



# Newsletter

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2023

## Safeguarding.

We have a clear procedure in school if parents want to speak to their child's class teacher. This involves ringing the school office to arrange a convenient time, for parents and staff to meet.

One day last week, there were numerous phone calls from parents asking to speak to teachers before the teachers had seen the last child from the school yard home at the end of the school day! ***I cannot put the safety of these children at risk.*** Therefore, can I ask that before parents ring the school office to make an appointment, they take a little time to find out the full facts from their child and if they deemed still necessary, contact the school office for an appointment.

Can I also say that unless it is a Safeguarding concerns, that parents wait until at least 3.45pm to ring the school office. This allows the staff to ensure all the other children have been safely dismissed for home. I've no issues with parents asking a straight forward question at the end of the day on the school yard, providing this does NOT interfere with the staff safely dispatching the children home. If a longer conversation with the teacher is required, then can I ask parents to follow the procedure and make an appointment at the office.

## RE.

Well done to our Year 5 children who led us in our Remembrance Day Celebration of the Word (liturgy) last Friday afternoon. Please see the website for some wonderful pictures.

## Christmas Altar Design Competition.

Fr Johnathon, our new parish priest, is hosting a Christmas Altar Design competition for all the children and a Film Night. Details of both are attached to this newsletter.

## Year 2 Assembly.

Well done to our Year 2 children for great Anti-Bullying Assembly last Friday morning. I hope the children made lots of noise singing the anti-bullying song at home. Year 2 reminded us of our school anti-bullying saying ***STOP*** - which stands for ***Several Times On Purpose***. We continued with the Anti-bullying theme in school on Monday when all the children were asked to wear odd socks.

## Curriculum.

This week, the children have started their autumn term assessments and after another week of Geography, will begin the last learning block for this year which will be Design & Technology block. Details of this and all the children's learning will available on the school web-site under '**the Curriculum**' heading.

## Hoops for Health

Year 5 have been working with Newcastle Eagles basketball team. As well as improving their basketball skills, the children have been looking at way to keep their body and mind healthy.

## Book Fair.

Thank you to all the parents and children who came to our book fair. It was a great success! The school received £480 in commission to spend on books. we intend to purchase books covering class topic books which will support our children learning.

### **Advent Assemblies.**

Year 3 will lead our Advent Assembly in the school hall on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December at 9:00am. Year 3 parents/carers are very welcome to attend.

### **Christmas Production tickets.**

We have ***changed*** the day of the Year 4, 5, & 6 Christmas performance to ***Tuesday 12 December at 6 pm.*** The dates and times other performances will remain the same (dates and times below) Tickets will cost £2.00 and will be on sale Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November at 8.45am when the school office opens. If parents want to send the children in to school with the money in an envelope, the office will send the tickets home. It is important that everyone coming to the performances has a ticket so that we do not exceed fire safety limits. The money raised from the tickets goes towards buying the productions rights, costumes, production resources and towards the pantomime and Christmas craft activities costs.

### **Parents Christmas Celebration of the Word & Craft Sessions.**

Following on from our successful Easter Liturgy and craft sessions we would like invite parents into school to take part in an Advent Celebration of the Word (Liturgy) and then stay in school to take part in some Christmas craft alongside the children. The dates of the sessions are below.

### **Christmas Raffle.**

We intend to make the chocolate donations from the Children in Need Day into sweet hampers and as we did last year, we will raffle them at each of our 3 Christmas productions. I would like to send home £5 worth of tickets to each family to sell. If parents could sell the tickets to friends and family we would be grateful. We fully understand if parents can't sell or buy the tickets as we know how difficult things are for some of our families at this time. The money raised would go into school funds after we have made a donation to Children in Need.

### **Social Media**

Just a reminder that as well as our website, we have a Facebook page that we update regularly where you can access information and view photos of all the wonderful things that are happening in school. Please feel free to 'like' and your kind comments on the posts are always welcome.

### **Remembrance Tree**

November is the month when the Catholic Church remembers, in a special way, those who have died. To mark this in school, we are going to create a tree of remembrance as a focus for prayer. In your pack today, you will find a card to complete with the names of any family members or friends that you would like to add to our tree for us to remember in our prayers. Please return the cards to school with the children and we will add them to our tree. We have arranged for some additional cards to be left at the School Office, for any families who would like more than one card.

**Date for Parents.**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Details</b>
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> December	<b>Advent Assembly led by Year 3</b>	Year 3 parents invited
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>Liturgical Prayers and Christmas craft</b>	Nursery & Reception Parents
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>Liturgical Prayers and Christmas craft</b>	Year 1, 2 & 3 Parents
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>Liturgical Prayers and Christmas craft</b>	Years 4,5 & 6 Parents
<b>Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December (change of date)</b>	<b>Year 4, 5 &amp; 6 Performance</b>	6pm School Hall Tickets £2.00 on sale 27 <sup>th</sup> November.
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>Nursery, Reception Performance</b>	10am School Hall Tickets £2.00 on sale 27 <sup>th</sup> November
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>Year 1, 2 &amp; 3 Performance</b>	2pm School Hall Tickets £2.00 on sale 27 <sup>th</sup> November
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>Christmas Jumper Day</b>	
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>Christmas Dinner Day</b>	NO packed Lunches
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>Whole School Mass</b>	In St Anthony's Church
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> December	<b>Whole School Pantomime</b>	Aladdin Customs House.
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December	<b>INSET DAY</b>	School closed to the children