

# St. Patrick's Catholic Primary School

Headteacher Newsletter 20.12.19



## Rejoice in the Lord!

*But the angel said to them,  
"Do not be afraid. I bring you good news  
that will cause great joy for all people"*

### Advent...Week 3

The children have been truly blessed during the season of Advent. The staff have helped to prepare each child in a very prayerful way. I have had wonderful feedback from the school community when parents/carers have joined us. This began with Y4's wonderful Advent assembly and the introduction of our lovely travelling cribs. The KS2 Carol Concert followed and how wonderful to see children showcasing their wonderful gifts for God: singing, liturgical dancing and playing along in a brass band! I know that the children prepared these pieces with the help of many staff and we thank you. The travelling cribs have given you as a family the opportunity to share in this special time at home too. I spoke to the children about the importance of taking care of this special object and all that it stands for, for us as Christians. The Reconciliation Services gave the children a chance to visit church and use this time to reflect and renew. Y4-Y6 also had the opportunity to go to Confession. Our Mini-Vinnies and Faith friends have been very busy during Advent. Both helping and supporting children in school and then taking the show on the road by visiting a local nursing home and entertaining the residents with a medley of carols. The Rec/KS1 nativity was a joy to behold. Our youngest and newest members leading us through the most special story. I thought the singing was simply joyful and the performance very well attended by parents/carers. Finally, the end of term mass. I asked the children during assembly going forth this week, to find joy in Jesus and to do their very best in prayer, work and play and they did not disappoint. A big thank you to all the staff who helped to prepare the Mass. Fr Mc Gillycuddy is looking forward to welcoming you all in Church over the Christmas period. The Mass times at St.Patrick's are as follows;

**Christmas Eve     4pm and 8pm  
Saturday 6pm and Sunday 10am**

**Christmas Day 10am**

## Key Dates

### January

- 6<sup>th</sup> – School reopens
- 13<sup>th</sup> -15<sup>th</sup> – Y6 Robinwood residential
- 22<sup>nd</sup> – Training day  
School closed
- 30<sup>th</sup> – School nurses visiting Rec and Y6

### February

- 4<sup>th</sup> – Northern Ballet performance
- 6<sup>th</sup> - Y6 Confirmation @ St. Augustine's
- 11<sup>th</sup> - Y4 visit talk from dental hygienist
- 14<sup>th</sup> – Half-term School closes for a week



## Advent Charities

How wonderful that we have been thinking of others all throughout Advent. Each class chose a charity and held different fundraisers. We are still adding up the final amounts, I will publish these in the New Year. Thank you for supporting the children, as I know that this is very expensive time of year. The charities are;

Rec – NSPCC

Y1 Yorkshire Cancer

Y2 St.Vincent's

Y3 Zarach (Children living in poverty in Leeds)

Y4 Save the Children

Y5 St.Gemma's

Y6 Cancer Research

## Reminder- Notice of Training Day

We will be having a training day on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January - school will be closed to pupils on that day.

## Merit Assembly

It was wonderful to see so many children recognised for trying hard since September. A big thank you to the Governors for supporting the assembly with prizes for reading and writing in each class. There were some beautiful books awarded and the children should be rightly proud if they got one. A whole host of other awards including house points and attendance were also given out. I told the children, if they had not been chosen this time or been recognised in Praise assembly on Friday, there is still lots of time. Each child shines in their own way and we recognise the gifts and talents we have here at St.Patrick's. Keep up the effort children!

## Admission to Reception class for September 2020

Reminder that the deadline for applications from prospective parents whose children are eligible to join school in September 2020 is **15<sup>th</sup> January 2020**

If you are wishing to apply, you must do so online and also complete the school's SIF (Supplementary Information Form). These are available on the school website and from the school office.

## Y6 Confirmation

Well done to all the children in Y6 who have embarked on this journey of faith. The Parish catechists are delighted with the groups and discussions that have taken place this half-term. The children will be invited to a Mass of presentation and there is a final session after Christmas before the sacrament takes place on the 6<sup>th</sup> February at St. Augustines church. Dates for both of these occasions will be given when we return to school in January.

## **Y6 Residential: Robinwood**

Reminder that this is fast approaching on the 13<sup>th</sup> -15<sup>th</sup> January. Final payments to Mrs Sands first week back, please. Many thanks if you have done so already. Exciting times!

## **PE Kit**

We are very lucky to have access to top quality PE in school both from our own teachers and external coaches. Please can you ensure that all children have a labelled PE kits and pumps in school each week to enable them to take part fully in all sessions. We are fast running out of spare kits so please check you only have your own when they come home this week and return any spares to school.

## **St Patrick's Weekly Parish Draw**

Thank you to everyone who has joined the draw this season. Your numbers are all in and you will be receiving confirmation of them soon.

Winning Numbers Week1   £30 No. 149 S. Sadler   seller P Stall  
   £10 No. 490 M. Rahilly   seller P Stall  
Week 2   £30 No. 163 M. Knox   seller P Hughes  
   £10 No. 200 S. North   seller R North  
Week 3   £30 No. 451 E. Cawley   seller P Stall  
   £10 No. 216 G. Simpson   seller P Stall  
Week 4   £30 No. 164 Stuart Robinson   seller J Foley  
   £10 No. 005 Aidna Tedros   seller P Hughes

## **Christmas Dinner and Parties**

We rounded off our preparations this week with some fun filled events. A big thank you to the catering staff who provided a wonderful Christmas dinner that was enjoyed by nearly every child in school. I managed to serve the vegetables with no incidents! Party afternoon was another joy to behold. The children look great in their finery and enjoyed their food with lovely manners and enjoyed games and dancing until the final bell rang.



## **FoSP**

**Christmas Disco 6<sup>th</sup> December** – A big thank you for supporting this event. We raised a magnificent £400 from the event. There were many people who worked behind the scenes leading up to the disco and many who joined us to help on the night...a big thank you to you all. The children had a ball and visit from the main man himself was the icing on the cake!

A big thank you to Warburtons who supplied the bread rolls free of charge and also to Asda for giving us a voucher towards the cost of the pizza. Thank you to the parent who managed to use their staff discount on the selection boxes also. A real team effort!

Watch this space for more FoSP events in the new year!

## **Reminder about illness in school**

Public Health England have sent a number of messages out this week in response to outbreaks of the Norovirus and Flu. Please make sure if your child suffers a bout of sickness and/or diarrhoea that they do not return to school for 48 hours following the last incidence of illness to avoid passing this on to others. We need to isolate pupils immediately if they present as unwell during the day. Parents will be phoned to collect so please make sure we have up to date contact numbers.

## **Parking**

Unfortunately, this is still a big issue and mainly involves parents driving and parking on the pavements close to the crossing. This is dangerous and unacceptable. We have had a number of near misses lately and I fear it is only a matter of time before a child is seriously injured. We are fortunate to have use of a car park but if this is full you must park a distance away from the crossing. The police are wanting to be present daily to give fixed penalty notices. I am now in agreement that this should happen. I am sorry for going on about this yet again to all those parents who walk or park giving due consideration to others but the situation has not improved.

### **Thank you from the staff**

On behalf of the whole staff may I say a big thank you for the gifts, cards and well wishes, we are very grateful.

### **Final thought...**

I can hardly believe a term has been and gone. It has been an absolute pleasure getting to know you and your wonderful children. I wish you all a very happy and holy Christmas and all the very best for 2020! May I take this opportunity to thank the staff and governors at St.Patrick's for their help and support since I joined this very special community. I know that I am blessed to lead this school and as I reflect on my first term I do so with happiness. On one of my first visits here a child said to me Christ is within me and I can truly say that I have seen that each and every day in one way or another. I am excited for the future here at St.Patrick's, as we strive to create a culture of excellence in all we do.

**With warmest wishes,**

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Grady'.



## Y4 Advent assembly



## Mini-Vinnies Carol Singing



## Christmas Dinner





FOSP Christmas Party

