



St. Teresa's Catholic Primary School Newsletter Friday 16th December 2022

Little Flowers Growing and Giving Glory to God

Christmas Fair

Last Friday afternoon, we held the first 'full' Christmas Fair for three years. Thank you to everyone who took part in this fundraising event for the school and parish and to the parents/carers who sold raffle tickets. You have helped to raise £2,551 (£1,504 for the school and £1,047 for the parish). Thank you to the staff and to the following parents/carers for managing the stalls; Zavian's mum, Aaliyah's mum, Logan's mum, Louisa's mum and Osagie and Osamudiamen's mum. A special thankyou to Mrs Connell for organising this event for us. The prize winners are as follows:

Guess the length of the red tinsel: 133 cm - Zakee

Guess the length of the gold tinsel: 159 cm - Thomas and Joseph

Treasure Hunt (A): Gianni

Treasure Hunt (B): Elijah

Name the unicorn: Rosie - Chinedum

Name the bear: Biscuit - Mia

Name the penguin: Shiver - Diya M

Number of sweets Sour Magic Mix jar: 228 sweets - Giovanni

Number of sweets Swizzles jar: 113 sweets - Soyini

Claire's Accessories Hamper Number 1: Matthew Daniel

Claire's Accessories Hamper Number 2: Rylei

Christmas Prize Draw

£100 Cash: Mary Tansey

£50 Cash: Neelia Pendley

Christmas Hamper: Dick Norris

Schloer Hamper : Jayne McKenna

Tea Hamper: Moyeena Khan

Gin Liqueur: Michael Joyce

Games Compendium: Ashok Gaddu

Milk Tray Chocolates: Mrs Connell

Shortbread: Gurtej Doulay

Family Circle Biscuits: Lily

Ferrero Rocher Chocolates: Matty Gillam

Quality Street Tin: Marie Mulligan

Dairy Milk Selection Box: Rachel Green

Ted Baker Watch Case: N Hoang

Candle: Erin Bonner

Body Wash: Azirah Gordon

Laptop Case: Miss Gibbon

Wax Burner: Andrea Pendley

Pen: Brigid Courtney

Mary Tansey, the winner of £100, has asked that the prize be shared between families within the school community whom will make a big difference to this Christmas. Thanks to Mary's generosity two of our families have each received £50.

Christmas Dinner

The children had their Christmas dinners on Tuesday. During the afternoon, the school hosted elderly parishioners who had a Christmas dinner. In addition, a number of the Reception children had their grandparents join them for Christmas dinner. After our guests had eaten and the raffle was drawn, the Junior children performed a selection of songs from our Junior Carol Service. Thank you to Mrs Walsh and her team for providing the Christmas dinners. Thank you also to Arissa, Long, Eesah and Remy; our house captains who waited upon our visitors.

Junior Carol Service

On Wednesday evening, seventy-seven children of the Junior classes and their families were at church for our Carol Service. The children were wonderful as readers, actors 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 staff for leading the readings, bidding prayers and the offertory procession at our End of Term School Mass yesterday morning. Thank you also to Long and Ava for managing the audio-visual unit and thank you to Chikwere, Chizi, Liz and Edward; our altar servers.

Fr. Peter then visited each of the classes to bless the Bambinelli which are images of the Christ Child that the children have made. We have adapted this tradition, which was introduced by Pope John Paul II, so that each child has an image of Jesus as a baby to remind them of the significance of Jesus' birth. Fr. Peter then heard Confessions from the Catholic children in Year 5.

Asthma Workshop

After school yesterday, Nurse Ruth Lowe led an asthma workshop for parents whose child has a diagnosis of asthma or have been prescribed an inhaler. Thank you to those parents who joined the workshop. I hope that it was helpful for you and your child.

Attendance and Punctuality

Well done to Year 3, which was the best attending class last week. Year 3's attendance was 96.3%. Congratulations to Year 1 for being the most punctual class last week. There were two Year 1 children late before the registers closed and no child from Year 1 was late after the registers closed.

School meals

When the children return to school in the new year it will be Week 1 of the menu choices. The menu is on the School Dinners page on the school website which is at: www.stteresa.bham.sch.uk/parents-info/school-dinners

Wednesday Word



The Wednesday Word Advent and Christmas Special for this weekend and the subsequent three weekends is available on the 'Home' page of the school website. Please do make time to consider the themes of Mary, Christmas, Praise and New Start from these four weekends' gospels.

Faith-filled and Hopeful

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 Faith-filled and Hopeful.

Faith-filled: We are faith-filled when we are living life as God inspires us to live it, putting the Gospel into action through our deeds. Faith gives us belief and trust in God and in other people. We have to build on it every day through prayer, being part of a faith community and living out the gospel values. Faith gives us hope.

Hopeful: We are hopeful when we are optimistic about the future, we trust ourselves and others, and we don't give up. Our faith teaches us that God is hope - that Christ walks before us and gives us the courage to follow. Hope makes us unafraid to step into the unknown and face challenges. Hope can deepen or restore our faith



Reception places for September 2023

Parents/carers who have a child born between 1st September 2018 and 31st August 2019 need to make an application for their child to start a Reception class in September 2023 by Sunday, 15th January 2023. This is done by applying at www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions.

School Governors

Thank you to Mr Panesar, who has served on the school's governing body for nearly three years. He has resigned from this role. Therefore, in the new year we will be holding elections to choose a parent governor to replace Mr Panesar. This will be voted for by the parents and carers of children attending the school. Please consider if this is a role that you may be able to take on in support of the school. We welcome Mrs Sandra Garvey who has recently been appointed as a Foundation Governor.

Christmas Masses at St. Teresa's Church

The times of the masses at St. Teresa's Church for the Christmas period are; Saturday 24th December, Christmas Eve at 4.00 p.m. and at 8.00 p.m. Sunday 25th December, Christmas Day - 10.00 a.m.

Goodbye

Today we are saying goodbye to Yusuf. Good luck and best wishes to him at his new school.

This week was Mrs Carbery's final week working at St. Teresa's School prior to leaving us. We wish her every success as she moves to the next part of her life after being part of the staff team for eight years. You will be missed Sally.

Christmas thanks and wishes

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 and go out beyond what is expected of them. Thank you!

At this time of year we think about those from our school community and our loved ones who are ill. We particularly keep in our prayers the four boys who have died and their families following the tragedy at Babbs Mill Park. Please keep them in your prayers at this time.

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

Dates for the Diary

- Friday 16th December at 3.00 p.m. to Friday 27th January at 3.00 p.m. - Consultation on the 2024/2025 Admission procedures. These procedures and a letter with further details have been forwarded to parents/carers today and are available as downloads at www.stteresa.bham.sch.uk/parents-info
- Wednesday 4th January 2023 at 8.50 a.m. - Start of the Spring Term for the children.
- Wednesday 4th January - Mr Smith in school for cello lessons.
- Friday 6th January - weather permitting. 9.30 a.m. - Year 3 to Year 6 and accompanying staff walking to St. Teresa's Church for mass at 10.00 a.m. to celebrate the Epiphany of Our Lord (a Holy Day of Obligation). Approximately 10.30 a.m. children and staff walking back to school, arriving at school at approximately 11.00 a.m. Parents and carers are invited to walk with us to and from church.
- Friday 13th January and each Friday during the Spring term - Year 5 Swimming lessons in the afternoon.
- Sunday 15th January - Closing date for applications for places in Reception 2023 in Birmingham schools.
- Monday 16th January - Visiting theatre group performance of 'Cinderella' at school for all children. Children to donate £2.00 for performance and may dress as fairy tale characters for the day.

Merry Christmas to all!

D. Corkery

D. Corkery

