



**Newsletter No 13**

Dear Parents and Friends

Friday 8 December 2017



**Christmas Fayre**

We hope that you all enjoyed the Christmas Fayre last Friday. It was lovely to see so many of you attending. Congratulations to all our raffle prize winners: Bottle of Champagne-Kelly Furlong, Temple Spa Voucher-Kelly Furlong, Toy Hamper- Kerry Jones, Christmas Hamper- Jo Daly, Box Set-Leanne Malone, Therapy set-Kerry Jones, Voucher for Black Sheep Hair-Cheryl Daly ; and thank you to the PTA for all their hard work in preparing this event. A very special thank you to Santa, for visiting us; we know that this is a very busy time of the year.

The grand amount of **£2,579.04** was raised! Thank you for supporting this event; it was a great success.



**Parking**

This week, the school has again received a complaint from a parent complaining about how other parents have parked on the zig-zag yellow lines; whilst children were being dropped off in the mornings - this is **dangerous**. I plead with you to park, as I am sure that many of our parents always do, responsibly and legally, even if it means a slightly longer walk to school. I ask for your full support in this matter.



**Emergency Closures**

A letter was sent out yesterday regarding emergency closure of school. The weather forecast is not good at the moment so again I ask that if your contact details have changed, you ensure that the office has been notified as we will notify parents of any closures by text, website and Twitter. We do notify local radio stations but this is not always reliable. Thank you for your cooperation.



**Mass: Year 4** will lead our Mass in school on **Thursday 14 December**, all welcome



### Peanut Free Zone

A reminder that for health and safety reasons, as we have children in Holy Cross School who have nut allergies, nuts or nut products such as Peanut Butter or Nutella should not be in any child's lunchbox. Thank you for your cooperation in this important matter.



### School Choir

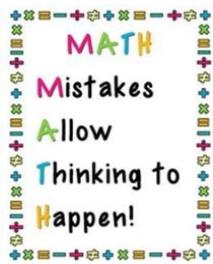
Our school choir will be singing at the following events:

Saturday 16 December at 9.45am - House of Fraser in Sutton Coldfield - parents are welcome to watch.

Tuesday 19 December at 10.30am - Parish Pensioners' Christmas Lunch at the Church Hall.

Thursday 21 December, 1.30pm - The Oaks (residential home).

These are lovely opportunities for the children to perform to a variety of audiences and show the rewards of their hard work. I look forward to a high participation at all these events.



### Mothers, Daughters and Mathematical Mindset Workshop- Monday 4 December

Thank you to all mothers who attended the workshop on Monday afternoon. We explored current research about the impact of parents' perceptions of maths and how this can affect girls' progress and attainment in mathematics. The girls then joined us for cake and a positive talk about mathematics; emphasising maths should be hard and we should make mistakes because then we learn! Mrs Howes will be holding workshops about how we teach mathematics so watch out for the date! Thank you for your support.

### HSBC Bank

A member of the HSBC Bank will visit our school on **Monday 11 December**. We try to encourage our KS2 children to open and be responsible for their own bank account and manage their money.



### Re-Cycle Used Christmas Trees

We are asking parents to donate their real Christmas trees to the school as a Forest School resource.

The Christmas trees would be great resources as the branches are great for den building and once dried they are a great fire lighting resource. The main trunk can then be used for den building and smaller activities requiring wood. Within our forest setting there is a limited availability of materials for the children to work with and this would be a simple activity recycling old Christmas trees and doesn't cost the school a penny.

Please bring your Christmas trees to school on **Friday 12 January** and leave them on the grass next to the ramp to the school office. Thank you.



### EYFS and KS1 Christmas Production - Follow The Star

There will be two performances: **Tuesday 12 December** with refreshments served from 2.15pm and the performance starting at 2.30pm. **Parents will be allowed in school at 2.15pm.**

Also, on **Wednesday 13 December** - refreshments served at 9.00am and the performance starting at 9.15am. **Parents will be allowed in school at 9.00am.** Please note that as the office is always busy, parents will need to wait outside the main door until it is time to enter the production. In fairness to everyone who has queued in the cold, please do not save seats for late arrivals; they will need to sit wherever there are available seats.

The children (and staff!) have been practising really hard. We look forward to seeing you at one of the performances. Thank you.



### Tennis Club - Year 1 and Year 2

Letters were sent home with children in Year 1 and Year 2 for after school tennis. If your child would like to join this club please complete and return form with payment no later than **Wednesday 13 December 2017.**

Please note that for organisational purposes, **NO late orders after this date** will be accepted. Thank you for your cooperation.



### Zumba-EYFS, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3

Letters were sent home with children after school Zumba. If your child would like to join this club please complete and return form with payment no later than **Wednesday 13 December 2017.** Please note that for organisational purposes, **NO late orders after this date** will be accepted. Thank you for your cooperation.



### PTA Christmas Disco

This will be held on **Thursday 14 December from 3.20pm to 4.30pm.** If you are available to help please contact the school office. Thank you for your support. **This day will be a non-uniform day. £2.00 entrance to the disco per child and a maximum £3.00 spending money in a separate purse please.**



If you will be collecting your child/children before the end of the disco; please inform the school office before 12.00pm on **Thursday 14 December.** Thank you. Also, if your child/children will not be going to Kids' Club after the disco please let Kids' Club know as soon as possible. Thank you.

### KS2 Carol Service

This year the KS2 carol service will be held in the school hall. The first event will be on: **Friday 15 December** refreshments at 9.00am and the carols will start at 9.15am.

This will be repeated on:

**Monday 18 December** refreshments at 2.15pm and the carols will start at 2.30pm.

(Please note change of time.)

All parents are welcome to come along to join in our carol service. Thank you.



### Christmas Trip to watch Paddington 2

**EYFS and KS1 - Monday 18 December (Meeting at Empire Cinema)**

**KS2 - Wednesday 20 December (Travelling from school)**

We are all going on a trip to Empire Cinema, Sutton Coldfield. Deadline for payment is **Thursday 7 December** this is made payable via Parent Pay. A letter was emailed to parents giving further details; please contact the school office if you have not received a copy.



### Christmas Dinner for Children and Staff

On **Tuesday 19 December**, we will be having our Christmas lunch in school. Every child is invited to take part, so if your child does not usually have a school meal, they are more than welcome to have one on that day. A letter has been sent home with children; if you require a copy please contact the school office. If your child has sandwiches the deadline for ordering a dinner is **Monday 11 December**. **Please note that due to the ordering of food, late payments will not be accepted.** If your child is in KS1 and normally has sandwiches you will need to order a child's meal but no payment is required due to the universal free school meal entitlement. **This will be a non-school uniform day. Children can wear their Christmas jumpers on that day to get into the Christmas spirit.** A letter has been sent home with children who bring in packed lunch from home. Please contact the school office if you have not received a copy. Thank you.



### Toy and Class Christmas Party Day

On **Friday 22 December** children can bring a toy into school. Please do not send your child with an expensive toy as the school will not accept responsibility if this gets broken.



This will also be the day the children will be having Christmas class parties. Parents are asked for a **£1 donation** per child towards party food and prizes. Please send this into the class teacher in an envelope with your child's name and labelled "Party". Deadline for payment is **Friday 15 December**. Thank you for your support. **The children need to wear full school uniform for this day.**



### No Music Lessons

There will be no music lessons on **Friday 22 December**. Thank you.



### Year 6 Trip to St Chad's Cathedral

On **Tuesday 9 January**, Year 6 is going on a trip to St Chad's Cathedral. Deadline for payment is **Tuesday 12 December** this is made payable via Parentpay. A letter has been emailed to parents; please contact the school office if you have not received a copy.

## THREE FAITHS FORUM



### Year 4 Trip to West Bromwich Football Ground

The 'Three Faiths Forum' (3FF), is Europe's leading, and the UK's largest Interfaith Organisation. For over 20 years, they have continued to work and build understanding and lasting relationships between people of all faiths and beliefs. By taking part in this 'School Linking Project' we aim to prepare our children to be able to interact positively with anyone they meet with the skills and attitudes to be able to cultivate meaningful relationships. As part of the project we have been linked with Niksham Primary School.

The 'School Linking Project' will consist of three 'Link Days' with Niksham Primary School and the first will be on **Monday 15 January 2018** with Year 4 going on a trip to West Bromwich Football Ground. A letter has been sent home with all year 4 children. If you require a copy please contact the school office. Please complete and return the proforma to the School office no later than **Friday 15 December 2017**.



**Attendance - Our school strives for 100% attendance.**

Government legislation states that a child with an attendance of 90% and below is categorised as a "Persistent Absence Pupil". An attendance figure of 90% equates to missing half a day every week that means four weeks of missed school work across the whole year.

**Parents should also be aware that referrals to the school nurse will be considered for those children with an attendance rate of below 95% due to health related absences.**

This week the Attendance Award was won by: Year 5 with 97.79% Well done!



The Punctuality Award for the week: Year 5!

## Recommendations

**Recommendations:** EYFS: Antoni C, Eve-Rose H, Emileen W Year 1: Anaha P Year 2: Jack B, Daniel B Year 3: Phoebe F, Aine K Year 4: Olivia H, Ryan K Year 5: Elyssa P, Enya B Year 6: Regine W, Luke S.



**Class of the Week:** EYFS.

**Lunchtime Award:** Ollie L (Y1).

**Sports Award:** Pablo B (Y6).



### Virtues and Values

This half term we are concentrating on being '**Learned and Wise**'. As a school community we are looking for opportunities in our own lives where we show the virtues. Please discuss this with your children at home; highlighting times when you experience or show these virtues. This will also be the focus for our 'Angel of the Week' awards for this half term.



### Angel of the Week

Each week we will be recognising those children who we feel have made that extra special effort and show the virtues in their daily life.

This week's winners are: **Miss Stewart:** Joseph F **Miss Stevens:** Tabitha S

**Mr Hunt:** Emileen W (EYFS), Eve-Rose H (EYFS) **Mr Mayor:** Daniel S **Miss Lovelock/Mrs Howes:** Sian J

**Mr Rowlands:** Erin P **Miss Cross:** Frances C, Jack H.



**Happy Birthday to the following children who have celebrated their birthdays this week:**

Drew B-H (EYFS), Cassandra G (Y5), Erin L-F (Y5),

### Dates for Diary - December 2017

Monday 11 December		HSBC in school
Tuesday 12 December	2.15pm refreshments Starts 2.30pm	EYFS/KS1 Christmas performance
Thursday 12 December	4.00pm-5.30pm	Year 1 and Year 2 Multi-Skill Competition
Tuesday 12 December	All day	Year 3 Trip to Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery
Wednesday 13 December	9.00am refreshments Starts 9.15am	EYFS/KS1 Christmas performance
Thursday 14 December	3.20pm-4.30pm	PTA Christmas disco
Thursday 14 December	4.00pm-5.30pm	Girls football match at Sutton College
Friday 15 December	9.00am Refreshments start 9.15am -10.00am	KS2 Carol Service in school hall

Saturday 16 December	9.45am-10.15am	School choir singing at House of Fraser
Monday 18 December	2.15pm refreshments start 2.30pm-3.15pm	KS2 Carol Service in school hall
Monday 18 December	9.00am-11.30am	EYFS & KS1 Christmas Trip to Empire Cinema to see 'Paddington 2'
Tuesday 19 December	10.30am-11.30am	School choir to sing at The Parish Hall for OAPs
Tuesday 19 December	12.00pm-1.00pm	Children and staff Christmas dinner - non-school uniform day children to wear Christmas jumpers
Wednesday 20 December	9.00am-11.30am	KS2 Christmas Trip to Empire Cinema to see 'Paddington 2'
Thursday 21 December	11.00am-11.30am	High Tea with Miss Cotter and Mrs Hope
Friday 22 December	All day	Toy Day - children must wear full school uniform
<b>Dates for Diary - January 2018</b>		
Monday 8 January		School reopens
Tuesday 9 January	All day	Year 6 Trip to St Chad's Cathedral
Monday 15 January	All day	Year 4 Trip to West Bromwich Football Ground
Friday 19 January	All day	Music lessons start

***\*Other dates available on website***

Have a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely

*T Cotter*

Miss T Cotter  
Principal

*Happy 2nd week of Advent!*



**ST. JOHN PAUL II**  
Multi-Academy Company

Bishop Walsh Catholic School | Holy Cross Catholic Primary School | St Joseph's Catholic Primary School | St Nicholas Catholic Primary School



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