

Note from the Head

What a great week it has been in school! The Nursery and Infant children put on a wonderful performance of their Christmas Nativity 'Hey Ewe'. Their beaming smiles, cute dances and sheer enthusiasm couldn't fail to put a smile on the faces of everyone who watched and created some heart warming memories for family members.

Our choir sang beautifully at Tesco on Thursday and represented the school well with both song and dance. Mrs Harrison-Scott and Year 6 pupils visited our neighbours on Chapel Lane to deliver a Christmas card from the school and handmade tree decoration with love from St John's.

These small acts of festivity and kindness help the children to remember that Christmas is about giving, and sharing what we have with others

Next week we have lots happening with the Junior Advent Service, Breakfast with Santa, Christmas Dinner and Christmas parties. Our Reception class and Choir will also be visiting Arranmore Nursing Home to continue spreading some festive cheer.

We have lots to look forward to as we enter this final week

Attendance in school

Whilst we encourage good attendance in school, we are noticing children who are being sent into school despite not feeling well. We appreciate this is an exciting time in school and children do not want to miss out on the opportunities, taking place, but please be mindful that germs quickly spread in a classroom and we want to keep staff and children healthy over the festive period and not take illnesses home with them.

Infant Milk

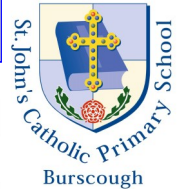
Children under five receive free milk under the Nursery Milk Scheme or School Milk Subsidy Scheme until the Friday before their fifth birthday. We currently only have 8 out of 14 children registered for milk. Register your child using this web address: <https://coolmilk.com/parents/>

Once your child becomes 5 years of age you will need to cancel this subscription or you will be charged.

Christmas Parties

On Thursday 18th December we will be holding Christmas Parties in the hall. There will lots of fun, games and prizes. This will take place within the school day and children may come to school wearing their party clothes that day. There is no cost for this event.

Friday 12th December



Mass times

Sunday 09.00 am Saturday 06.30 pm

12/12/25 Third Sunday of Advent

Gospel Reading: Matthew 11:2-11

Notes for Adults

The 3rd Sunday of Advent, called Gaudete Sunday, is a time to rejoice. Even as we wait for Jesus, we can find joy in knowing He is near. Isaiah tells us that the desert will bloom and the weak will find strength. James reminds us to be patient and trust in God's timing. Jesus shows that God's promises are being fulfilled through His works. This Sunday encourages us to stay hopeful. Joy does not come from perfect circumstances but from God's presence among us. We are called to look for signs of His goodness and to wait with faith. Our joy grows as we remember that Jesus brings healing, peace, and new life to the world.

Approaching the Gospel with children

We are all part of one family, God's family, and God asks us to love each other and care for each other. But what does it mean to bring good news to people who are poor? Do you have any ideas?

What can we do to help people, either our friends, family or people in other countries whom we have never met? How can we help people who are sick or who have hurt themselves? People who are hungry or thirsty? People who are poor?

At the beginning of the Jubilee Year, Pope Francis asked us to be signs of hope to one another, especially to people in any kind of need.

Throughout the Jubilee Year so many people have been doing what they can to answer this call. They have been praying, walking, fundraising and campaigning to try to build a better world. This is also really good news!

The Jubilee Year comes to an end soon, but the work of putting our faith into action and working together with all our sisters and brothers to create a fairer and more loving world will continue. We can all play our part in changing the world for the better.

How will you try to be like Jesus, helping others, being a sign of hope, and sharing the good news that God loves us all in the next week?

Christmas Dinner and Jumper Day

Christmas Dinner will be served on Wed 18th December in the school hall and is always a lovely event. The children enjoy being served by staff with a traditional roast dinner with crackers and Christmas Music. To book your child onto this, please return the letter to school. Children that are already registered for a school dinner are already booked in for one. If your child would like to wear their Christmas Jumper, we ask for £1 donation (per family) to go to CAFOD world gifts at Christmas.

Christmas Raffle

We have a selection of festive Christmas Hampers that we are raffling off to raise money for school. Tickets cost £1 a strip and be purchased from the office, at the infant nativities. These will be drawn out in the last week of term.

Posada

Posada is a Mexican festive tradition that we are repeating this year. Posada is a Spanish word that means 'Inn' and we welcome you to host Mary, Joseph and baby Jesus for one night to help us remember the true meaning of Christmas. We have prepared travelling Nativity packs for you and your children to use. The packs contain prayer cards, The Christmas story according to Luke's Gospel, candles, a prayer mat, model figures and a booklet to record your experience. To enable all families to participate in this experience we ask that you keep the Nativity for one night only and return to school the next day for it to continue its journey. Thank you for your participation!

Published Admission Number (PAN)

We are seeking to consult and reduce the PAN from 25 to 20. This reduction in PAN will not affect the ethos, values and success of St John's Catholic Primary. Reducing the PAN will assist the school to provide stability in its long-term planning and allow us to continue to secure high quality education for the pupils currently on roll, whilst continuing to provide an appropriate number of places for future pupils in line with local demand. A letter was sent home giving more detail about the consultation. Please ask at the office if you have not received one.

Dates for your Diary

16th December - KS2 Christmas Advent service in Church 2pm

17th December - EYFS, Y1, Y2, Y3 Breakfast with Santa

17th December - Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day

18th December - Christmas Party

19th December - School closes for Christmas break

6th January - School reopens for the Spring term

The following children have been chosen by the Lunchtime Supervisors for wonderful behaviour!

Class 1: Lincoln

Class 2: Kendall

Class 3: Arthur

Class 4: Maxwell



Our value for this term is - Love

The following children were awarded certificates by their class teacher for showing Love to others this week.

Class 1: Edward

Class 2: Harvey and Thomas

Class 3: Michael

Class 4: All of Class 4

