



Together with Christ, we love, live and learn.

St. Nicholas Catholic Primary School
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Executive Principal: Mr N Porter
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Dear Parents/Carers,

Friday 13th December 2024



Gaudete Sunday

This Sunday is *Gaudete Sunday*! It's a special day during Advent, the time when we get ready for Christmas. "Gaudete" means "rejoice," or "be happy!" On this day, we light the pink candle on the Advent wreath to remind us that Christmas is very close, and we are excited because Jesus is coming. It's a day to feel joyful and thank God for His love!

Why not pray this Gaudete Prayer together as a family?

Dear Jesus,
Thank You for bringing joy to the world.
Help us to be happy as we wait for Your birthday.
Fill our hearts with Your light and love. Amen.

Wednesday Word

Please follow the link below to enjoy this week's Gospel as a family:

[Click HERE for the Wednesday Word](#)

EYFS/KS1 Nativity Plays

Our Nativity performances are happening this week on Tuesday, 17th December, and Wednesday, 18th December, at 9:15am. We are excited to welcome parents, grandparents, carers, and friends to share in this special celebration of the story of the birth of Our Lord.

A few points to note:

- **We are very sorry, but there will be no car parking available for either performance. Please plan to park off-site.**
- Our wonderful PFA will be hosting refreshments after each performance, and you are more than welcome to stay and join us.
- The allocation of three spaces per family is strict, so we kindly ask that you adhere to this.

Funeral of Mrs Sue Gill

As you are aware, one of our long-serving school governors, Mrs. Sue Gill, has recently passed away. Sue was a true servant of St Nicholas, passionately advocating for all children, especially those with SEND needs.

Sue's funeral will be held at St Nicholas Church on Thursday, 19th December, at 10am. Members of the St Nicholas Senior Leadership Team and Governing Body will attend.

Please keep Sue's family in your prayers, along with the community of Bishop Walsh, where Sue was a dedicated staff member.

Car park - please be careful

A reminder of the need for vigilance in the parish car park: cars should not be entering or exiting the car park between 8:45am and 9:05am, and again between 3:20pm and 3:40pm. Due to staff shortages in the Academy site team, we are unable to put the barrier across during these times. As a result, your support is even more crucial to help keep our children safe. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Christmas Disco - the link to buy tickets closes soon

Below is the link to purchase tickets for the Christmas Disco on Tuesday, 17th December. The disco will run from 3:30pm to 5:00pm and will be supervised by school staff and PFA volunteers.

[Link for Christmas Disco tickets 17.12.24](#)

Please note the following:

- Pupils who are not attending will be dismissed as normal.
- Children are welcome to wear a Christmas jumper with their uniform on this day, whether they are attending the disco or not.
- Pupils attending must be picked up at 5:00pm.

The ticket link will close on Saturday evening, so please buy your tickets ASAP if you want to attend. We look forward to a festive and fun event!

Rudolph Run 2024 - well done

A huge thanks to everyone who supported the children in their Rudolph Run this week. At the time of writing, our total on the JustGiving page stands at **£645**, which will go to Birmingham Hospice, an organisation doing amazing work in the community.

If you haven't already donated and wish to, here is the link: [Just Giving - St Nicholas Rudolph Run](#)
Thanks again, and well done to the staff and children for taking part in this wonderful event!

Reverse Advent Calendar- Thank you

Another huge thank you! This time for the food, toys, and other goods you donated to our Reverse Advent Calendar. Oscott Manor Special School was absolutely bowled over when they collected the donations, which they will use to create Christmas hampers for needy and vulnerable families. Your generosity is truly appreciated, and your kindness will make a big difference this Christmas! Thank you once again.

Attendance

Let's see which class had the highest attendance this week...

Year group	Attendance for w/c 9th December
EYFS	98.64%
Year 1	98.32%
Year 2	99.67% WINNERS!
Year 3	98%
Year 4	96.45%
Year 5	96%

Year 6	93%	BELOW 95%
Well done to this week's winners...Year 2! You can negotiate your reward with Mrs Rehman.		

It is that time of year where there are lots of viruses floating around. You might find this guidance helpful in ascertaining whether or not to send your child to school [NHS Live Well - Is my child too ill for school?](#)

Christmas Wellbeing Support

Christmas can be a busy time of year, with many expectations placed on us all. This link takes you to a wellbeing kit designed to support relaxation and mindfulness over the festive period. Please feel free to browse and see if there's something that might help support you this Christmas.

[Winter Resources](#)

Taking care of yourself is important—wishing you peace and calm this season!

PFA Lottery

Congratulations to Mrs McIntosh, Mr Hodaj & Mr Porter who won the inaugural 'St Nicholas Lotto' following a draw in assembly today. Thank you to Ms O'Connor and Mrs Kilbride for their hard work in gaining a licence, organising and promoting this fundraising initiative for school.

Do you shop at Asda either in store or online? PLEASE SIGN UP

We're pleased to announce that St Nicholas School PFA has joined the ASDA Cash programme, so families can now earn money for the school while doing their shopping - <https://www.asda.com/cashpotforschools>

Dates for the diary

Monday 16th to Wednesday 17th December	Y5 Bikeability extra sessions
Tuesday 17th and Wednesday 18th December	9.15am - EYFS & KS1 Nativity Play performance - tickets only
Tuesday 17th December	Christmas Jumper Day PFA Christmas Disco 3.30pm to 5pm
Friday 20th December	Last day of the Autumn Term - pupils break up for Christmas
Christmas Holidays	
Monday 6th January	First day of the Spring Term - all pupils back in school at 8.50am
Friday 31st January 2025	Young Voices concert at Resorts World, Birmingham

Mr Porter

Mrs Noble-Barton

Miss Smith

Executive Principal

Head of School

Assistant Head

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