



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Whole school activities

Shared Advent Service at St Mary's - 1st December at 6pm

Circus Pantomime visit - 6th December

Christmas Jumper Day (CAFOD fundraising) - 14th December

Christmas Lunch Day - 14th December

Year group activities

Nursery & Reception Nativity - 7th December at 10am & 2pm

Yrs 1, 2 & 3 Nativity - 14th December at 2pm & 15th December at 2pm & 6pm

Years 4, 5 & 6 Carol Service - 19th December at 4.30pm

5T - Class Assembly - 2nd December

Parent workshop dates

Year 4 - Christmas workshop for parents - 12th December at 2pm

Year 5 - Christmas workshop for parents - 1st December at 2pm

Year 6 - Christmas workshop for parents - 13th December at 2.15pm

*****REMINDER*****

School closes on Tuesday 20th December at 1.30pm and children should return on Wednesday 4th January 2107

ATTENDANCE so far this academic year is 97%.

Well done to 5H who are our current class leaders with 98.5%. Keep it up!

N -	RC -	RM -	1H -	1C -
96.4%	97.1%	95.6%	96.8%	97.4%
2W -	2M -	3A -	3K -	4L -
97.6%	97.8%	96.8%	95.7%	97.1%
4W -	5H -	5T -	60K -	6B -
98.2%	98.5%	96.4%	96.1%	97.5%



St John Vianney Catholic Primary School

November 2016 Newsletter Issue 5

Dear Parents/Carers,
We have now entered the season of Advent and have lit our first Advent candle in school. "It is only in the shadow of Advent that the miracle of Christmas can be fully understood and appreciated; God's promise for the church is Jesus Christ; he has come, and he will come again." This is the essence of Advent, preparing for and celebrating the coming of Jesus. It is a wonderful time in school as we prepare for Christmas with lots of events, which I hope you can attend. We are still collecting tins for the needy in our Parish and on the 14th December, we will be having a fundraising day for CAFOD. As always, thank you for your support with our charity collections.

Mrs Allen

First Holy Communion Preparation

We are approaching the time for parents to be helping their children (Year 4 and above) to receive Holy Communion with them. Whilst preparing please note:-

- Children can only make their First Holy Communion if they are already coming to Mass regularly with their parents and are Baptised Catholics in our parish
- There will be a commissioning Mass for the children who are committed to the parish First Holy Communion process in January
- There will be a meeting for parents and children who wish to be considered for this year's programme after 11am Mass on Sunday 11th December in the Day Chapel at St John Vianney's
- Don't forget to make use of the Children's Liturgy

Father Peter Sharrock

PTA

Once again the PTA are supporting our school and have kindly decided to donate £500 to enable us to purchase a school defibrillator and to ensure that an appropriate number of staff have sufficient training in how to use it. This is a significant amount of funds but we feel, particularly with recent news coverage, that this piece of first-aid equipment is an essential purchase for the well-being of the children and staff at our school.

If you are interested in joining our PTA then please let Mrs Wooldridge know.

14th December we are fundraising for CAFOD. £1 to wear a Christmas jumper and the children can bring further donations to enjoy additional activities



Please remember that we are still collecting tins to support the needy members of our Parish and would appreciate children bringing one to school

Year 3 - Well done to all of Year 3 for all of their work this half term. We worked hard on writing persuasive letters to Mrs Allen

convincing her to let us go to the zoo after Christmas. We are



pleased to say that we were successful and will be visiting the zoo in preparation for our next science topic - Animals Including Humans (further information will be sent out separately). We have also spent one week exploring the text of Shakespeare and another looking at anti-bullying. Our Christmas production is swiftly approaching, so please could you ensure that costumes are being brought into school and the children have learnt all of their lines and song words. If you have any questions then please come and see your child's class teacher.

Thank you for your continued support

Year 6 are continuing to work well in all lessons, learning about WWI, Christmas Around the World and Advent. Keep up the hard work Year 6! We are starting to learn lots of Christmas Carols in preparation for our shared Carol Service on Monday 19th December at 4:30pm. Our Christmas Workshop is on Tuesday 13th December from 2:15 until 3pm - we look forward to seeing you then!

Happy Advent!

Miss O'Keeffe and Mrs Bennett

Reception - We are all looking forward to performing our Christmas Nativity on Wednesday 7th December. There are two performances, at 10.00 and 2.00. If your child is an Angel or a Star, could you please provide them with white tights/leggings in a bag with their name on. We look forward to seeing you there!

Remember Wacky Wednesday, (14th December) where your child may wear a Christmas jumper (don't forget to bring a pound). We are excited about our Pantomime visit next Tuesday. Everything will be catered for so your child does not need to bring anything. Our Topic after Christmas is Once Upon a Time, where we will be looking at different traditional tales.

We wish you a Happy and Holy Christmas from all the Early Years Team!

Year 2 - Thank you so much to the children for getting on board with the Sumdog competition. It was a Blackpool contest involving 86 classes. 2W came 3rd and 2M came 5th, the only two KS1 classes in the top 5! We are very proud of our children and we've realised just how competitive the teachers are!

This half term we have Sophie from BFC community covering our gymnastic lessons on a Friday. She's been teaching us about 'nice toes' and 'naughty toes' and how to stand smartly!

There are a few hectic weeks ahead, with Nativity rehearsals and preparing for Christmas. If your child has lines to learn, please go through them. We look forward to seeing you at our performances!

Mr Walsh & Miss Mack

Year 1 - We have had an exciting start to the new half term.

We are really enjoying our Topic 'Come and Join the Celebration.' Our Party Shop and Post Office Role Play areas look fantastic in our classrooms. Thank you so much for the generous donations we have had! It has been a very creative half term so far with firework pictures, Gunpowder Plot explosions and Diwali lights. We have had some quiet and reflective time for Remembrance Day as well as remembering the tragic events in Paris. The children's thoughts and Prayers still include this.

Fr. Peter has been to visit both Year 1 Classes to tell us all about his job as a priest. We enjoyed having him visit us in school. Coming up..... well you don't need a reminder its Nativity time! Please encourage your child to practice the songs at home. Thank you as ever for your continued support in what is our most fun and exciting but busiest time of the year!

Year 5 - We have had another busy few weeks! Our creative curriculum this half term is 'Come and Join the Celebration' which is a wonderful topic that allows the children to explore a range of different festivals. Throughout this topic we have explored Remembrance Day, Diwali, Christingle and Advent. We have created Diwali information texts, Rangoli patterns, advent wreath descriptions and they made their own Christingles too! Our Parental Engagement session is on Thursday 1st December, it would be great if you could come. We will be planning a range of Christmas activities and hope to see as many of you there as possible.

Year 4 - We have enjoyed a great start to our 2nd half term. Throughout our topic 'The Spirit of Christmas' we are learning all about Christmas around the world! Our Christmas themed Parent workshop is on Monday the 12th December where we will be getting into the festive spirit! We look forward to seeing you all there! We are also busy practicing for our KS2 Carol Service, which will take place on Monday 19th December.

Please make sure your child's PE kit is in school each Wednesday for our PE lesson. We are lucky enough to have a sport coach who is teaching us Handball and Lacrosse!

A big thank you for all the support on times tables, we can see a great improvement! Keep it up!

Don't forget to keep up-to-date by following us on Twitter!

Thanks for your continued support.

Nursery have really enjoyed learning about autumn. We have investigated conkers, pine cones, leaves and acorns and we have listened to lots of stories about hedgehogs, owls, squirrels and foxes. We have also had two exciting visitors: a little albino hedgehog and Merlin the barn owl-she was beautiful and we learnt

lots about owls! Our favourite story was "Owl Babies"-thank goodness their mummy came back with some lovely food!

We're now looking forward to Christmas and doing lots of exciting things! We are learning the songs for our Nativity so that you will really enjoy it!! It WILL be VERY Wriggly!!!!

