



**St Michael & St John's RC Primary School**  
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*Following the example of Jesus, together we learn, love and respect one another to be the best we can be.*

### **Advent**

This Sunday is the beginning of Advent. Advent comes from the Latin word meaning "coming." Jesus is coming, and Advent is intended to be a season of preparation for His arrival. Advent is a joyous season and also a period of preparation.

As last year, every Monday we invite the children to wear an item of purple (if they wish), alongside their school uniform. This will begin on Monday 28<sup>th</sup>. Eg a purple hair bobble or purple socks.



### **Happy Birthday Alice**

Next week, Alice Wells celebrates her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. Alice has been connected with our school for many years, including supporting our Sacramental program children as a prayer friend. To celebrate this wonderful occasion members of our school choir will be going to sing to Alice on Wednesday as she thoroughly enjoyed the choir at the prayer friends Tea Party last year.

### **DINNER MONEY**

We currently have a number of over -due dinner money payments. Please can parents ensure that if their child is taking the school dinner that it is paid for weekly or termly. The office is currently having to send out reminders for payments weekly. To ensure that your child continues to receive a school dinner, we ask that outstanding amounts are paid. If you are having any financial difficulty please speak to Mrs Mabbott in confidence. As you will appreciate the school has to pay for these meals, and if we are not reimbursed this contributes to money being taken away from the children to cover these costs.





### **Rosemere Santa Dash**

Rosemere Cancer Foundation are hosting a Santa Dash/Stroll on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December starting at 10.00am in Clitheroe Castle Grounds. Entry forms have been sent home with your child. This is a great charity to support as many of us may have known someone who has been affected by cancer. It is also a great opportunity for Parents and children to dress up as Fr Christmas or any other Christmas themed outfit and show off their running abilities. Just 1 mile! Let's try and get as many runners as we can there.

### **Sacramental Program** **Confirmation**

Bishop Arnold has recently announced his decision on the administration of the Sacrament of Confirmation. He writes,

*'I would like to see the Sacrament of Confirmation celebrated with candidates aged 13 (Year 8) or above, which is in the age range agreed by the Bishops' Conference. Normally, I would hope to celebrate the Sacrament myself. The precise logistics still need to be worked out but I would prefer to confirm from Easter to the summer school holidays and, if necessary, into the following school term. We might also consider holding some celebrations at the Cathedral or some of the larger churches of the Diocese (such as St Alban's, Blackburn) to give the candidates a sense of being part of the larger church. The plan is that the invitation to young people to prepare for Confirmation will be addressed by me to them at the end of Year 6 in Primary School with our schools and parishes working together to prepare them for Confirmation over the following two years. .... In practice, this will mean that the first group of candidates will be invited, before they leave Primary school, in summer 2019, to prepare for Confirmation after Easter 2021'*



### **School Christmas Fair**

The school Fair is being held on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December from 3.45pm. The PTA are organising this but do require some help along the way.

Next week, please can we ask for donations for Secret Santa week commencing 28<sup>th</sup> November. These should cost no more than £1 and should be wrapped and labelled with an appropriate gender and age e.g. infant boy, infant girl, junior boy, junior girl, adult male, adult female, adult.

There will be a non- uniform day the following week on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December in exchange for the children bringing in chocolate and tombola toys.



### **Christmas Lunch**

Mary will be cooking her fabulous Christmas lunch on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December. If your child usually has a school dinner they will automatically receive this lunch. If you would like your child to have this lunch as an extra please ensure that you inform the office. The meal costs £2.20. Forms will be going out in the next few weeks.



### **Swimming**

Year 5 will start swimming next Wednesday up until Christmas. Year 6 have now finished.

### **Year of Mercy**

Two of our pupil chaplains accompanied Mrs Clarkson and Mrs Clarkson's mum to Salford for a Mass led by Bishop John to celebrate the End of Mercy. Thankyou

### **Parish Christmas Fair**

Thank you for supporting the non-uniform events and sending in all of the sweets so that we can support the Parish Fair. Please try to attend the fair on Sunday at 10.30am

### **Holiday Pattern**

The holiday pattern for 2017/18 will be sent out on Monday.

### **Staffing News**

I know many of you are interested to know how Mrs Moon is. I am pleased to tell you that she is continuing to recover from her surgery. It is a slow process but she is getting better each day and ask for you to join us in praying for a full recovery.

This week we met baby Leah, Miss Gudgeon's beautiful little girl. Both mum and baby are doing really well. Thank you for all your well-wishes.

### **Drumming**

On Monday the children were treated to a drumming demonstration by a teacher from Lancashire music service, organised by Mrs Clarkson. If your child is interested in peripatetic music tuition, please access the website <http://www./msenrol.co.uk> For more information.

### **Charities**

On Monday a visitor from Rosemere Cancer Foundation spoke to the children in assembly about the vital work they do. Each class is supporting a charity and Year 6 have chosen this one.

As you know at Christmas our choir are busy singing. They will be singing in Clitheroe and at Sainsbury's and Boots (please see dates below). At this time of year, we raise money for a charity close to our hearts. This year the charity is Manchester children's hospital. Some of our families have had first- hand experience of Manchester's Children's hospital. During this past year, one of our children underwent serious surgery in Manchester and the family were also supported by Ronald McDonald House who provide accommodation. They put families of seriously ill children up at no cost but keeping them together. We have decided to raise money for this charity to help with with the incredible work they do, as experienced first- hand by some of our children and/or families.

### **Year 5 visit to Booths**

On Wednesday our year 5 children attended Booths as part of their topic work. They looked at Fairtrade products and tasted some of the products. Thank you to Booths.

### **Booths Science Week Prize Winners**

During science week some children took part in a competition organised by Booths to design a home for a hibernating animal. The staff at Booths have selected the following winners

Amelia (reception, Maxi (reception), Noah (reception) Alejandro (year 1), Harriet (Year2 ), Eliza (year 3), Monika (year 4) Luis (year 5) and Will (Year 6). Booths provided selection boxes for each of the winners. Well done children,



### **Choir Dates**

Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November - Clitheroe Market  
Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> November - Crib Dedication  
Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December - URC and then Sainsburys  
Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December - Booths  
Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December - Booths  
Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December - Sainsburys

### **Dates for this half term**

30<sup>th</sup> November - Year 2 & 6 Advent class Mass and Yr 5 swimming  
1<sup>st</sup> December - Yr 1 & 5 Advent class Mass  
2<sup>nd</sup> December - Reception, Yr 3& 4 Advent class Mass  
9<sup>th</sup> December- School Christmas fair- 3.45pm  
12<sup>th</sup> December - **LAST WEEK OF CLUBS**  
13<sup>th</sup> December - Infant Christmas play at 2.30pm in school  
14<sup>th</sup> December - Junior Christmas play at 6.30pm in church  
14<sup>th</sup> December - Infant nativity at 9.20am in school  
15<sup>th</sup> December - Panto at the Grand - for information only. Letter to follow.

- 15<sup>th</sup> December - EYFS coffee morning
- 16<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas dinner and Jumper day
- 19<sup>th</sup> December- Infant parties
- 20<sup>th</sup> December - Junior parties
- 21<sup>st</sup> December - SCHOOL CLOSES AT 2.30pm