



St John the Baptist Catholic Primary School
A Voluntary Academy

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**Newsletter: Autumn Term
28th November 2019**

Dear Parents and Carers,

This Sunday sees the beginning of Advent and next week we will begin our Advent Praise liturgies. On Monday this will be led by Years 5 and 6, with Years 3 and 4 leading the liturgy on the 9th December and Late Foundation, Year 1 and Year 2 leading the final Advent Praise on the 16th December. All parents, carers and parishioners are welcome to join us for these very special liturgies. There are many events taking place over the coming weeks and I look forward to seeing many of you at these events.

Have a good week.

Mrs Warters



Dress Down Day for the PA Christmas Fair – Friday 29th November

Tomorrow Friday, 29th November, we will be holding a dress down day. Children may come to school in non-uniform in exchange for a prize which may be used on one of our tombola stalls at the Christmas Fair.

In addition, if you have any unused gifts, toiletries, bottles or chocolate which you could donate to the Christmas Fair, we would be extremely grateful. These can be left with Mrs Edginton, in the school office, or a member of staff. Many thanks in advance.

Illness – Winter Flu virus

Over the last two weeks we have had many children who have had the current 'bug' which appears to be hitting many schools across the West Yorkshire area. You may have also seen many reports of this in the media over the last few days. If your child is unwell with a high temperature, sickness and/or diarrhoea please keep them at home for 48 hours from the last time they were sick. We are also reminding the children about handwashing at all times to try and eliminate this current virus. Could we also ask that water bottles are cleaned thoroughly daily to stop the spread of any further germs. The school is being cleaned regularly throughout the day by Mr Chester and his team especially the 'touch point' areas to try to minimise the spread of the current virus.

Inspire Workshops

Over the next few weeks we will be holding Inspire Mornings across school. Please look out for a letter from your child's class teacher with further information. The dates are:

Tuesday 3rd December – Late Foundation Inspire Workshop 9.15am

Wednesday 4th December – KS1 Inspire Workshop 9.15am

Tuesday 10th December – Y3/4 Inspire Workshop 9.15am

Wednesday 11th December – Y5/6 Workshop 2.00pm

Election Day

Our nursery is to be used as a Polling Station on 12th December for the General Election. Please note that the Nursery will be closed for both sessions on that day. Main school will be open as normal.

Nativity plays

Our Nursery and Late Foundation children will be putting on a performance of Nursery Rhyme Nativity on Wednesday 18th December at 9.30am and 2.00pm

KS1 children will be performing 'Hey Ewe' on Tuesday 17th December at 9.30am and 2.00pm. Refreshments will be available at both performances. All welcome.

'A Taste of Christmas'

On Tuesday 10th December at 1.30pm our children will be entertaining some of our more senior parishioners and elderly residents of Newfield House with a festive selection of songs, as well as providing tea and festive cakes. This event will be led by our Mini Vinnies supported by members of our Parents Association. If you know of any elderly relatives or parishioners that may wish to attend please contact the school office to leave their name for an allocated place by Friday 6th December. It is important that we have numbers of attendees for catering purposes by that date.

Please note that this event is not for general attendance but is specifically for the more 'senior' members of our parish and community and is an allocated event for catering purposes.

Nasal Flu Vaccinations

These will take place next Tuesday 3rd December for children from LF – Y6 for those parents who have requested this and returned the forms to school back in October.

Pantomime – Jack and the Beanstalk

Next Friday 6th December the children will have the opportunity to attend the pantomime Jack and the Beanstalk performed by Acorn productions. This will take place in school and is part funded by the Parents Association but we would ask for a voluntary contribution of £2.50 towards the cost. Please see the letter with further details which was sent out previously. It is a wonderful event and thoroughly enjoyed by the children across school. Oh yes it is!

Christmas Dinner

Our celebration Christmas Dinner takes place on 11th December for **all year groups**. If your child wishes to have a school dinner on that day you will need to log on to your School Grid account to place an order.

Christmas Fair - Thursday 5th December 3-5pm

The Fair will open at 3pm on Thursday 5th December. Parents can collect children at 3pm on this day and visit the fair. If you do wish to collect your child at 3pm, you will need to go to the classroom doors, as usual, and come into the fair through the main entrance to school.

The PA are appealing for some support with preparations for the Christmas Fair. On Monday 2nd December, at 9am, they would be grateful of any extra help that can be provided with wrapping gifts and tagging items for the various stalls. If you feel that you could spare an hour or two, come along to the school office once you have dropped off your child/ren and if you can provide the manpower, we'll provide the tea and biscuits!

Christmas Raffle Tickets

This will be drawn at the end of the Christmas Fair. Tickets are £1.00 each. Please write your name and contact details on the counterfoil and return them with the money to school in a sealed envelope. Can you return any unsold tickets to the school office, thank you.

Get active and win!

Wakefield SSP are launching a new campaign 'THE BIG TWEET OFF'. This campaign is based around getting as many school children active as possible with their families and friends outside of school life.

As we all know the level of physical activity is rapidly decreasing outside of school and we want to help encourage as many parents and children to get as active as possible.

To enter the competition you must be following the twitter account @WakefieldSSP and submit a picture of you taking part in physical activity outside of school and tweet @WakefieldSSP on Twitter. You must tag us in the picture and add the #Team of your school name e.g #TeamStJohntheBaptist.

The school with the most entries will win 6 sessions of lunch time clubs for our school

Mini Vinnies Advent appeal for the 'Well' and the homeless

Throughout Advent our Mini Vinnies are collecting tins, packets, toiletries etc for the Well Project in Haw Hill Park. The Well Project serves those in our local community and it is good that our Mini Vinnies are turning their motto 'Turning concern into action' into practice in our local community. Billy one of our Y4 Mini Vinnies was so affected by the needs of the homeless in Wakefield and has asked that we also have a clothing collection to support this. Please send in any clean adult clothing especially hats, scarves, socks, gloves, jumpers and coats that can be used by those in need in the coming months.

We will be collecting items for both groups from Monday 2nd – Monday 16th December

Scholastic half price Book Fair

We will be holding a half price book fair in school from Monday 9th – Thursday 12th December. Come along to see the many bargains on offer and possible Christmas presents for the children in the family.

E Safety Guidance - Gaming and loot boxes

Many of our children have gaming consoles and access online games. Please find below a link to a great article from the UK Safer Internet Centre that explains 'loot boxes' in a nice, easy to understand way for adults.

<https://www.betterinternetforkids.eu/web/portal/practice/awareness/detail?articleId=5158001>

Masses at St John the Baptist Church

Saturday at 6.00pm

Sunday at 10.00am – Children's Liturgy takes place during the 10.00am Mass during term time. All welcome

Children's Liturgy - We remind parents that the Sunday Children's Liturgy of the Word is **only** for children up to, **but not including** those who have started their Preparation for or have already received the First Sacraments.

Crib Sunday – 16th December – Third Sunday of Advent. The traditional Blessing of the Church Crib will also include the blessing of family / home Cribbs. Everyone is welcome to bring their home / family Crib to the Church for blessing at the 10am Mass.

100 Club

If you wish to purchase a 100 Club number for £10 for this academic year, please call in to the school office.

The winners from last week are;

Number 66, Florence Y2,

Number 12, Isabelle Y1

Gold Book Assembly

The next God Book assembly will take place next Friday 6th December at 2.30pm

Diary Dates

Friday 29th November – Dress down day for Christmas fair

Monday 2nd December – Y5/6 Advent Praise 2.45pm

Tuesday 3rd December – Foundation Stage Inspire morning 9.15am

Wednesday 4th December – KS1 Inspire morning 9.15am

Thursday 5th December – PA Christmas Fair 3pm onwards

Friday 6th December – Pantomime – Jack and the Beanstalk

Monday 9th December Y3/4 Advent praise 2.45pm

Tuesday 10th December – Y3/4 Inspire Workshop 9.15am

Wednesday 11th December – Y5/6 Workshop 2.00pm

Wednesday 11th December - Christmas dinner Late Foundation/KS1

Thursday 12th December – KS2 Christmas dinner

Friday 13th December – Christmas Jumper Day

Monday 16th December - Y1/2 Advent Praise 2.45pm

Tuesday 17th December – KS1 Nativity 9.30am and 2.00pm

Wednesday 18th December Foundation Stage Nativity 9.30am and 2.15pm

Thursday 19th December – Christmas Party Day

Friday 20th December – School closes for Christmas

Attendance



Our school attendance target for each class is **96%**. Classes are rewarded for achieving the highest attendance for the week. This is acknowledged in the weekly Gold Book Assembly.

Congratulations to Year 6 who had the winning attendance for week ending 22nd November.

Late Foundation	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
91.33%	78.00%	93.67%	98.06%	97.33%	98.48%	92.86%

Our Virtue to live by:

I trust that God's love has no end and that He is at work in my life and in the world.

Safeguarding: Should you have any concerns regarding the safety of children please contact the Safeguarding Team. DSL: Mrs L Warters (Head of School) Deputy DSL: Mrs S Spittle Deputy DSL: Mrs D Ferguson Deputy DSL: Miss B Noone Mr K Flood (Executive Headteacher)