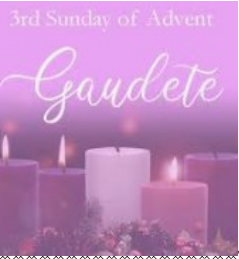




St. Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School



Friday, 13th December 2024



This week's Gospel

3rd Sunday of Advent

"Someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am."

Luke 3:10-18

A message from Mrs Rawlinson

A very big 'well done' to all the children in Key Stage 1 for their wonderful Nativity play called, "Are We Nearly There Yet?" Their singing, acting and narration were fabulous and helped to spread lots of Christmas joy and cheer. You were brilliant! Just as brilliant were the adults who joined in with the fun of the 'Twelve Days of Christmas' - this was so much fun and lovely for the children to see the adults enjoying the atmosphere!

We have also been treated to a Rock Steady concert this week. The bands who performed were incredible and are really progressing in their musical skills. A very impressive performance by all three bands (and the adult band who performed We Will Rock You—sung brilliantly by Mrs Springford!)

Year 4 children attended their Enrolment Mass on Wednesday evening . They were amazing. Their clear readings, lovely singing and fantastic behaviour helped to make a very special and poignant Mass. Each child received a certificate from Fr. Michael to show they have officially enrolled on their Sacramental journey.

Well done to all our children for making this a very special, joyous and exciting week in school. I am looking forward to our final week of Christmas celebration.

On another note, I appreciate that Christmas can be a time of stress and worry for many. If you know of any families who are struggling at Christmas for whatever reason, please do let me know. For those who don't already know, I am a member of the St Helens SVP charity (St Vincent De Paul) whose mission is to help families and individuals who find themselves in difficult situations and need a helping hand. Please do reach out if you need help at Christmas.

Sending love and best wishes to you all.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: KS2 Carol Service

On Wednesday, 18th December, we will take the KS2 children to church for a 4pm start of the Carol Service. The children will need to be collected from church at 4.45pm as we will not be bringing them back to school. Thanks.

KS2 Carol Service

KS2 children will be performing their Carol Service in Church next week on:

- **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. They should then be collected from Church after the service around 4.45pm.

Children can wear a Christmas jumper with their uniform on both days.

Parents and grandparents are invited to attend either or both of these services.

Christmas Parties

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

KS2 - Tuesday, 17th December

Reception & KS1 - Wednesday, 18th December

Nursery - Tuesday, 17th December during the morning.

Children can wear their own party clothes on the day of their party.

Breakfast With Santa

Breakfast with Santa will take place in school on Wednesday, 18th December. Children who are booked onto this event should arrive in school at 8am.

'Wear it Well for Willowbrook'

We raised £167 for Willowbrook Hospice when the children wore their Christmas jumpers and or festive headwear for the 'Wear it Well' appeal held on Wednesday.

Thank you.

Important Dates for your Diary

December

- 16th - KS2 Carol Service in Church (11am)
- 17th - Nursery Christmas party (am)
- 17th - KS2 Christmas party (pm)
- 18th - Breakfast with Santa (8am)
- 18th - Reception & KS1 Christmas party (pm)
- 18th - KS2 Carol Service in Church (4pm)
- 20th - End of autumn term (children will finish at 1.30pm)

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.

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, 13th December 2024 the whole school attendance is 96.1%

Reception = 98.5%

Year 1 = 92.5%

Year 2 = 95.9%

Year 3 = 96.3%

Year 4 = 98.9%

Year 5 = 92.2%

Year 6 = 98.1%

Willowbrook are offering a Christmas Tree recycling service this January to raise funds for Willowbrook Hospice, please see information below if you are interested.

JUSTHELPING
Registered charity number 114966

RECYCLE YOUR TREE



TO REGISTER
SCAN HERE!

www.just-helping.org.uk/register-tree

- Registration Opens 15th November 2024
- Registration Closes 8th January 2025
- Collecting 13-17th January 2025

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After costs, Willowbrook Hospice receive 90% and up to 10% will be distributed by Just Helping to other local charities. More information on where your donation goes can be found on our website.

JustHelping supports volunteers, businesses, and charities to contribute to their community and the environment. Our national Christmas tree collection raises essential funds for charities in the local community.



**Just
£1
to play!**

**Willowbrook Hospice
LOTTERY**

**Win up to
£1,000!**

A chance to win, a way to care!

**Scan the QR
code to sign up!**



Joining the lottery costs just £1 per week and is a great way to show your support for local people with life-limiting illnesses... why not join today?

Or visit our website to join: willowbrook.org.uk/hospice-lottery/