

All Saints' Catholic Primary School

Newsletter No 12 06.12.24

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As unique children of God we:
aspire not to have more but to be more.

To:

Love Christ
Listen to Christ
Learn from Christ



Our Advent wreath is in the hall, the Christmas tree is up, Advent promises sit opposite our crib and the prayer stations and travelling cribs are helping our pupils reflect on the true meaning of Christmas whilst waiting patiently for the coming of Jesus. The Nursery pupils delivered a memorable and beautiful nativity for their friends and family. Although many of them are only three years old and some pupils attending school for part of the week, they acted, spoke and sang with happiness and pure joy. We hope those who were lucky enough to attend enjoyed it! Rehearsals are well underway for our final two performances. Thank you to families for providing costumes and thanks in advance to our Friends of All Saints' who will be providing refreshments in the parish centre following the performances like they did earlier in the week at the Nursery nativity. Years Three and Four also treated us to a fantastic samba drumming performance yesterday...it is always such a treat to see the progress the pupils make with Mr. Abbott and our Year One's led a beautiful Celebration of the Word for us this morning.

Finally, thank you for your kind words in relation to our Catholic School Inspection. I am sure you will agree that the report highlights some wonderful features of our school. As usual, we thank you for your support. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Deacon Peter, Father Charles, our catechists and governors for the nurture and care they show our school and also, a thanks to our staff who work tirelessly to provide your children with a high quality education.

Sacramental Preparation

The information went out via email yesterday. Please note that on Thursday 13th February, **it is an information session at 6pm not a Mass.** This will take place in the parish centre – thank you.

Wriggly Nativity and Bethlehem the Musical

Next Thursday and Friday, there will be Mass at 9am before our Christmas performances. Fr. Charles has already changed the morning Mass times to accommodate us and we are very grateful. On the morning of the performances, you will be invited into church once Mass is finished. Until then, please ensure that you do not enter church and interrupt worship and please be mindful of the amount of noise you are making if you are waiting outside. Thank you.

We cannot wait for the performances next week. For the season of Advent, we will be fundraising for the [CAFOD World Gifts](#) campaign; there will be an opportunity to give to a retiring collection.

Raffle

Thank you to everyone who has bought and returned raffle tickets to school. If you'd like to request any more, please just ask – it will be drawn at the end of term. This raffle is an excellent way for our Friends to raise money for school which will go towards another outdoor play structure – many thanks!

Willowburn (Y6) and Lynwood House (Y5)

Families should have received an Arbor message detailing these events planned for the last week of term. We do not need to collect specific consent as these visits are part of the local area consent that has already been provided.

Christmas Mass

On the final day of term, please consider joining us for Mass -9.30 am- at All Saints' church. Year Six will lead us and it is always a joyful, enthusiastic celebration. All are welcome!

Christmas Parties

Your child can come into school on the day of their party dressed in their party clothes; if the weather is wet, please ensure your child has separate shoes suitable for outdoors and a warm coat. On the morning of the party, the children will stay with their classes and then they will have their party on the afternoon where they will play games, have party food and may be visited by a special visitor...or two!

Christmas Lunch

On Tuesday 17th December, pupils are welcome to come into school dressed in their uniform with a Christmas jumper. Messages have been sent on Arbor about booking your child's Christmas meal. Please get in touch if you require any help.

Nursery & Reception Pyjama Day

On Wednesday 18th December, pupils in EYFS are invited to come into school wearing their pyjamas for a special, festive treat day. Once they are in school, they can change into their slippers and dressing gowns!

Class Handmade Gifts

The deadline for ordering Christmas items that the children are making is Monday 9th December – booking is available on Arbor!

The Pantomime is coming – oh yes it is!

On Wednesday, we will welcome M & M Theatre Productions to school so we can enjoy a pantomime; this is always a great treat for the pupils – and staff!

Music Performance

Our brass musicians will be performing on Tuesday 17th December at 9.30 a.m. Please come along to join us and celebrate their hard work!

Times Table Rock Stars

Year Group of the Week: **Year Four**

Players of the Week:

1st Ben (Y3), 2nd Enea (Y4), 3rd Lucy N (Y4)

Small Saints: news from our nursery

We have been making Christmas cards for our grown ups this week in Nursery, painting either of our feet or our hands and trying our best to write our names! Then, on Wednesday morning, we walked to the post office in the village to buy some stamps and posted the finished cards in the post box. Next Wednesday afternoon, we will walk back and post the rest of the cards! We have also enjoyed playing a listening game, identifying different sounds such as: unwrapping presents; singing carols; and eating Christmas dinner. The travelling crib has started to go home each night with a different child. Thank you for giving Mary and Joseph a home and adding your photographs to Tapestry – we love looking at them in class!

Our Book of the Week: Can't You Sleep Little Bear? By Martin Waddell

Our Song of the week: our Nativity songs!

Reminders:

Even though your child attends our Nursery, you still need to apply for their place at our school for Reception class in September 2025. Do it here: [Primary school places - Durham County Council](#)

This week's scripture: Luke 21:25-28, 34-36 – Catholic Social Teaching: Solidarity

The theme of the scripture: The First Sunday of Advent – be patient, be ready.

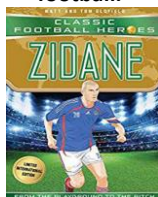
Link to British Values: Tolerance

Looking for a good read?

Eliza in Year Six recommends:

Zidane by Matt & Tom Oldfield (age 10+)

"This is a book about Zinedine Zidane a famous football player that used to play for Real Madrid. This book tells the story of his football journey. For example, there are chapters on: World Cup Final 1998; Euro 2000; and Champions League Glory. I liked reading this book because it showed times when he failed like when he received a red card in his last match ever! I recommend this book for people who like football."



Our Designated Safeguarding Leads are:

Mrs. Stephenson; Mrs. Conlin;
Mrs. Dunn; and Mrs. Pearson
Mrs. Turnbull (governor)

Our SENDCO is:

Mrs. Bryant
Mrs. Dunn (governor)

ATTENDANCE

This week's whole school
attendance has been:
94.8%

Our attendance target is 97%

Christmas Dates for Your Diary

Event	Class	Date	Time
Parishioners Afternoon Tea – in hall	Years Three & Four	10 th December	1.30pm
Pantomime Visits School	Whole School	11 th December	-
Sport Afternoon – PE Kit	Year Two	11 th December	-
Infant Nativity & Refreshments	Rec – Year Two	12 th December	10am
Christmas Performance & Refreshments	Years Three – Six	12 th December	1.30pm
Christmas Performance & Refreshments	Years Three – Six	13 th December	10am
Infant Nativity & Refreshments	Rec – Year Two	13 th December	1.30pm
Christmas Party	Nursery, Rec & Y6.	16 th December	-
Handmade Christmas gifts home this week	-	17 th December	9.30am
Raffle Drawn	-	17 th December	-
Christmas Jumper & Lunch	Whole School	17 th December	-
Brass Performance	KS2	17 th December	9.30am
Christmas Party	Years One & Two	18 th December	-
Nursery & Reception Pyjama Day	EYFS	18th December	-
Singers to Lynwood House	Year Five	18 th December	1.30 – 2.15ish
Singers to Willowburn	Year Six	19 th December	9.30ish
Christmas Party	Years Three, Four & Five	19 th December	-
Advent Mass	Whole School	20 th December	9.30am