



# St. Teresa's Catholic Primary School Newsletter

## Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2017

*Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!*

### Wednesday Word



The Wednesday Word booklet for last week and the next three weeks was given to the Junior children last week. Please do make time to consider the themes of Mary, Family and Guidance from the next three weekends' gospels.

### Christmas Dinner

The children had their Christmas dinners on Tuesday. During the afternoon the school hosted elderly parishioners who had a Christmas dinner. Also, the Reception children could have a grandparent join them for Christmas dinner. After our guests had eaten, Years 4, 5 and 6 performed a selection of songs from Hosanna Rock; our Junior Carol Service. Thank you also to Milen, Aaron, Anna and Katherine; our house captains, who waited upon our visitors.

### Junior Nativity

On Tuesday evening, the children of the Junior classes and their families were at church for our Carol Service. The children were wonderful as narrators, actors, musicians and a choir. Thank you to the children and the Junior staff for their hard work which led to such a memorable performance. Thank you also to the parents and carers of the children who attended for bringing them to our carol service.

### Christmas Parties

On Wednesday afternoon, the Infant classes had a party where they were visited by Father Christmas, which caused a lot of excitement. (Thank you for visiting us Father Christmas). Yesterday afternoon, it was the Junior classes turn for their parties. Thank you to the staff for organising the parties.

### Mass at school

Thank you to the Faith Ambassadors; Katherine, Sam, Clevette, Gabriel, Pavneet, Ethan, Zofia, Cindy, Jacob, Ruth, Manpreet, Nihal and Soyini for leading the Mass at school yesterday morning. Thank you to Olivia and Katherine for serving, to Jagdeep for managing the audio-visual system and all who contributed to the Mass. Please keep Fr. David and Deacon Tony in your prayers at this busy time.

### School dinners

The school menu choices are on our school website ([www.stteresa.bham.sch.uk](http://www.stteresa.bham.sch.uk)), click on 'Parents and Carers Information' then click on 'School Dinners' and scroll down the page. The first week of term is Week 2 of the rota.

### The Catholic Pupil Profile Virtues

This half term the two Virtues that have been a focus for us and the other Catholic schools in the archdiocese of Birmingham are to be 'learned' and 'wise'. The challenge was to be learned, finding God in all things; and wise in the ways we use our learning for the common good. For the first half of next term the Virtues are to be 'curious' and 'active'.



### Reception places for September 2017

Parents/carers who have a child born between 1st September 2013 and 31st August 2014 need to make an application for their child to start a Reception class in September 2018 by no later than Monday 15th January 2018. This is done by an application at [www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions).

### Autumn Reading Challenge

Junior children who are aiming to complete the Autumn Reading Challenge are to give it to Mrs Higgins by Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January. Any Junior children who are interested will be offered the Spring Reading Challenge.

### **Top Table**

The children selected to eat at the Top Table this week are from Year 2. Well done to Ethan, Daya, Sebastian, Avani, D'Sharnai and Sukhjeevan who were chosen this week and joined me for dinner.

### **Attendance and Punctuality**

Well done to Year 3 who were the best attending class last week with a 95.2% attendance. Congratulations to the most punctual class last week which was Year 5.

### **Courtesy Card and Smart Card**

This morning the draw was made for this term's Courtesy Card and Smart Card winners. The £20 gift card for the Courtesy Card went to Madison and the £20 gift card for the Smart Card went to Joshua (Yr 2).

### **Christmas Masses at St. Teresa's Church**

The times of the masses at St. Teresa's Church for the Christmas period are:

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> December 5.00 p.m. Mass - Fourth Sunday of Advent

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December 10.00 a.m. Mass - Fourth Sunday of Advent

12.00 noon- Fourth Sunday of Advent

Christmas Eve at 4.00 p.m. Vigil Mass.

7.30 p.m. on Christmas Eve: Singing of Christmas Carols followed at 8.00 p.m. by Vigil Mass.

Christmas Day - 10.00 a.m. Mass.

### **Christmas wishes and thanks**

Thank you to those parents and carers who, with their children, have taken the time to send cards and gifts to the staff. Your thoughts and generosity are much appreciated. Thank you to the children whose hard work and contribution to the school have made this a successful first term of this school year.

Thank you to the staff for their hard work and dedication. The staff always give so much to the children, but currently the school is facing very challenging financial times and the staff are going out of their way and beyond what is expected of them to help manage the situation. Thank you!

At this time we think about those from our school community and our loved ones who are ill, there are a number of children and adults who come to mind. Please keep them in your prayers at this time.

Goodbye to Tessa and her family who are leaving us today. We wish them all the best for their exciting future in another part of the world.

On behalf of the staff and governors of St. Teresa's may I wish you and yours a peaceful, safe and enjoyable Christmas.

### **Dates for the Diary**

- Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January at 8.50 a.m. - Children return to school.
- Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January - Reception and Year 1 to see 'Stick Man' at the Town Hall.
- Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January - Visiting theatre group performance of 'Jack and the Beanstalk' at school for all children. Children to pay £2.00 for performance and may dress as fairy tale characters for the day!
- Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> January- from 9.20 a.m. to 10.20 a.m. Healthy Eating and Energy Drinks workshop for Year 4 class parents and carers with their Year 4 children. Letters with further information to be sent out at the start of next term.
- Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January at 3.30 p.m. - Meeting at school for the children preparing for the sacrament of Confirmation and their parents/carers, with Fr. David.

Best wishes,

D. Corkery

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