



St John the Baptist Catholic Primary School
A Voluntary Academy

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Newsletter: Autumn Term 5th December 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

School is a hive of activity with lots of activities taking place in our preparations for the Advent season; this week we have had two of our Advent Inspire workshops which have been greatly attended by parents and carers. Some of our Y4 children attended a BKCAT Advent art Workshop yesterday at one of our BKCAT schools and had a wonderful morning undertaking art activities. Today our school choir joined the other schools in Normanton at the Carol Service in All Saints church. They represented our school so well singing beautifully. This was a wonderful opportunity for all our schools in the town to come together in celebration of the season.

Next week we look forward to more Inspire Workshops and our school Christmas dinner.

Have a good week.

Mrs Warters



Illness – Winter Flu virus

Over the last few 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. Please also see the guidance sent out through Groupcall last week on how to prevent the spread of the virus.

Inspire Workshops

Next week we will be holding the following Inspire Mornings. Please look out for a letter from your child's

class teacher with further information. The dates are:

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 Thursday 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.

Christmas Jumper Day – Friday 13th December

Next Friday 13th December we will be supporting the Save the Children 'Christmas Jumper Day'. In exchange for £1 children may wear a Christmas jumper or, if they do not have a Christmas jumper or T-shirt, they may trim themselves up with some tinsel or other festive decorations to join in the festive fun.

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 tomorrow, 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.

Pantomime – Jack and the Beanstalk

Tomorrow 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 - Today 3-5pm

The Fair will open today, Thursday 5th December, at 3pm. Parents can collect children at 3pm 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.

Parking

Please note that parking, the dropping off and picking up of children at the beginning and end of the school day is **not** allowed in the staff car park. This area is designated for staff and visitors by prior arrangement only.

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

As Christmas approaches and many of your children will be receiving new technology and console games some useful websites to consult are:

NSPCC how to set parental controls;
www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/parental-controls/

Choosing the right console game for your child:
parentzone.org.uk/article/choosing-right-console-games-christmas

www.gov.uk/government/news/keep-children-safe-online-this-christmas-top-tips

Please help to keep your child safe online by monitoring their usage and applying parental controls to all devices.

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 Crib. 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.

Gold Book Assembly

The next Gold Book assembly will take place tomorrow Friday 6th December at 2.30pm.

The following children have made it into the Gold Book this week. We are very proud of them, and their achievements:

Lunchtime Awards – Ethan Y2 & Ava-Beau Y4

Late Foundation – Ned & Wiktor

Year 1 – Pravan & Charlie

Year 2 – Ava & Teddie M

Year 3 – Ellie & Daniel

Year 4 – Lucy & Jamie

Year 5 – Lillie & Lucas

Year 6 – Jacques & Phoebe

Diary Dates

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, whole school

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

Monday 6th January – School term begins

Thursday 9th January – Young Voices

Friday 10th January – Gold book assembly

Friday 24th January – Gold Book Assembly

Friday 7th February – Gold Book Assembly

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 29th November.

Late Foundation	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
59.67%	83.00%	72.00%	78.39%	85.67%	89.39%	91.79%

Our Virtue to live by: Patience

I can wait. I have self- control and act calmly even when things are difficult

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)