



St. Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School

Friday, 6th December 2024



This week's Gospel

2nd Sunday of Advent

"Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."

Luke 3:1-6

A message from Mrs Rawlinson

What a success the Christmas Fayre was last Friday evening. There was a lovely Christmassy buzz throughout and many happy faces. Santa was kept busy throughout and he said to pass his thanks on to all the good boys and girls of St. Thomas of Canterbury!

Together, we have raised a grand (approximate) total of £2,500 with every penny raised being spent directly on the children. This is an incredible amount of money, made possible by the wonderfully generous donations from all our families and the foresight, time and team work from the wonderful PTFA.

On behalf of the children - thank you all.

Continuing with the Christmas spirit, today's Advent Mass at church was a wonderful way to come together as a school family, pray and reflect on the true meaning of Christmas. Well done to our Mini Vinnies who led us in prayer and readings and to all our children for their wonderful singing, making it a very special Mass. Thank you.

EYFS Nativities

A very special 'well done' to our youngest children who performed their Nativity play this week for their families. 'The Sleepy Shepherd' was a great success and the children really did enjoy performing and singing for everyone. Thanks to all the EYFS team for their hard work and preparation (and patience!) in putting it all together.

Year 4 Enrolment Mass

Reminder: the Year 4 Enrolment Mass is on Wednesday, 11th December at 6pm at church.

The children can wear their own clothes for this occasion, but please no sports wear/football tops.

The Mass is for the children and their families.

Can I request that families are at church by 5.50pm please so I can organise the children ready for a 6.00pm start.

Thanks

REMINDER:

Meet the teacher

Exclusively for Year 4 parents on Wednesday, 11th December at 3.30pm.

Growing Together in God's Love

KS2 Carol Service

Our KS2 children will be performing their Carol Service in Church on the following days:

- **Monday, 16th December at 11am**
- **Wednesday, 18th December at 4pm**

Children will stay after school on the Wednesday and staff will walk them to Church. Parents and grandparents are invited to attend.

Christmas Dinner Day &

'Wear it Well for Willowbrook'

Christmas dinner day will be held on **Wednesday, 11th December, for those children on school meals .**

Children who have packed lunch are welcome to bring a festive packed lunch on this day.

We are also inviting the children to wear their Christmas jumpers and or festive headwear for the 'Wear it Well' appeal for Willowbrook Hospice. We just ask that the children bring in a £1 donation and we will send the money raised onto Willowbrook Hospice.

Christmas Parties

The Christmas parties have been arranged during the afternoon on the following dates:

KS2 - Tuesday, 17th December

KS1 - Wednesday, 18th December

Nursery & Reception will be confirmed in next week's newsletter

KS1 Nativity Performances

Will take place on:

Thursday, 12th December at 3.30pm

Friday, 13th December at 9.30am

The children have had letters this week with more details regarding these performances.

Rock Steady

The children who have music with Rock Steady will be performing for parents on Tuesday, 10th December at 2.30pm

Breakfast With Santa

We will be hosting Breakfast with Santa again this year. The event will take place in school on Wednesday, 18th December, starting at 8am.

A letter was sent home with the children last week.

Please do not send in cash, places should be booked through the school money app.

Sweet & Craft Sale

On Monday, 9th December (weather permitting). PTFA will be selling sweets & crafts on the playground after school

De La Salle Production of Annie

De La Salle will be performing the musical "Annie" on 10th and 11th December, starting at 7pm.

Lots of former St Thomas of Canterbury pupils are involved in the production, including Isla Millen who is in the starring role as Annie!

Tickets are priced at £5 per adult or £3 concession and are available from De La Salle School or by calling or messaging Mrs Millen on 07740365350.

Growing Together in God's Love

Message from PTFA

As mentioned in Mrs Rawlinson's message the total raised at the Christmas Fayre was £2491.24, slightly more than last year which is a fantastic achievement.

Thank you to everyone who supported the event and to everyone who helped behind the scenes, whether that was setting up on the day to making crafts and cakes to sell. Special thanks to the parents, grandparents and staff who offered to run a stall- we couldn't have the fayre without these people volunteering- thank you!

A big thank you to the following parents and local businesses who donated prizes for the raffle:

Team Today

The Griffin Inn

Beauty by Nicola

Darcie's Dance World

Emily's Reformer Pilates Studio

Beauty Butterfly Transformational Healing

Forge Fitness

The Abbey

Toast Coffee House

Meraki Hair

Louis William Jewellery

Jasmyn Fawn Hair

St Helens RLFC

Thank you to the following companies for their donations towards the fayre:

New Dawn Projects

Asda , Morrisons and The Co-op.

'Beckets' Out of Hours Club

Please book breakfast or after school club sessions in advance using the school money app. This helps us to manage staffing and numbers.

On the day bookings should only be made for emergencies, by ringing the school office.

Please put money on your account before ringing to cover the session.

Please clear any arrears before booking any further out of hours club sessions.

Please note that children who haven't been picked up at 3.20pm will be taken to after school club and a charge will be applied.

Reminder:

**School closes on, 20th December at 1.30pm.
Please note there will be no after school club on this day.**

School reopens for Spring term on Tuesday, 7th January.

Growing Together in God's Love

Important Dates for your Diary

December

- 10th - Rock Steady Concert (2.30pm)
- 11th - Christmas Dinner Day & Wear it Well for Willowbrook (Christmas Jumpers & Festive Headwear)
- 11th - Year 4 meet the teacher with Miss Hitchen (3.30pm)
- 11th - Enrolment Mass in Church for Y4 families (6pm)
- 12th - KS1 (Year 1 & Year 2) Nativity - 3.30pm performance
- 13th - KS1 (Year 1 & Year 2) Nativity - 9.30am performance
- 16th - KS2 Carol Service in Church (11am)
- 17th - KS2 Christmas party
- 18th - Breakfast with Santa (8am)
- 18th - KS1 Christmas party
- 18th - KS2 Carol Service in Church (4pm)
- 20th - End of autumn term (children will finish at 1.30pm)

Attendance at school

Good attendance at school is not just valuable —
it is essential.

Attendance and punctuality at school is not just for the academic progress your child will make, but is also important for developing personal qualities too, such as:

- ◆ Friendships
- ◆ Social skills
- ◆ Team and school values
- ◆ Cultural awareness
- ◆ Life skills etc



Attendance

For week ending Friday, 6th December 2024 the whole school attendance is 96.64%

Reception = 97.1%

Year 1 = 97.7%

Year 2 = 96.6%

Year 3 = 94.5%

Year 4 = 97.1%

Year 5 = 97.3%

Growing Together in God's Love

St Mary's Lowe House & St Thomas of Canterbury & St Julie's Christmas Mass schedule 2024.

Blessing of Advent wreath: all weekend Masses 1st Dec

Advent Service for children: 1st December 4.00pm St Julie's

Fridays of Advent at St Thomas of Canterbury: 10.15am Exposition & Benediction; 11.00am Mass (unless there is a Requiem Mass-see weekly newsletter)

School Advent Mass: 11.00am Friday 6th December, St Thomas of Canterbury

Church Parade 8th December 11.00am Lowe House

11th Dec 6.00pm First Confession and Holy Communion enrolment Mass St Thomas of Canterbury

13th Dec 5.00pm First Sacrament of Reconciliation (yr4) St Julies

13th December 7.30 pm. St Helens Singers present "When a Child is Born", Christmas music and entertainment in St Julie's Church

14th/15th Dec Gaudete Sunday: Blessing of bambinelli/crib figures-all weekend Masses

15th Dec 5.00pm Lowe House Youth Alive Mass

16th Dec St Thomas of Canterbury school carol service 11.00am

18th Dec St Thomas of Canterbury school carol service 4.00pm

18th December 6.30pm-8.00pm Christmas Carols Lowe House parish hall. If you are able to contribute, please bring either a box of mince pies or a bottle of mulled wine

19th Dec St Julies school Nativity in church 2.00pm

Christmas Eve Tue 24th Dec 6.00pm First Mass of Christmas St Thomas of Canterbury. *Carols from 5.30pm*

Christmas Day Mass Wed 25th Dec:

9.30am St Julie's

11.00am St Mary's Lowe House. *Carols from 10.30am*

St Stephen Thu 26th Dec 9.30am Mass St Julie's

Epiphany of the Lord 5th Jan 2025 11.00am Mass at Lowe House will be an international themed Mass followed by international "shared table" lunch in the hall.