



# St Sebastian's Catholic Primary School & Nursery

Holly Road, Fairfield, Liverpool, L7 0LH

Head teacher Dennis Hardiman M.B.E.

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*Only my best will do; Be kind to one another*

21<sup>st</sup> December 2018

Dear Parents, Guardians and Friends

As we are "all prepared" for this "Holy and Special" celebration of the Birth of Jesus at Christmas, I do want to wish you, on behalf of myself and Mrs Mulligan our staff and Governors, a Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year. Enjoy this family time together.

There have been many highlights during the year. Our children have overall been great and have worked so hard in and out of the classroom. They are to be congratulated by all of us. The school's KS2 results have been fantastic and again a source of celebration, certainly amongst the best in Liverpool, Merseyside and standards compare to the 10,000 schools nationally. There will no doubt be a clearer picture later in the year as newspapers interpret this "validated" data.

We are fortunate to be blessed with "fantastic" staff who help our school to be great as has been demonstrated clearly during this very busy month of December. With so much going on' all the staff have put in so many extra hours on a voluntary basis. The best gift we can give our children is something precious to all of us "Our Time." Your staff do this selflessly.

To our reinvigorated PTA, how wonderful it is for me to see this group of parents who have found time to organise and attend discos, craft fayres, movie nights etc. They not only set up, they clean up as well AND they say that they have fun doing it and can see by being around how school ticks. Mrs Mulligan and I applaud your energy and enthusiasm; it has given the school a great big "electrical charge" which is great. Long may it continue! They will send their own newsletter but to have raised £2261.55 is phenomenal. Our sincere thanks you will make YOUR SCHOOL EVEN BETTER!

I hope you all enjoyed the seasonal plays, pantos, sing a longs and hope they have brought you some joy that may want to share. Panto Dvds will be available to buy after Christmas.



**Attendance** - The run up to Christmas traditionally has seen "cough & sneezes" a reason for absences BUT sadly some children have been seen up and about. Our current school attendance is at 97% so our target of 98% has not been achieved this term, which means we are playing catch-up for the rest of the year. The importance of attendance cannot be over emphasised. In terms of achievements/results all schools (Yr2 or Yr6 classes) who achieve the best results are very high in attendance. That is what I want for our children the best but attendance and punctuality is a parent/family responsibility.

Finally, at what are difficult times for some, my sincere thanks for your sacrifices and generosity of donations for those less fortunate. The donation of food for foodbanks, Mother Teresa's, Sisters in Seel Street to help make this season of goodwill feel like it for many people. I know your children see this fabulous example of "giving"

**Raffle Draw** - Thank you so much for supporting. All winners have been informed

	Ticket
1 <sup>st</sup> Prize	0718
2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize	7064
3 <sup>rd</sup> Prize	5059
4 <sup>th</sup> Prize	4652
5 <sup>th</sup> Prize	0673
6 <sup>th</sup> Prize	8667
7 <sup>th</sup> Prize	4702
8 <sup>th</sup> Prize	8871
8 <sup>th</sup> Prize	6678

**Church Timetable**

Reconciliation	St Oswald's Saturday 3.45pm - 4.15pm
Christmas Eve	St Oswald's 7pm St Sebastian's 9pm
Christmas Day	St Oswald's 9.30am St Sebastian's 11am

Happy Christmas to all our children and families and to all who work so hard on behalf of our wonderful school community.

Reminder that Monday 7<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> of January are Inset Days so children return to school on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

Mr Hardiman, M.B.E.

**Executive Head Teacher**