



St. Austin's Catholic Primary School A Catholic Voluntary Academy Weekly Newsletter: Friday 30th November 2018 No: 13



Spiritual Reflection



This Sunday we begin to celebrate the season of Advent. For the Church this is a time of preparation and hope as we look forward to the birth of Jesus.

In school we have been busy preparing our Advent Wreaths that will be blessed along with the UFS and KS1 cribs on Monday afternoon by Fr Simon.

This wonderful season reminds us all of how much we are loved by God and it provides us with a wonderful opportunity to remind everyone of this good news. This season we see the colour purple on our displays and in the church to remind us of a season that gives us all the opportunity to make a fresh start and to welcome Jesus into our lives.

For our children it is very much a time of waiting, a time of anticipation as they look ahead to the great feast of Christmas in a few weeks time. We will be taking time in our classrooms to gather around our Advent Wreaths recognising that in these dark months of winter the light of Christ remains with us to guard and to guide us. This is a lovely time of the year to be in school and we hope that as we pray each day in our classrooms lit only by 1 candle initially we will witness the light building and getting brighter the closer that we get to Christmas.

Christmas Nativities and Plays

UFS Nativity dates: Monday 10th December at 2pm and Tuesday 11th December at 2pm

KS1 Christmas Production dates: Wednesday 12th December at 2pm and Thursday 13th December at 9.30am

KS2 Christingle Carol Service: Thursday 20th December at 2.00pm

FOSAS News

School Disco—TONIGHT!

Our first school disco took place last Friday night and was a great success. Thank you to all those who helped out on the night as well as to the parents who supported the event. The event made a profit of £574—a fantastic achievement.

School Film Night

On Friday 14th December from 3.30 pm FOSAS will be hosting an event for pupils to watch a Christmas movie in school and to enjoy some refreshments while they are here. We are hoping to find a lovely festive movie to ensure everyone is feeling the spirit of Christmas! Following our discussions we have decided to have 2 films showing one in each hall. In KS1 it will be for UFS children and Y1 children and in the KS2 hall for Y2-Y6. This will allow us to get films that will appeal to and hold viewers.

Christmas Bingo

FOSAS will be serving seasonal refreshments at the two Christmas Bingo evenings (Tuesday 18th and Wednesday 19th December). If you can help either with the serving of refreshments on one of the evenings or by kindly donating mince pies your help will be much appreciated.

Next Meeting: Wednesday 5th December at 2.30pm

NO SWIMMING FOR YEAR 4 ON FRIDAY 7TH DECEMBER

Internet Safety Newsletter— The BKCA schools have decided to fund a regular monthly newsletter that we hope both you and your children will find useful in ensuring that we all stay safe on the internet. The first of these was sent home with last week's newsletter. Please let us know if you did not receive a copy.

Academy Council—Parent Governor

Following the recent election for Parent Governor to join our Academy Council Mrs Rebekah Taylor has been elected to serve on the Academy Council for a term of office of four years. We were delighted with the response to the initial letter we sent out and grateful to the other six parents who put themselves forward for election. Equally there was a good response from parents when voting. Thank you.

Christmas Fair—SS. Peter and Paul's Church

Our School Choir will be performing at SS. Peter and Paul's Christmas Fair **tomorrow** — Saturday 1st December. The fair opens at 10am.

First Reconciliation—St. Austin's

There will be a meeting **tomorrow** - Saturday 1st December from 2pm—4.30pm for those children who are preparing for the sacrament of reconciliation at St. Austin's Church.

Advent Craft Workshops

There will be an opportunity for you to join your child (all year groups) in making Advent Crafts this year. We are running two workshops during December having already held a combined Advent Craft Workshop and Stay and Play for UFS this morning.

On Friday 7th December an Advent Craft Workshop will take place for children from Years 1 to 4.

On Friday 14th December an Advent Craft Workshop will take place for children in Years 5 and 6.

The workshops will take place in the classrooms and also the halls in each building. If you are free on the day, why not come along and join your child? You will be most welcome.

Bikes in school

Next week you may see a larger number of bikes in school than usual. This is because a number of our Y5 pupils are taking part in the Bikeability initiative—a training programme that increases their awareness of road safety and how to cycle safely.

Christmas Events 2018

Saturday 1st December	Christmas Fair at SS. Peter and Paul's—10am start
Monday 3rd December	Blessing of the Advent Wreaths followed by Blessing of UFS and KS1 Cribs Travelling Cribs will be sent home from today starting with UFS classes.
Friday 7th December	Advent Crafts Workshops for Years 1-4 from 2pm
Friday 14th December	Christmas Jumper or 'Christmas up your Uniform' Day Advent Crafts Workshops for Y5 and 6 from 2pm FOSAS Christmas Movie Night—UFS and Y1 in KS1 Hall, Y2-Y6 in KS2 Hall
Monday 17th December	Christmas Celebration for Parishioners and Grandparents—10am
Tuesday 18th December	Christmas Dinner
Tuesday 18th December 3.45pm	UFS & KS1 Families - Christmas selection box Bingo (Selection Box prizes) from 3.45pm
Wednesday 19th December	Christmas Party Day KS2 Families - Christmas selection box Bingo (Selection Box prizes) from 3.45pm
Thursday 20th December	Mass for the whole school at 10am in KS2 Hall



Smiley Sun Charity Bags

Thank you very much for the bags that were brought into school this morning—another impressive number of bags full of items no longer needed or used but can be put to good use by others.

Family Event for Christmas—Bingo Evening with seasonal prizes, mince pies and Christmas Songs

As we are not having a Christmas Fair this year, we wanted to hold an event that brings our families together. We are holding two Bingo evenings (see above for dates). We would really appreciate any donations of selection boxes (or chocolates/biscuits) from families that can be used for prizes.

We are hoping that this will be a relaxed and fun event with: games of bingo, a chance for parents and families to socialise and get to know one another, seasonal refreshments and carol singing from our own school choir. If you have children in both key stages please feel free to attend either event.

Hot Chocolate Friday

The following children have been rewarded with 'Hot Chocolate with the Head' today for their super behaviour and excellent attitude towards an aspect of school life.

Class RK – Jan Duchna
Class RG—Kacper Szopa
Class 1T— Gabriel Batch– McGinty & Dawid Tomaszewski
Class 1/2C— Maja Szopa
Class 2V - Grasey Sata
Class 3W— Thomas Steele-McKay
Class 3/4AT— Ziva McCall
Class 4M— Karol Wiecek
Class 5B - Nikola Zielonka
Class 5/6C - Fatima Noor
Class 6CD - George Birkenshaw



Safety

The narrow roads near our school are heavily congested at drop off and pick up time. For those parents who stop briefly at the school gate to let their children out of the car, please remind them to be very careful when leaving your vehicle and walking the short distance to the school gates. This might be a good time to remind them of basic road safety. Just this week we have witnessed a few 'near misses' where children have walked in front of moving vehicles. Ideally please walk younger children (UFS and KS1 especially) to their playground. We appreciate how busy it is but we just want pupils and their families to be safe. Thank you.



Attendance

Congratulations to 2V who are this week's KS1 attendance winners with 96.66% and also to 4M in KS2 with an attendance of 97.22%.

Just a reminder that the school doors open at 08:50 and the day begins at 08:55. If you can ensure your child arrives on time. Thank you.



Why not be tempted to a hot meal on the cold days of the winter

The cost of a school dinner is £2.30 per day or £11.50 per week for children in KS1 and free for children in UFS and KS1.

Milk

If you wish your child to have milk each day at school the cost of this is £7.35 for next half-term.

Parish Mass times this weekend are:

St Austin's: Saturday at 6.15pm, Sunday at 8.15am, 11am and 6pm

Peter & Paul's Saturday at 5pm, Sunday at 10am

For further information please see the newsletters on the parish

websites: www.peterpaul.org.uk and www.catholicchurchwakefield.co.uk

