

St Nicholas Catholic Primary School

'Love one another as I have loved you'

Headteacher: Mrs J. Burns BA (Hons) QTS, NPQH
Address: Oakwood Lane, Leeds, West Yorkshire, LS9 6QY
Telephone: 01132 930 318
Email: dunleavyp@stnicholasprimaryleeds.org.uk
Website: www.stnicholasprimaryleeds.org.uk
Twitter: @stnicholasleeds



Newsletter Number: 6

29th November 2022

Dates

Dear Parents

Last Sunday marked the beginning of Advent, a special time of preparation in advance of Christmas. It would be lovely to see our children attending weekend masses during this important time of stillness and preparation. In readiness for Advent our travelling cribs will be sent home from today, which our Mini Vinnies have prepared. We will also be lighting the first candle on our Advent wreath. I have reattached the upcoming dates at the end of this letter as it is a very busy time in school; take a minute to have a look.

Admissions to Reception class for September 2023: Applications are now welcome for September 2023. Applications need to be made in two forms: completing the online form on the Leeds City Council website, and additionally completing the school's SIF (Supplementary Information Form) and handing this to Miss Dunleavy in the school office. The closing date is January 15th 2023.

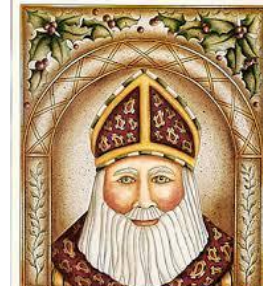
Attendance: Thank you to the parents who ensure their child attends every single day possible. I know all our families know of the importance of attending school daily. As a school we are working hard to close gaps. Please attend every day possible and avoid any additional days absence wherever possible. Thank you for your support with attendance.

Poppy Appeal: £335 was raised for the poppy appeal- thank you so much and well done to the Minnie Vinnies for the time they took to sell them.

Dates up until Christmas can be found at the end of this letter.

Nativities: Our Reception and Key Stage 1 children are very busy preparing their nativities, if you have a parent in any of those classes please make sure you have returned your ticket request slips.

Feast of St Nicholas: On 6th December, we will be celebrating our school's patron saint, St Nicholas. We will start the day with an assembly led by Year 4, (all welcome) this is a **NON UNIFORM** day for the children.



Christingle: Miss McBride's class will be leading the Christingle assembly in the school hall on Thursday 1st December at 2:30pm. All welcome.

What is a Christingle? Christingle means 'Christ Child' and originates from the Moravian Church. A symbol of Christianity, Christingles are made from an orange decorated with red tape, sweets or dried fruit and a candle. Each of these different elements has a special meaning:

- The orange symbolises the world.
- The red ribbon shows God's love for the world and the blood of Jesus.
- The sweets/dried fruit represent God's creations.
- The four cocktail sticks can represent either the four seasons or the four corners of the world.
- The candle represents Jesus being the light of the world, bringing hope to those in darkness.

But the history of Christingles actually goes back much further than 1968. Over 300 years ago in Germany, Bishop Johannes de Wetteville gave all the children a candle with a red ribbon around it to explain the happiness that people feel through knowing Jesus.



This Half Term's Virtues are: Patience

Christmas Table Top Sale

On **Saturday 3rd December 2022, from 10am until 2pm**, we will be holding a Christmas Table Top Sale.

Members of the school and parish community were invited to buy a table so we could raise money for school funds.

Tables already reserved include:

- Irish food goods
- Sweet treats
- Candle stall
- Floristry
- Jewellery and charms stall
- Fondant Cookie
- Health Products
- Hair Accessories
- Groceries
- Christmas Eve Boxes

As this is set to be a fun, festive day, there will also be hot drinks and mince pies available to buy, as well as an opportunity for children to visit Santa and get a gift from him, at a small cost. There will also be a bottle raffle, face painting and the opportunity to sit in a police car and put the sirens on!

Please come along to support this event and spread the word to family and friends.

Food Bank: This Advent, our Mini Vinnies will be running a Christmas Foodbank.

We are asking parents to donate food and toiletry items to support families in the St Nicholas School and Parish community this Christmas. These will be parcelled up and distributed on Wednesday 14th December.

Each year group will be asked to bring different items.

We are requesting donations of the following:

Reception	Breakfast Cereals
Years 1 and 2	Toiletries (toothpaste, soap, shampoo, shower gel, deodorant, toilet roll)
Years 3 and 4	Tins, jars and packet foods.
Years 5 and 6	Biscuits, crisps, snacks and Christmas treats.

Thank you to all those who have already donated.

Dates/events/reminders until Christmas

Thursday 1st December 2022	Christingle Service in school at 2:30pm lead by Year 5/6
Saturday 3rd December 2022	Christmas Table Top Sale in the school hall – 10am-2pm – see separate leaflet for further information
Monday 5th December 2022	Reception Nativity 10am – Tickets Required KS1 Nativity 2:30pm – Tickets Required
Tuesday 6th December 2022	St Nicholas Feast Day / Non-uniform Day St Nicholas Assembly lead by Year 4 at 9:10am – all welcome
Wednesday 7th December 2022	KS1 Nativity 10am – Tickets Required Reception Nativity 2:30pm – Tickets Required
Thursday 8th December 2022	KS2 Music Showcase (more details to follow)
Monday 12th December 2022	Whole School Mass in Church at 9:10am – all welcome
Tuesday 13th December 2022	Christmas Party Day / Non-uniform Day – Children to bring a party plate of food to school with them as an afternoon snack. No nuts please due to allergies.
Wednesday 14th December 2022	Christmas Jumper Day (normal uniform to be worn with a Christmas jumper over normal uniform or a Christmas hat/tinsel if you don't have a Christmas jumper) and Christmas dinner day.
Thursday 15th December 2022	Christmas Sing-a-long 2pm in the school hall – all welcome
Friday 16th December 2022	School Closes for Christmas at 1:15pm

God Bless, Mrs Burns, Head Teacher