



ST JOHN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

1st December 2023

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Dear Parents,

Posada

Posada is a Mexican festive tradition that we are adopting 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!

Reverse Advent Calendar

During the season of Advent we shall direct our thoughts in school to those less fortunate than us. We would like to run a 'Reverse' Advent Calendar appeal for families in need. Each week in December we will have a focus for donations:

The focus for next week is TINS

Could you please send a tinned food item into school with your child by Friday. Thank you.

If you are in need, or if you know of a local family in need then please get in touch – in confidence – to Mrs Harrison-Scott in the office.

Carol singing at Tesco

Some of our children will be carol singing at Tesco Burscough at 2pm on Monday 18th December. Letters will be going out tonight to those children who have shown an interest. If you would like to lend a hand (and your vocal talents!) please see Mrs Harrison-Scott.

Parents Group

In the New Year we would like to try and establish a group for parents who would like to meet, support and chat with each other in the Parish Hall once a month, giving you a safe space to meet and talk with others. If this is something that you may be interested in then please pass your details to Mrs Harrison-Scott.

Uniform Sale

We have a huge amount of preloved school uniform in excellent condition. We shall hold a uniform sale on Friday 8th December between 9 and 10am.

Admissions - Applications for Primary and High School places

For families who will require a primary place in September 2024 the means of application is via Lancashire's on-line system at:-

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/apply-for-a-school-place/>

You must apply even if you already have siblings at your preferred school. If you live in Lancashire, you can include out of area preferences on your on-line application. Alternatively call 01772 532191

The closing dates for applications for September 2024 are at 11.59 pm on:-

Primary school applications –15th January 2024

Free School meals

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Universal Credit with a household income of less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)
- Income-Based Jobseekers' Allowance
- Income-Related Employment and Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit, **not** entitled to Working Tax Credit and household income less than £16,190
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Income Support
- Working Tax Credit 'run on' – the payment you receive for a further four weeks after you finish work

Please follow the link below

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/free-school-meals/>

Diary Dates

Friday 8th December: Uniform Sale, 9- 10am.

Thursday 14th December KS1 Nativity 1:30

Monday 18th December KS2 Carol singing at Tesco

Tuesday 19th KS1 and Y3 Breakfast with Santa 8am

Tuesday 19th December KS2 Advent service 2:15

Wednesday 20th December Christmas Jumper day for CAFOD and Christmas Movie night

School closes at on Friday 22nd December for Christmas Holiday and reopens on Tuesday 9th January

Thank you for your continued support.

Miss Smith