



Diocese of Clifton

Faith, Hope, Love

St Joseph's Catholic School Newsletter

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5th December 2022 Term 2- 3



From Mrs Howells

We are well on our way into Advent now, the count down has begun. And, what a great way to count down with the PTA drawing a raffle prize every day that we are in school until the final draw on the last day of term. Thank you to all who have supported this event by donating raffle prizes, buying tickets and for your donations for the Christmas Hampers, Mrs Wand is coming in tomorrow morning to make them up. As soon as they are made, we will send out some pictures of them. Thanks, as always, goes to Mrs Wand for giving up her time to make them up for us. If you haven't bought any tickets yet, there are members of the PTA around at school drop off and collection who are selling them or they can be contacted by the PTA email address. Last Monday was our Advent retreat. It was the first time in 3 years that we have been able to run the retreat as it was before Covid. It was a new experience for many of our children and staff. We were delighted with our children; how much they enjoyed the afternoon, were reflective and the contributions that they made. It was also lovely that some parents/grandparents were able to join us, thank you all for coming and for the feedback that you gave to us about the afternoon. Special thanks goes to Fr Joseph who joined us and spoke to the children at the end of the afternoon.

I have no doubt that your child/children have been coming home and sharing with you the fun that they are having in their dance lessons. Steph Reed (who worked with us on the flash mob in the Summer) has been in for the last few weeks supporting the design and delivery of dance lessons across the school. Thanks goes to Mrs Daly, who is working really hard to improve the PE provision across the school. Many thanks to those of you who have returned the swimming letters that she sent out requesting information. It will help us to best plan swimming provision moving forward.

Last weekend, Alexa and Rachel (from the PTA) gave up several hours on Saturday to come up to school to sort out the shed. Thank you both so much - it looks like a different place, now everything is easily accessible.

It is beginning to get really busy and as usual we have sent out a letter detailing all of the activities that are going on to help ensure that we are all organised at such a fun, but busy time.

A polite reminder, if you haven't paid already, please could you sort out payment as soon as possible for the school panto. We have had a request for the final payment and currently can't make the payment, thank you!

We had another great morning on Saturday at the KLB cross-country tournament. The drop in temperature and a slightly longer course from last time made the races more of a challenge but as usual our children rose to the occasion and were the best that they could be. I would like to especially thank the children who have joined the senior girls race. After the first race, when we did not have enough runners to make a team, I asked Year 5 and 6 girls if there was anyone who would be prepared to join running club and give it a go and support the girls that were currently running. I was overwhelmed with the response - especially thank you to all of the girls who have joined to make up the team and their parents who have supported them to do so. Thank you also, to all of the parents for making sure that the children were there on Saturday, it was a good warm up for many who were then going off to other morning activities. It was another exciting morning, we have a break now over Christmas but will be back on 14th January for the third meet. If you still need to pay the £4 race fees please can I have them by the end of the week so that I can pay Ron our team fees.

It's the Nativity this week, how lovely that we are able to invite parents in to see the event live. Thank you all for your contribution with the cost of the tickets too. I know that you will all appreciate the cost involved with licences, costumes, time and effort that is involved to put on an event like this. The positive with this is that we have not increased the price from the last live nativity before Covid in 2019! I have yet to see the performance, dress rehearsal tomorrow, I can't wait!

Then next week, the KS2 carol concert in the playground 6pm on Tuesday 13th December...it's beginning to feel a lot like Christmas ...

Christ, come into our world of darkness
Light up our lives with your coming.
Fulfil all our longings with the joy of your birth
Strengthen our resolve to work for change in our world
And to share the hope of your birth that each Advent brings.



Class News!



St Mary	Jackson - I like playing in Santa's workshop. Joseph - I like being the sheep in the Nativity!
St Joseph	Zach - I have enjoyed doing maths. Erin- I like MOT lessons
St Peter	Bonnie – We've been doing lots of singing. My favourite is rat-a-tat-tat because I like it when it sounds like a rat-a-tat-tat. Lucy – When I came into my classroom on the 1 st December, I was quite surprised because I found an elf hanging on the wall!
St Patrick	Elliana— This week I have loved using the tablets to play maths games. Emilia— I have really liked singing the carols this week!
St George	Nicholas— I really enjoyed playing in the Times Table World Cup and watching our scores get better! I hope we have won! Rory— I loved everything about Maths because I really understood it.
St Teresa	Harmony – I enjoy making parachutes in science whilst learning about air resistance. Evie-Mai – I enjoyed doing recipes in literacy and dividing by multiples of 10 in Numeracy.
St David	Theo - I have liked researching Anderson shelters, answering questions about them and then drawing them. We will be making them soon! Manny - I have enjoyed doing dance with Steph on a Friday (Pump the Jam); it was very lively!



Thurs 8th Dec—KS1 Nativity 9.30am and 2pm
 Tues 13th Dec—Christmas dinner
 Tues 13th Dec—KS2 Carol Concert at 6pm
 Wed 14th Dec—School panto (in-house)
 Thurs 15th Dec—Christingle
 Fri 16th Dec—Christmas Breakfast
 Fri 16th Dec—Christmas Jumper Day
 Fri 16th Dec—Assembly hamper raffle 9.30am
 Fri 16th Dec—Key Stage parties in the morning
 Fri 16th Dec—End of term 2 at 1.30pm
 Tues 3rd Jan—INSET day
 Fri 6th Jan—Topic letters and welcome letters sent home

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Application forms for the next preparation course are available from the school office or the back of St Dominic's Church. Candidates should be at least 8 years old, or in Year 3 at school, to benefit fully.

CONTACT INFORMATION

To try and save printing and paper costs we will not be sending out Data Sheets but rely on you to inform us of any changes to your child's contacts.

Thank you Admin Team.