

## **Christmas Gifts for your child!**

If you can help your children with these skills, each will be a Christmas gift that will last for life, an essential for many years to come!



### **\*Can your child fasten their coat?**

Even some of our juniors struggle with this. Yet it is a skill for life that can be taught, and should be expected as soon as children are in school.

### **\*Does your child have good manners, always saying “Please” and “Thank you”?**

We have been having a ‘big push’ on this recently in school, and it is paying off. Hopefully all the children are doing this outside school too. We recommend that you expect good manners at all times.

### **\*Does your child read with an adult each night - and are they supported with homework?**

Statistics show that where this happens, children do best in primary school, and we expect your help with this. Just 10 minutes a night is guaranteed to improve your child’s reading ability dramatically.

### **\* Does your child know their times tables?**

It is recommended that all children should know their full time tables **by the end of Year 4** (Miss Pugh’s class). Of course, some can’t achieve this – but just do your best! Even infants should be counting in 2’s, 5’s and 10’s – and should learn times tables if they are able. Buy your child a time tables poster or a CD or DVD for Christmas, and practise with them regularly.

### **\*Does your child behave well?**

Have a zero tolerance policy at home – and be tough on bad behaviour. Short term pain will guarantee long term gain. Look at all the well behaved children you see when you come to school – does your child live up to the highest standards? If you need help, do come and see us .

**These are just a few ideas – thank you to everyone who can tick all the above boxes! Many children already can – please help us to help your child by working at these targets every day!**

**Merry Christmas! Thank you for your support!**

*From all the staff at St Mary of the Angels*

