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Autumn Newsletter 2024

As we approach the festive season, we reflect on what has been a wonderfully busy and productive term here at St. Bede's Catholic Infant School. From exciting classroom projects to special celebrations, our children have shown incredible enthusiasm, creativity and kindness.

The Advent season reminds us of the joy of giving, the importance of community and the love of Christ that binds us all. We've been blessed to share these values with your children through learning, prayer and the many festive activities that make this time of year so special.

This newsletter highlights some of the term's key moments and provides information about upcoming events. We hope you enjoy looking back on what has been a term filled with hard work, community spirit and wonderful memories.

Wishing you all a peaceful and joyful Christmas season, from everyone at St. Bede's Catholic Infant School.

***"Let us allow ourselves to be overcome by the joy of this Christmas. Let us carry it in our hearts and lives, giving hope, kindness and peace."
– Pope Francis***

Other important dates for Spring Term

[\(click here\)](#)

Lunch Menu -

[click here](#)

Term dates:

School opens - 6th Jan

School closes - 14th Feb

School opens - 25th Feb

School closes 4th April

MERRY CHRISTMAS



OUR CATHOLIC LIFE—THE NATIVITY

The children enjoyed sharing the Christmas story during December's nativities. Their enjoyment and enthusiasm certainly brought plenty of festive cheer to everyone, spreading the true spirit of the season to everyone who attended.

We are sure that the Christmas songs have been sung at home over the recent weeks...we definitely heard our audiences singing along!



ROTARY SHOEBOX APPEAL

Thank you for your kind donations for the Rotary Shoebox Appeal. With your support, we were able to fill 25 shoeboxes.

The shoebox appeal distributes items and gifts to disadvantaged families across Eastern Europe; to places such as orphanages, hospitals, women's refuges and hostels.



"Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."
— Matthew 25:40



OUR CATHOLIC LIFE

- ◇ Our thanks to Fr. Mark, our school chaplain, for taking the time to visit school on a number of occasions this term. He has shared reflections with the children and staff. He has also joined in with our weekly singing sessions and has taught us signs to some of our songs, including some of those performed for families during the recent nativities. Thank you.
- ◇ The Pope has designated 2025 the Year of Jubilee. The theme is Pilgrims of Hope and is a year of hope for a world suffering the impacts of war, the ongoing effects of Covid and a climate crisis. For more information, [click here](#).
- ◇ An invitation for families—date for your diary. 'Praying as we enter a new year'. Fr. Mark will lead a short prayer and reflection at the Guild Hall (opposite our school) on Tuesday 14th January 2025. Morning prayer 9:05am—Afternoon prayer 2:55pm. This is for parents/carer, not for the children. The times are arranged so that you can come along around the times of the school run. You are welcome to come along to one or both.

***"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given."
(Isaiah 9:6)***

KEY DATES:

- ◇ 22nd December – fourth Sunday of Advent
- ◇ 25th December – Nativity of the Lord
- ◇ 6th January – The Epiphany
- ◇ 12th January – Baptism of the Lord
- ◇ 5th March—Ash Wednesday
- ◇ 9th March—1st Sunday of Lent
- ◇ 25th March—Annunciation
- ◇ 20th April—Easter Sunday
- ◇ 25th May—St. Bede the Venerable
- ◇ 29th May—The Ascension
- ◇ 8th June—Pentecost



Oh come
let us
adore
Him

- ◇ Click [here](#) for mass times
- ◇ Click [here](#) for website
- ◇ The Wednesday Word provides scripture and prayer, along with games for the children, linked to the weekly Gospel. [Click here](#).
- ◇ St Wilfrid's Parish Newsletter—click [here](#)

SPRING TERM COLLECTIVE WORSHIP DATES

(ALL 9AM START)

- 14th January Yellow Class
- 21st January Scarlet Class
- 28th January Coral Class
- 4th February Purple Class
- 12th February Red Class
- 4th March Orange Class
- 11th March Green Class
- 18th March Aqua Class
- 25th March Blue Class

Christmas Sporty Fun!

The children loved taking part in our Christmas-themed PE event last week. The children balanced, raced, weaved and jumped their way through a variety of PE activities with Mr Cooper and Mr Cayzer. The children cheered each other on and really impressed us with their fitness and agility.



EVENTS AND CELEBRATIONS

Fundraising

We would like to say a huge 'THANK YOU' for your generosity in supporting our Christmas prize draw before each nativity. You have raised a fantastic **£459!** We will use these funds to update some of nativity costumes, scenery and audio visual equipment, ready for next year! We know how everyone's finances are stretched, particularly at this time of year, so we really do appreciate your support.



Halton's 50th Anniversary!

To celebrate Halton's 50th anniversary, some of our Year 2 were part of an art project alongside other primary school across Halton. Each school was given an event from the past 50 years and one piece of artwork from each school was turned into a ceramic tile.

The exhibition showcases Halton's heritage through 50 tiles, now on permanent display at Halton Lea Library. Our theme was the reopening of the butterfly house in Victoria Park. CONGRATULATIONS to Gracie Bradley, whose design was chosen for the final ceramic piece! Well done to everyone who took part and we hope you take some time to visit the amazing artwork. Thank you. Mrs Jackson



EVENTS AND CELEBRATIONS

Pantomime

Pinocchio—The children enjoyed Altru's version of Pinocchio, during the recent pantomime in school. This professional touring production came to visit, including a full set, costumes and live original music. The actors and musicians were brilliant and the children loved joining in with the fun and laughter.



Remembrance

The children gathered together for a service of remembrance in November. Each child brought a poppy and placed it on the ground, leaving fields of poppies in

Our annual Artsweek took place in October. The children took part in a variety of Arts activities, including painting, sketching, watercolours and printing. We were also delighted to be joined by the talented musicians from AmaSing who led the children in drumming workshops. As usual, the children impressed us all with their talents and creativity.



We are a rainbow!





SCHOOL SPIDER

We encourage our parents and carers to download the School Spider parent app. You will receive information and updates via app messages and email.

As well as receiving information, you can also report your child's absence, view galleries and respond to surveys.

Apple version [here](#)

Android version [here](#)

[Email](#) Miss Parle with any queries.

A letter will be sent at the beginning of each half term, detailing your child's percentage attendance. We understand that there can be extenuating circumstances as to why a child's attendance may be low. Attendance is also reported at the end of the school year, in your child's report. Please click [here](#) to view our Attendance Policy. If you are unsure whether to keep your child off school, please read the NHS link [here](#).

If your child is ill please contact the school office on the first day of absence. Absences can also be reported using the School Spider parent app. Medical evidence may be required if your child's absence falls below 90%. Attendance up to Friday 13th December 2024 is 96.34%.

As you will see from the policy ([here](#)) all requests for leave of absence in term time should be made using schools' 'Leave of absence in term time' request form and evidence of the exceptional circumstances must be provided for all requests and attached to the form. Information regarding penalty notices can be found in the policy (above).

We also appreciate that there are rare occasions when you might arrive late to collect your child and of course we understand that this sometimes happens! However, if late collection is frequent then this has a huge impact on our very busy teachers and support staff; 5 minutes late per day adds up to nearly half an hour per week. We thank you for your cooperation.

SAFEGUARDING

If you have safeguarding concerns about any child you can contact Halton's integrated Contact and Referral Team by clicking [here](#). If you need to contact school and speak to Miss Scragg regarding any advice around safeguarding please email safeguarding@stbedesinfants.co.uk

Thanks to Mrs Towell (aka Mrs Christmas) for visiting each class and delivering a Christmas present to each of the children on the last day!



School Funds Information
Bank Balance £7354.68
Cash Balance £836.07

£254 raised in the Christmas card/product fundraiser.