

## **“Prepare the Way of the Lord!”** Luke 3:4

Advent is a season of preparation not just for Christmas, but for Jesus' return too. We don't know exactly when Jesus will return; but we need to be prepared.

Before Jesus started his ministry, John the Baptist was sent by God to prepare people.

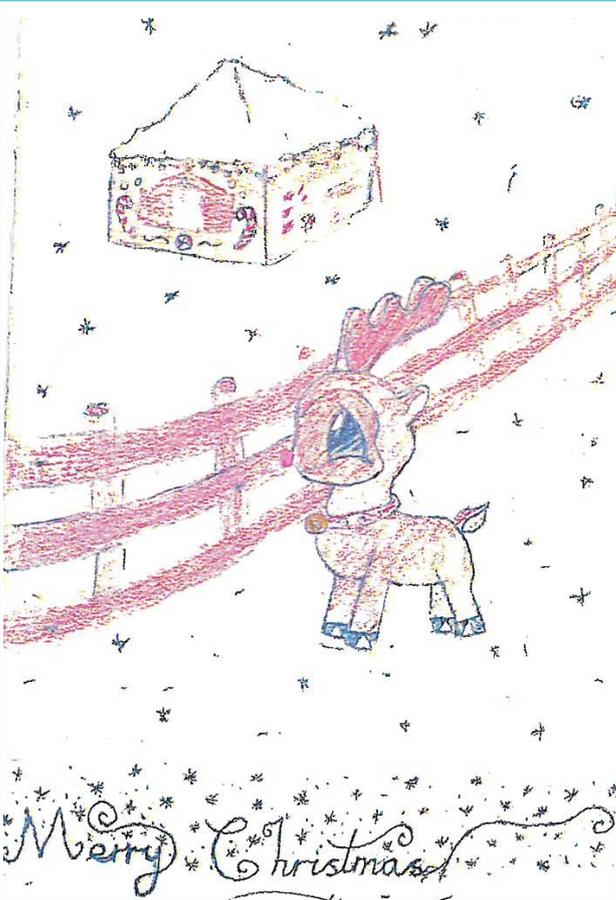
“Imagine a king was coming to visit your village, but the road into the village was covered in potholes and bumps. What would you do?”

Someone in the crowd answered, “I'd fill in the potholes and smooth over every bump, so the king had a nice easy journey into the village.”

“Exactly!” said John, “Your heart is like that road, covered in potholes and bumps. You need to change your hearts and prepare yourself for the Lord, because he's coming!” John told people that the way to change their hearts was to say sorry and ask for God's forgiveness.

The journey to prepare our hearts for Jesus will last a lifetime, but Advent offers us all an opportunity to reflect on how our journey is going.

***“All mankind shall see the salvation of God.” Luke 3:6***



**From everyone at St Mary's  
we would like to wish you  
all a very happy Christmas  
and New Year!**

Thank you to our Pupil Voice, Talitha, Jemima and Rayya who created and designed this picture.

### **Prayer**

Dear Jesus,  
Thank you that you came at Christmas and  
you will come again one day.  
Help me know the joy of putting you at the  
centre of my Christmas and my life.



THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who donated Pet Food and pet toys to Monarch Mutts. We had two very special visitors, Narla and Daisy who came to say thank you! As well as the food and toys we also raised £130.00 to help Monarch Mutts with their work.



### CALENDAR DATES

Event	Date	Time
Children return to School	Monday 7th January	8.40am
Whole School Mass—Year 6	Friday 11th January	9.00am—9.30am
Last day for Primary School Admissions	Tuesday 15th January	All Day
Whole School Mass—Year 5	Friday 18th January	9.00am—9.30am
Whole School Mass—Year 4	Friday 25th January	9.00am—9.30am
Whole School Mass—Year 3	Friday 1st February	9.00am—9.30am
Whole School Mass—School Council	Friday 8th February	9.00am—9.30am
Pyramid Concert	Thursday 14th February	7.00pm—9.00pm
Children break up for half term	Friday 15th February	3.00pm

Merry Christmas  
and Happy New Year!



See you on Monday 7th January!