

Note from the Head

As we come to the end of the Autumn term and to my first term as Headteacher, I would like to express my thanks for all of your support and encouragement. I love my job and feel very privileged to be able to work within such a wonderful community.

The children of St John's are simply incredible, they are so bright and happy and come to school with a smile on their faces and a willingness to learn. Everyone is friends and as our recent Catholic School Inspection noted.. *"relationships are strong and very special"*. The children make the school a truly wonderful place to be.

I must say a huge thank you to all of the staff at St John's who work so hard to deliver a high quality curriculum and make learning fun. The care and support they give enables children to feel safe and secure - which are essential building blocks for success.

The children held a special assembly on Thursday to mark Father Daley's departure from the parish. The children shared memories and sang together as we gave a hamper of gifts of some of his favourite treats. The older children in particular spoke with such respect and appreciation for Father Daley and the guidance he has shown to all and we will miss him dearly.

Thank you for your generosity this term in supporting our fundraising efforts, through your kindness we have been able to support CAFOD through the World Gifts programme, Macmillan Coffee Morning, Nugent Care children's homes and the Burscough Methodist Foodbank. The staff have also asked me to pass on their thanks and appreciation for your very kind gifts at the end of term.

We have updated the Safeguarding section of our school webpage. If you need help or assistance then please look there for advice and contact numbers should you need help over the festive period. Please look at the 'Key Information' section where there is a link to 'Safeguarding'.

Christmas day for me will be spent with my 15 year old twin daughters, my parents, brother and his family. Wherever you are and whoever you share Christmas with, I wish you all the best for a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and look forward to seeing you all again on Tuesday 7th January
Claire Smith

Friday 20th December



Mass times

Sunday 09.00 am Mon - Fri 09.00 am
Saturday 06.30 pm

22/12/24 Fourth Sunday of Advent

Gospel Reading: Luke 1:39-45

The 4th Sunday of Advent Year C prepares us for the coming of Jesus. The readings highlight important themes for our reflection.

God's Promise: God promises to send a ruler from Bethlehem. This promise shows God's faithfulness.

Humble Beginnings: Jesus is born in Bethlehem, a small town. This shows that God often works through humble beginnings.

Obedience to God: Jesus came to do God's will. He shows us the importance of obeying God.

Joyful Expectation: Mary visits Elizabeth, and they rejoice. This reminds us to be joyful as we wait for Jesus.

Blessed Among Women: Elizabeth calls Mary blessed. Mary is blessed because she believed God's word.

Jesus' Sacrifice: Jesus offers His body for our sins. This shows His great love for us.

Reflecting on these themes for the 4th Sunday of Advent Year C helps us understand the readings better. They guide us in our preparation for Christmas.

Christmas Eve mass is 6:30

Christmas Day mass is 9am