



THE ANNUNCIATION CATHOLIC INFANT AND JUNIOR SCHOOLS

13/12/2024

Issue 132



www.theannunciationschools.co.uk

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Our Mission Statement

'Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire.' St. Catherine of Siena

Dear Parents and Carer

Thank you for your fantastic support and generosity at our School Fayre last Friday. The children and families had a wonderful time enjoying the different activities such as Santa's Grotto, face-painting and Christmas crafts and also supported the many different stalls selling a range of goods and delicious food. The raffle and other tombola prizes were also very popular. A huge thank you to our wonderful PTA for all their work over many months preparing for this special event, especially in the final days leading up to it and of course the day itself! We are very fortunate to have such amazing commitment and support from this group, led by Ms Daly, Ms Druca, Mrs Fadden-Grimes and Mrs Phelan. Thank you also to the many parent volunteers who helped beforehand and both during and after the Fayre—setting up different areas, preparing and serving food, running activities. It was also lovely to see parents new to our schools this term being so involved and we are delighted to have welcomed you to our school community. Thanks also to staff at both schools who manned stalls and helped in many different ways, the support of the whole school community helps to make these events so successful. We are delighted to let you know that a total of almost **£5,500** has been raised from the Fayre and other advertising donations. Thank you again for helping achieve this incredible amount of funds to support our children. Please see the message below from the PTA.



Dear School Families,

We hope this message finds you well.

We are thrilled to share that our Christmas Fayre last Friday was a wonderful success! Thanks to your incredible support, we raised a whopping £5,500 including the generous contribution from Joseph Scott Signs. This money will be directed towards supporting both school's facilities, which will greatly benefit our children.

We would also like to extend our deepest gratitude to the senior leadership team and all the teaching and support staff for their unwavering support.

A special thanks to our amazing volunteers, your dedication and hard work make these events possible. We couldn't do it without you.

Thank you once again for your continued support and generosity.

Warm regards,

The PTA Committee

Key Stage 1 Nativity Play

The Key Stage 1 children treated us to their Nativity play in two separate performances this week and were wonderful at each. The children sang beautifully, spoke and acted very confidently and reminded us of how the star helped everyone to see the baby Jesus in the manger. Jesus was the light the world had been waiting for and he is our light, helping us to see clearly and shine brightly. We had a packed hall of very proud parents and other family members enjoying each performance - thank you for joining us and for all your support with lines, songs and costumes. Thank you to the Year 2 staff team of Miss Galvin, Miss Zurawicz, Miss Tirado, Mrs Brett and Miss Ginty and the Year 1 team of Miss Yalcin, Miss Cartin, Miss Kaye and Mrs Shan for working together to help the children perform so well. Thanks also to Mrs Stanley, our music teacher, for working with the children to prepare the songs. Well done Years 1 and 2, we are all very proud of you and everyone of you was a shining star!



Key Stage 2 Christmas Carol Concert

The Key Stage 2 Christmas Carol Concert took place at the Church on Wednesday evening and was a lovely evening for the children and families to enjoy. The children have been practising together over the last few weeks in school and also in the Church and we thank Fr. Chinedu for making us so welcome. Through a mixture of musical performances, narration, drama, dance and song, the children shared the story of Jesus' birth and what it means to each one of us. The children spoke and sang very clearly and confidently throughout the concert and the acting and dancing was also excellent. Different instrumental groups performed their solo routines perfectly and the evening finished with a beautiful performance from the choir. Well done to all of the children for such a high standard of performance. Thank you also to the entire Key Stage 2 team for their work supporting the children, in particular Miss Brennan and Mrs Griffin for leading the rehearsal arrangements and Mrs Stanley, who worked with all classes, the choir and musicians on the songs and instrumentals. It was also lovely to see so many parents and other family members join us for this special evening and the Church was packed! Thank you for all your support and for making this such a memorable evening for the children.



The Junior pantomime took place this afternoon and the children really enjoyed the performance of *Dick Whittington* joining in and having a great time.

Our Infant children also enjoyed a pantomime performance earlier in the week when they watched *Beauty and the Beast*. There were lots of cheers and laughs and we would like to say thank you to the children in both schools for being such a great audience at each panto. A very big thank you also to the PTA who help each school support the cost of the panto.



The children enjoyed a lovely Christmas lunch yesterday, thank you to the catering staff in both schools for preparing this delicious lunch and for making it such a fun event. The children looked fantastic in their Christmas jumpers and really helped to make this event even more festive!



We have been working closely with the catering team recently to look at the menu choices and portions and we appreciate their support in making sure lunch choices are as enjoyable, varied and filling for the children as possible.



As we approach the end of term we are sadly saying goodbye to Miss Galvin, one of our teaching colleagues in the Infant School. Miss Galvin is taking up new opportunities and we thank her for her work with our children and wish her the best for the future. We are very pleased to welcome Miss Odoi who will be teaching the class from January.

A reminder that **school finishes earlier next Friday 20th December 2024. Children are to be collected at 1.15pm from the Infant School and 1.25pm from the Junior School.** School reopens for all children on **Monday 6th January 2025.** Thank you.

Have a very happy weekend.

Miss J. O'Prey
Headteacher



STAR OF THE WEEK



Infants

N	Ryan
Ra	Tala
Rb	Jenarisa

1a	Jessica
1b	Idil
2a	Olivia N
2b	Adon



STAR OF THE WEEK



Juniors

3A	Keyner
3B	Jessie
4A	Hyeon
4B	Ire

5A	Ayla
5B	Althea
Year 6	Michal

Writing Laureate:

Aiden (4b)

ATTENDANCE

Congratulations
to **1b**
for having the
highest
attendance!



Class	%
R1	87
R2	90
1A	94
1B	99
2A	93
2B	91
3A	92
3B	96
4A	92
4B	96
5A	94
5B	98
Year 6	91

Celebration of The Word

The Gospel for Sunday 15th December 2024

The third Sunday of Advent is called **Gaudete Sunday**. Gaudete is the Latin word meaning **rejoice** and we light the pink candle on our Advent wreath to represent **joy** as Christmas draws nearer. In this Sunday's Gospel, John the Baptist prepares the people for the coming of Jesus. He tells them to share with others and to show mercy – to put people (not money or power) first; to feel for those who suffer and to do something to help. During Advent we try to show acts of mercy. **The Word** we are exploring this week is **Mercy**.

When the crowds asked John the Baptist, "What must we do?" He answered, "If anyone has two coats they should share with the one who has none, and anyone who has food should do the same." There were tax collectors too who came for baptism, and they said to him, "Master, what must we do?" He said to them, "Don't collect any more than you should." Then he said to some soldiers, "Don't force people to pay money to make you leave them alone, but be satisfied with your pay." By now, a feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John the Baptist might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, "I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not good enough even to untie his sandal strap."

Adapted from The Gospel of Luke 3: 10-18 3rd Sunday of Advent Year C

AIS and AJS VALUES

Tolerance	5a	Jakub
Respect	5b	Ruby
Commitment	4b	David
Safety	4a	Niamh
Excellence	3b	Yannis
Truth	6a	Piotr
Courage	6a	Moses
Justice	3a	Andrea
Tolerance	N Ra Rb 1a 1b 2a 2b	Sinadi Theo B Sienna A Jeanette Sophie Amara Catia

Maths Superstars

Year 3	Josiah & Blessing
Year 4	Ayaan & Autumn
Year 5	Emily & Lena
Year 6	Elena

KEY DATES

18/12/24	Nursery Class Christmas Sing-a-long 9.00am
19/12/24	Rocksteady Music Concerts—Juniors 9.30am Infants 2.30pm
20/12/24	End of term and early closure Infant School 1.15pm Junior School 1.25pm No after-school clubs due to early closure
06/01/25	School reopens for all children in both schools. (Please see Spring term dates on the website)

SAFEGUARDING TEAM

Miss Martin



Ms. Bourke



Miss O'Prey



Mr Mc Creadie



Mrs. Stanley



Mrs Griffin

