo a tutti! (Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all!)

Il Signor Vaudo e La Signora Pardoe.

LITTLE SAINTS PLAYGROUP

Merry Christmas to all our Playgroup Families

Playgroup will start again in 2016 in Week 2 and will be held in the Hall upstairs on the mezzanine floor.

Merry Christmas to all our Playgroup Families
Other School News

YEAR 4 & CHESS CLUB

Sadly, Fred Loipersberger has retired from teaching children Chess. Fred has been teaching Chess since 2010 and I have witnessed many children master the game and become little chess champions. (I, too, have learnt how to play Chess).

We thank you Fred for passing on your expert skills and knowledge of the game to the children.

We wish Fred all the best and thank him for his dedication and love of the game.

Fred you will be missed.

Gina Cusano
Resource Centre

SEAFORD COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CAROLS

This year SEM will be hosting the Seaford Community Carols

Sunday, 6 December
6.00–8:30pm.

Seaford Town Square
(the grassed area in front of the Seaford Library)

The concert involves many local artists including a group of singers from All Saints. There will be a sausage sizzle and drinks available for purchase or you can provide your own picnic if you wish.

Bring along your picnic rugs/chairs and enjoy the carols.

Father Christmas will also be making an appearance. It will be a fun filled evening.

RESOURCES CENTRE

End of Year Procedures

Children, particularly those leaving the school, must return all library books and readers to the Resource Centre by Friday, Week 8. Accounts will be sent out to parents/carers for overdue, lost or damaged books. There will be no school holiday borrowing due to stocktaking.

A big thank you to Joshua Goldfinch and Sue Little for helping out in the Resource Centre and all the other volunteers who helped out in any way throughout the year.

Gina Cusano
Resource Centre

Lost Property & Borrowed Clothes

Please ensure that ALL your children’s school uniform items are clearly named so they can be returned if lost.

If your child has misplaced a uniform item, please be sure to check the lost property basket outside the Front Office.

If your child has borrowed clothes from the Front Office, please return them once they are washed & dried.
Diary Dates

**December**
- Friday 4th: Assembly (2BR), 9:15am in the hall
- Tuesday 8th: End of Year Liturgy, 6:00pm in The Courtyard
- Wednesday 9th: Year 7 Graduation, 7:00—9:00pm
- Thursday 10th: Last day of Term 4, 3:10pm finish
- Friday 11th: Pupil Free Day

**February**
- Monday 1st: First Day of Term 1, 2016. 8:45am start

Frequently Asked Questions

When will my child find out their class teacher for 2016?
*Children will find out their class teachers for 2016 in Week 9. There will be a Meet the Teacher morning Wednesday, 9 December where all children will be introduced to their teachers for next year.*

When is the End of Year Liturgy?
*The End of Year Liturgy will be held on Tuesday, 8 December at 6:00pm in The Courtyard. All children are expected to attend this wonderful occasion. A note was sent home this week with a reply slip. Please return this to your child’s class by Friday, 4 December.*

What is the last day for Term 4?
*Thursday, 10 December is the last day for Term 4. School will finish at 3:10pm. Friday, 11 December is a Pupil Free Day.*

What is the first day of 2016?
*Term 1, 2016 will begin at 8:45am on Monday, 1 February. Please see Justin Cauvuto’s article on Page 2 for more information.*

NOW ENROLLING FOR 2017

Limited Places
All families wishing to enrol their children in Reception for 2017 must lodge a completed Application for Enrolment form (including siblings of existing students).

If your child is born between 1 May & 31 October, they are now eligible for our Semester 2 intake.

An Application for Enrolment form is available from the Front Office. Contact Leisa Macey, Enrolments Officer, on 8327 0020 for more information.

The All Saints Administration Team would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas & Happy new Year.

God Bless you all & see you in 2016