

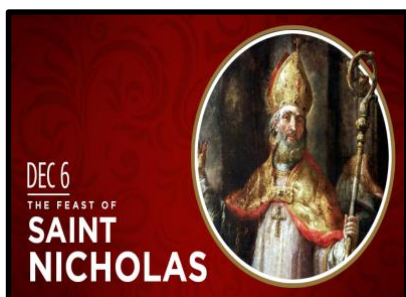


Together with Christ we love, live & learn.

St. Nicholas Catholic Primary School
Jockey Road, Sutton Coldfield B73 5US
E: enquiry@stnicholassutton.org.uk
T: 0121 355 2649
W: www.stnicholassutton.org.uk
Executive Principal: Mr N Porter
Head of School: Mrs C. Noble-Barton

Dear Parents/Carers,
December 2024

Friday 6th



Feast of St Nicholas

Today, we celebrated the feast of our patron saint, Nicholas. It was a truly special occasion as we came together as a community to celebrate Mass in church this morning. Following the Mass, our pupils engaged in various activities and reflections focused on the life of St. Nicholas, thinking about how we can all aspire to his remarkable example of faith, generosity, and service.

It was a wonderful day, and we're grateful for the opportunity to reflect on these important values together.

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

This week, parents of EYFS, Year 1, and Year 2 pupils will have received a ParentMail form asking you to register your two allocated spaces per family for one of the upcoming performances (or one ticket for each performance).

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.

Parish services: Advent & Christmas

Advent Penitential Service:

Monday 16th December at 7pm.

All are welcome - and it is a liturgy particularly appropriate for all parents and children who have made their first confession.

Christmas Eve

- **Masses at 3 & 6pm** are prepared for families with children in KS1 and KS2 (who are invited to come in Nativity costume - *simple designs are available on our parish blog*)
- **9pm Mass** in the Night

Christmas Day: Mass at 9am and 11am

Thursday 26 December: St Stephen - 10am

Friday 27 December: St John - 10am

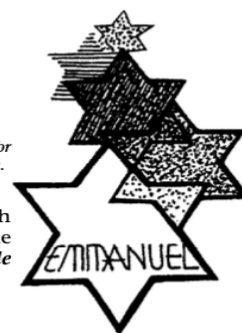
Saturday 28/Sunday 29 December:

Holy Family - Saturday 6pm; Sunday 9am & 11am

Monday 30 December: 10am

Tuesday 31 December: 10am, followed by parish social

Wednesday January 1: Mary, Holy Mother of God, 10am



Concert of favourite Christmas Carols

**St Nicholas Parish Church,
Sunday 22nd December, 4pm**

This event is being shared with
Holy Cross Parish, Walmley
— building up our Cluster community

- The allocation of two spaces per family is strict, so we kindly ask that you adhere to this. The rehearsals are already sounding fantastic, and we're really looking forward to the performances themselves!

PFA Advent Fair - Saturday 30th November- Thank you

A huge thank you to all the PFA volunteers and staff helpers who helped bring the PFA Advent Fair to life last Saturday. Thanks to your incredible support, the event raised nearly £2000! This is a fantastic achievement and the money will go towards the medium and long-term projects that have been agreed between the PFA and the school.

What a wonderful community we have—thank you for making this event such a success!

Safeguarding Audit

St Nicholas recently underwent a very thorough external review of our safeguarding policies and procedures. This full-day audit was conducted by an ex-headteacher and safeguarding expert.

We are pleased to share that the outcome was extremely positive. The auditor praised the senior leadership team for their clear articulation of the safeguarding vision of the school, as well as the strong knowledge of our staff on key policies, procedures, and potential dangers. The review also highlighted how well our pupils understand how to keep themselves safe, as well as the high standards of record-keeping in place.

We are committed to maintaining the highest levels of safeguarding for all our pupils and will continue to work hard to ensure a safe and supportive environment for everyone.

A reminder that our DSLs (Designated Safeguarding Leads) are:

Mrs Noble-Barton (Lead DSL)

Mr Porter (Deputy DSL)

Miss Smith

Mrs Burling-Finn

These staff members are leads on safeguarding but you can raise a concern with any member of staff at any time.

Rudolph Run 2024

As we have done in previous years, we will be supporting the Birmingham Hospice (formerly John Taylor) by taking part in the annual Rudolph Run. Hettie the Hedgehog visited the children this week to introduce the fundraiser and explain how important the money that they raise is in supporting patients in their hospices.

A message from the charity:

By raising £20 this December, your school could buy a teddy bear with a recording of a loved one's voice for a bereaved child to treasure as a keepsake. Let's take the reins and help local families living with a terminal diagnosis, by providing the support they need to have the best Christmas possible!

Every child will be taking part by running laps around the playground wearing their reindeer antlers and you can sponsor your child by using our [Just Giving](#) page. We totally understand the financial pressures that this time of year can bring, but even a small donation can make a huge difference.

Reverse Advent Calendar- Final Week!

Thank you so much for kicking off the Reverse Advent Calendar so wonderfully this week! We've already received lots of generous food donations.

During the coming week, we are asking for donations of new toys to support families who are struggling during this festive season. If you're able to help, please do. The deadline for donations is Friday morning.

Thank you again for your continued generosity and support!

Punctuality

We have noticed a rise in pupils arriving late to school in the mornings. Please remember that the gates open at 8:50am and close at 9:00am. Registers are taken promptly, and learning begins shortly after. Even being just 5 minutes late each day can add up to a significant amount of lost learning time over the course of the week.

If you are experiencing any issues or challenges at home that are affecting your child's punctuality, please don't hesitate to contact Mrs. Noble-Barton through the school office. We are here to work together and see how we can support you in ensuring your child arrives on time.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Attendance

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

Year group	Attendance for w/c 2nd December
EYFS	95.59%
Y1	97.32%
Y2	95%
Y3	97.33%
Y4	94.84% BELOW 95%
Y5	98% WINNERS!
Y6	87.63% BELOW 90%

Well done to this week's winners...Year 5! You can negotiate a reward with Mrs Burling-Finn.

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?](#)

Office lunch break

A quick reminder that our office staff take their lunch break from **1:15pm to 1:45pm** each day. During this time:

- The main phone line will be on **answerphone**.
- There will be no one available to answer queries at the office hatch.

Thank you for planning your communication around this! We appreciate your understanding.

Gifts from God Assemblies Autumn 2

Please see below the dates of our 'Gifts of God' assemblies which take place on alternate Fridays at 2.45pm. Please note that the last two assemblies of the term are on consecutive weeks.

A polite reminder to only attend Gifts from God assembly if your child is receiving an award, space is at a premium in the school hall!

[Friday 13th December \(Final Gifts from God Assembly of the Autumn Term\)](#)

Stay and Pray - 9am **Dates for your diary**

Over the course of the Autumn Term, each class will hold a 'Stay and Pray' session. During these sessions, parents, carers & grandparents are encouraged to drop their children at school and then make their way into the classroom for a short prayer session with their child/grandchild.

Each session will start at 9am and run for approximately 20 minutes. This is a wonderful opportunity to join in prayer with your child and their class. Everyone is invited, regardless of faith. Dates are below:

Friday 13/12: Year 5

PFA News

PFA Lottery

Do you fancy winning a pot of cash whilst contributing to St Nicholas PFA and just in time for Christmas....

Then have a go on the new St Nicholas lottery!

A 50/50 prize fund capped at

1st - £500

2nd - £250

3rd - £100

Tickets are £5 each

Draw will take place on 13/12/24 during the last school assembly.

(The prize fund is dependant on sales so we really need your help and support with this340 tickets need to be sold to reach this target)

Please follow the link for online purchases or catch Rosemarie O'Connor (reception/year 1) or Maria Kilbride (year 4/6) on the school run/at assemblies for a cash purchase.

<https://tinyurl.com/stnickslotto>

Best of luck and remember - you need to be in it to win it!

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>

Christmas After School Disco: Tues 17th Dec, 3:30-5pm (children only)

CHRISTMAS DISCO! Tickets for the disco are now on sale HERE. The children only Christmas Disco is taking place on December 17th. Your child will be taken straight from class to the disco and you can collect them from the hall at 5pm. The £5 ticket price includes sweets and drinks from the tuck shop, nail painting, face painting and tattoos - so no extra pocket money needed! All funds raised will go to the PFA. No need to send a change of clothes, this is Christmas jumper day so your child will already be wearing their festive top with their uniform.

[Link for Christmas Disco tickets 17.12.24](#)

Dates for the diary

Monday 9th December	Rudolph Run - whole school fundraiser for Birmingham Hospice
Wednesday 11th December	EYFS & KS1 trip to Midlands Art Centre to see Little Angel Theatre: Finding Santa
Thursday 12th December	KS2 trip to Lichfield Garrick to see Jack and the Beanstalk
Friday 13th December	Year 5 Stay and Pray at 9am - ALL INVITED
Friday 13th December	Gifts from God assembly - 2.45pm
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

Executive Principal

Mrs Noble-Barton

Head of School

Miss Smith

Assistant Head

St. John Paul II Multi Academy

Registered Office: c/o Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School, Earlsbury Gardens, Birmingham, B20 3AE

E: enquiry@sjp2.net | T: 0121 354 6270 | W: johnpaulii.co.uk

CEO: Miss T. Cotter Company House Registered No. 08706247

