



# St. Teresa's Catholic Primary School Newsletter Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2019

*Little Flowers Growing and Giving Glory to God*

## Safeguarding

During Monday morning's assembly, we shared the importance of making sure that external doors are closed when they should be. We also discussed that children should not be giving sweets or chocolates to classmates, which does happen when it's a child's birthday, without the staff knowing who is having the sweets or chocolates. We discussed the examples of a 'Snickers' or 'Bounty,' which could not be eaten safely by children or staff with a nut allergy. We also discussed that if a child who is involved in an after school activity gets hurt the child should make a member of staff aware and if required have medical treatment. There are staff on the school site, or if it is an event off site there will be a staff member with the children.

On Tuesday, schools were alerted to the following by West Midlands Police. This message is also on the home page of the school website.

*West Midlands Police has been made aware of an App called "UNICO LIVE". The app is publicised as age restricted 12+ and designed for young people to upload videos of them performing, singing and dancing etc.; it has come to our attention that there is inappropriate content on the platform involving young people which is being investigated. The content does not appear to be monitored and we urge you to raise awareness widely to increase vigilance and reduce the likelihood of any child being sexually exploited.*

## Year 4 visit to Blakesley Hall

On Tuesday, Year 4 visited Blakesley Hall. The reports that I had about the Year 4 children's behaviours and attitudes were very positive. Thank you to Miss Gibbon, Mrs Roberts and Miss Swain for taking the children on this visit.

## Wednesday Word

The school is looking ready for Christmas; the Christmas tree is in the hall and the Christmas post-box is in the entrance hall but more importantly displays sharing the events of in the Christmas story leading up to the Nativity are around the school.



The Sunday Gospel through School on Wednesday

This week, the children in the Junior classes should have received a copy of the Wednesday Word. Please do make time to consider this weekend's gospel theme of 'Preparation' as we move through the liturgical season of Advent. We will reflect on this gospel reading at Monday morning's assembly.

## Christmas Fair

Today is 'Bottle Day'. Children could wear their own clothes if they brought in a full, unopened bottle. Thank you for your generous donations.

All children, their families and parishioners are welcome to attend the Christmas Fair tomorrow, from 12.00 noon to 2.00 p.m., which gathers us together as a community to spend time and money together. The Fair raises much needed funds for the parish and for the school.



## Top Table

Children are chosen from a year group each week to eat at the Top Table for a range of positive behaviours or work. The children selected to eat at the Top Table today for this week are from Year 2. Well done to Aydin, Amanvir, Pavneet, Motunrayo, Dawid & Josh who joined me for lunch today.

## Attendance and Punctuality

Well done to Year 4 who were the best attending class last week, with a 98.7% attendance. Congratulations to the most punctual class last week, which was Year 6 with one child late to school throughout the week.



### Attentive and Discerning

This half term the two Virtues that will be a focus for us and the other Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Birmingham are to be Attentive and Discerning.

Attentive to our experience and to our vocation; and discerning about the choices we make and the effects of those choices.

### Nativity performances

The Infant Nativity performances on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> and Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December will non-ticket performances but please reply to the seat request letter sent to parents/carers of Infant children and return it to the school office. There will be mince pies, teas and coffees available in the hall after the performances.

The Junior Nativity is at the church on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December at 7.00 pm. All are welcome to attend.

### Christmas dinners

Christmas Dinner at school will be on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December. If your child is in the Juniors and does not usually have a school dinner but would like a Christmas dinner it will cost £2.35 the same as any school meal, payable on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December. Infant children will be provided with a Christmas dinner without any charge, as is usual for school dinners for these classes. Junior children who have a school dinner are to pay the usual payment and will then automatically have a Christmas meal on that day.

Grandparents of the Reception class children are invited to dine with their grandchildren that afternoon. A letter with all of the details was in the Reception class children's bags earlier this week.

### First Confessions

Apologies to the parents and carers, and more importantly apologies to the twelve Year 3 children who expected to make their First Confession yesterday morning. This was postponed at short notice. Once a date has been rearranged and confirmed it will be forwarded to the relevant parents and to the children.

### Reception places for September 2020

Parents/carers who have a child born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2015 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2016 need to make an application for their child to start a Reception class in September 2020 by no later than Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> January 2020. This is done by an application at [www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions).

### Dates for the Diary

- Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December from 12.00 noon to 2.00 p.m. - School and Parish Christmas Fair at school.
- Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December at 2.15 p.m. and Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December at 9.15 a.m. - Infant classes' Nativity in school.
- **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December - School closed to children as it being used as a polling station for the General Election.**
- Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December at 7.00 p.m. to approximately 7.45 p.m. - Junior classes Carol Service at St. Teresa's Church.
- Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December - Infant children's Christmas parties in the afternoon. Infant children may wear their own clothes all day.
- Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 9.00 a.m. - Mass at school led by the Faith Ambassadors. All are welcome.
- Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December - Junior children's Christmas parties in the afternoon. Children may wear their own clothes all day.
- Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December at 3.20 p.m. - End of the Autumn Term.
- Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January - Start of the Spring Term for the children.

D. Corkery

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