

# St Nicholas Catholic Primary School

*'Love one another as I have loved you'*



Newsletter 5

Dear Parents & Carers,

I hope you all had a lovely half term holiday and welcome back. May I thank all our parents for being so supportive over the last half term and thank you for helping to keep all our children, staff and school community safe let us continue to do this as we start our second half term of the year. Covid is rapidly on the rise in many schools across the city. If your child has any symptoms, please take a test and inform the school office of your results. Please do not return to school if you have symptoms and have not tested.



Last half term started to feel a little bit more normal and many fantastic activities to enhance the curriculum took place:

Year 6 welcomed our new Reception children with a wonderful Buddy assembly; Year 2 led a wonderful Harvest assembly. We welcomed Northern Ballet in Years 3 and 4 and they recognised some real talent in school, which is fantastic. Many of our children took part in bikeability – learning to ride their bikes safely. Our PCSOs joined us to speak to the children about internet safety and firework safety. We presented a cheque to the Bishop of Leeds for our fund raising for the Good Shepherd Appeal, our Diocesan Cathedral Choir started again for the children in Years 3 and 4. A pianist also joined us once a week to help us learn some new hymns and songs together. Many of our wonderful children carried on their sacramental journeys with First Holy Communion and Confirmations.



**Primary School Applications:** Primary Applications to our Reception class for 2022 opened on 1st November 2021, closing 15th January 2021. Please see our school website for more information. Applicants need to complete our supplementary form as well as the Leeds City Council application form. Please pass this information onto any parents or friends who you know might be interested. We will be holding small group tours on 10<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> November, places must be booked please contact the school office.

## Key Dates & Events

**W/B 8<sup>th</sup> November: Year 2  
Phonics Screening begins**

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> November:  
Remembrance Assembly led  
by Year 4**

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> November:  
1:30pm New Reception tour**

**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> November:  
10am New Reception tour**

**22<sup>nd</sup> November:  
Safeguarding week**

**23<sup>rd</sup> November: Year 5 & 6  
Propaganda Museum**

**2<sup>nd</sup> December: Christingle  
led by Year 3/4**

**6<sup>th</sup> December: St Nicholas  
Day assembly Y5**

**8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> December:  
Nativity**

**14<sup>th</sup> December: Magician**

**15<sup>th</sup> December: Christmas  
parties**

**16<sup>th</sup> December: Christmas  
lunch & Jumper day**

**17<sup>th</sup> December: School  
closes 1:30pm for Christmas**

**4<sup>th</sup> January: School Reopens**

**Please note dates maybe  
subject to change**

*virtues to Live by: Hope and Patience*

**Phonics Screening Check:** All year 2 pupils will be doing the check this half term – this is because the check was cancelled last school year due to COVID-19.

The check is made up of 40 words, and usually lasts 5-10 minutes. Some words are real words, and others are nonsense, or 'alien' words that help to show if pupils can work out how to decode words they have not seen before.

The check helps us to see:

- How pupils are progressing in phonics
- Where to provide additional teaching and support

### Do we get to know the results?

- We have to report the results to Leeds Local Authority by the end of the autumn. We will also let you know the results.
- If your child does not meet the expected standard in the check, they will get to have another go next in the summer term.

### How can you help?

- Reading to and with your child
- Playing sound and reading games
- Teaching them new words, and showing them how they're written



God Bless

Mrs Burns  
Head Teacher