



Dear Parents and Carers,

December and Advent have finally arrived and we can finally begin to start our preparations for Christmas. This is always my favourite time of year at school and I look forward to all of the exciting things planned between now and the end of term.

Christmas Fair

We look forward to seeing you all tomorrow at our Christmas Fair. Doors open at 12noon and the fair will run until 3pm.

Nativities and Carol Concert

Please note the dates for our children's nativity performances and our carol concert.

Wednesday 13th December @ 2pm– Year 1 and Year 2 Nativity in Church

Thursday 14th December @ 10am– Nursery Nativity in school

Thursday 14th December @ 2pm– Reception Nativity in school

Wednesday 20th December @ 6pm– KS2 (Year 3-6) Carol Concert in Church

Christmas Dates

Please check this newsletter for other dates this term. We are now updating the calendar on the school website too with important dates. Please keep checking on these newsletters. Term dates for 2024-2025 will be given out next week, once confirmed with Governors.

Fundraising and Events

We do understand in school that there are families who are finding things difficult and the requests from school can add to pressures in terms of donations etc. We also are contacted by parents/carers who wish to donate and would like to help as much as they can so it is a fine balance. Please be assured that we will always ask for voluntary donations when request for fundraising is made and we do not expect all families to donate each time. On the other hand, if you are struggling financially, please do reach out to us and we can point you in the direction of some help. If you get in contact the office and ask to speak directly to me, I will do all I can to help or point you in the direction of help.

Maths Workshops

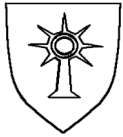
Thanks to all who attended Miss Keville's workshops. If you were unable to attend, Miss Keville has posted materials on the Maths section on the Curriculum part of our website. We will be having a Parent/Carer Stay and Calculate morning on Friday 2nd February. More information will follow.

Have a lovely weekend and enjoy the December weather and the beginning of Advent.

Take care,

Mr Doherty

Headteacher



This Sunday marks the First Sunday of Advent. We spoke about British Values this week in school. These are values that the government believe that all children who live in the UK should hold. These are Democracy, Rule of Law, Respect and Tolerance and Individual Liberty. Not too much to argue with there, in my opinion. However, we spoke about the values we have at St. Monica's and what values we have as part of our faith. We spoke about Forgiveness and about how vital this is to us. We also spoke about other Gospel values and the values that we reflect upon during Advent. Hope, Peace, Joy and Love. We are so lucky that we get to reflect upon what these mean during Advent, amidst all of the madness that goes on around us. We are lucky that we get to celebrate Christmas but we are blessed too that we can pray to God for Hope, Peace, Joy and Love in our lives.

Important Dates this term (these will be added to as events are added)

Saturday 2nd December– Christmas Fair

Saturday 9th December– Cross Country

Wednesday 13th December– Christmas Dinner

Wednesday 13th December @ 2pm– Year 1 and Year 2 Nativity in Church

Thursday 14th December @ 10am– Nursery Nativity in school

Thursday 14th December @2pm– Reception Nativity in school

Wednesday 20th December @6pm– KS2 Carol Concert in Church

Thursday 21st December-End of term

Monday 8th January 2024– Return to School

Friday 2nd February 2024– Stay and Calculate for Parents/Carers

Friday 9th February 2024– Half term begins

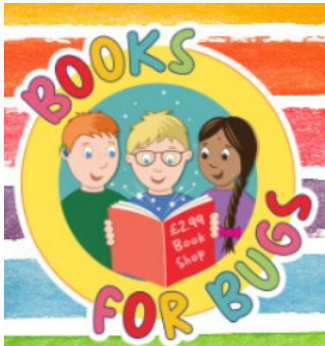
Parking

Please be considerate of our parents and childminders with prams, particularly on Rothiemay Road. I have witnessed buggies being pushed onto the road because the footpaths are blocked by cars parking up on them. It really isn't fair that footpaths are being blocked from walking on parked cars.



Books for Bugs

Books for Bugs Book Fair



We are very excited to announce that we have our annual discounted virtual book fair starting on Monday 4th December with Books for Bugs. This is a great opportunity to purchase amazing books at just £2.99 each with free delivery to school.

Some books are even discounted to £1!

There are hundreds of books to choose from for babies through to teens, including a lot of well known titles and authors.

You cannot order just yet as you will be charged postage but you can start to view and even create your own wishlist via their website. We will put a reminder out again on Monday so that you can start ordering from our book fair.



Please contact The Ash Company in Sale if you are interested in free spaces for Free School Meal children during the Christmas holidays. There are also some opportunities for those who are not on Free School Meals.

Bob Harrison from Stretford Food Bank came to visit us last week to thank us for all of the food that children collected and presented to the food bank. It was lovely to hear how the children's actions were making a difference to people in need. Thank you Bob!

FREE SPACES TO THOSE ON FREE SCHOOL MEALS



10-4pm

CHRISTMAS DANCE CAMP
Age 6-15years
27th, 28th and 29th of December!
Olivia Beckford
Lamaar Manning
and much more!

FREE HOT MEAL PROVIDED

EMAIL:
HOLIDAYCLUB@THEASHCOMPANY.COM

ASH
AIM SKY HIGH

LIMITED SCHOLARSHIPS FOR THOSE NOT ON FREE SCHOOL MEALS

AMAZING FUNDRAISING EFFORTS FOR SCHOOL

Thank you to Cian, Lochlann and Ruadhan and their amazing efforts to raise money for a new SEND space in school. Thank you to everyone who donated and contributed too. It is so appreciated by everyone here.





ATTENDANCE

Whole school - 94.50%
 Nursery - 86.06%
 RQ - 94.38%
 RV - 93.13%
 1B - 95.54%
 1/2F - 98.28%
 2S - 98.75%
 3B - 90.18%
 3/4C - 97.50%
 3/4GS - 93.10%
 5K - 93.75%
 5/6B - 94.20%
 5/6S - 97.41%

Well done to Miss Stott's Year 2 class for their superb attendance this week. Well done to Ms Frith's Year 1/2 class and to Miss Connor's Year 3/4 class and to Mrs Slater's Year 5/6 class. We know there are lots of different bugs going around, so again thank you for all your efforts in getting your children to school.



24/11/23	RV	Astrid	For working hard with her blending
	RQ	Tommy	For having a great week and making good choices
	1B	Brody	For doing amazing work in his maths lessons
	1/2F	Silva	For excellent work in our yoga lessons.
	2S	Tara	For always showing lots of enthusiasm and excitement when retelling a story.
	3B	Hugo	For working really hard in his Religion lesson this week.
	3/4C	Remi	For always working hard and trying his best
	3/4GS	Ivan	For great ideas in his poetry writing.
	5K	Kleo	For making a great effort to contribute to class discussions.
	5/6B	Dylan	For a great week at school and a positive attitude.
	5/6S	Ella	For showing great care and compassion to the elderly residents on our visit to Bowfell House.



St. Monica's RC Primary School

The child is at the centre of everything we do.

1.12.23

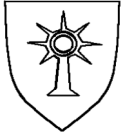
BLESSED THOMAS HOLFORD
CATHOLIC COLLEGE



SUNDAY 3RD
DECEMBER 2023
11AM-3PM
SPORTS HALL
£3 FOR ADULTS-
KIDS UNDER 18 ARE
FREE

CHRISTMAS
MARKET

URBAN ROAD | ALTRINCHAM | WA15 8HT



Arrange a Toy/Gift Collection

We would love to be able to fully stock our Christmas shop, so that families have a wide selection of gifts to choose from. We're so grateful for the support from our community and local businesses who have contributed over the last couple of years - we wouldn't be able to do this without you!

If you'd like to arrange a collection of gifts at your workplace, or amongst friends/family, or if you'd like to shop somewhere other than Amazon, here's a list of the types of items we are collecting.

0-2 years

- Board or lift-the-flap books
- Bath toys
- Stacking cups
- Shape sorters
- Wooden shape jigsaws
- Sensory toys
- Push along items
- Baby gyms & Playmats
- Megablocks or Duplo
- Clothes for babies/toddlers

3-5 years

- Jigsaws
- Colouring books
- Sticker books
- Paints
- Sets of crayons, colouring pens and pencils
- Playdoh/Kinetic sand
- Football
- Barbies and similar
- Lego
- Cars/lorries and garage sets
- Books
- Dolls with clothing
- Dressing up clothes
- Hats, gloves and scarves

6-9 years

- Art and Crafts sets
- Board games
- Card games - Dobble, Top Trumps, Uno etc
- Fidget toys and similar sensory toys
- Lego

- Books
- Football
- Jigsaws
- Dolls - LOL, Barbie and similar
- Construction sets eg. Meccano
- Dressing up clothes
- Hats, gloves and scarves

10-13 years

- Books
- Face masks
- Football
- Jewelry
- Led lights
- Stationery
- Gift cards
- Board games
- Lego
- Makeup
- Rubix cube
- Cards
- Socks

14-16 years

- Gift cards
- Clothes
- Football
- Hairbrush
- Jewelry
- Lava lamp
- Toiletries
- Perfume
- Led lights
- Bath bombs
- Socks
- Blanket

- Books
- Soap
- Lego
- Sport balls
- Puzzles
- Hats
- Drawing equipment
- World records book
- Chess
- Rugby ball
- Keychains

16-18 years

- Socks
- Books
- Football
- Gift cards
- Month gym membership

We can't accept the following:

- Any old, dirty, broken or incomplete toys
- Used cuddly toys
- Toys with missing characters, animals or parts
- Second hand electrical items or re-chargeable items
- Second hand and worn clothing without tags
- CDs and DVDs
- Computer Games
- Past years annuals and record books
- Food items including sweets, chocolates and biscuits

Christmas Toy Appeal

Dear Parents,

As we are getting closer to the season of Advent, the GIFT team and Wellbeing Champions are looking at how we can give back to our community.

A third of children in Greater Manchester are living in poverty, over 11,000 of these children live in Trafford. With the huge increase in the cost of living, this is only going to get worse.

Little Green Sock is a charity that supports families in Trafford with basic needs. This Christmas they are asking for new toys that can be gifted to children who may not receive any presents at Christmas.

We would like to support this charity with their toy appeal, so are asking if any families would like to help to please buy a gift from the example list above and bring these into school no later than the 7th December.

Many thanks in advance,

GIFT Team and Health Champions