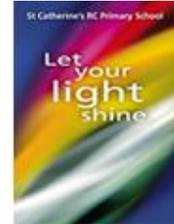


St Catherine's RC Primary School

9-22 Dec 2020 Newsletter 6/20-21

www.stcatherines.newcastle.sch.uk



Message of the Week: I know it is OK for me to make mistakes

Dear parents, carers, friends and governors,

As we move into the final few weeks of term can I take the opportunity to thank you again for the incredible support and cooperation we receive from our school community. We wish you the very best for the remainder of the term.

The Autumn Term ends for children at St Catherine's on Tuesday 22 December at 2pm and reopens for all on Thursday 7 January. Please note these dates as they may be different to other local schools.

Advent Calendar 2020

Thank you to everyone who has opened a door on the Advent calendar this year on the school website or Facebook to view the Advent reflection for that day. Inspiring videos from each class will continue to be posted each day during Advent.

St Dominic's Christmas Mass

Many school families enjoy attending Mass at St Dominic's at Christmas. Because of restricted numbers this year, Masses are at 4pm and 6pm on Christmas Eve and 10am on Christmas Day. If you wish to secure a space you will need to book and this can be done by either speaking to those taking names at the back of church this Sunday or by calling the Cathedral Office, Telephone 0191 2326953 extension 200 or email:

office@stmaryscathedral.org.uk

People will naturally arrive without tickets and of course will not be turned away if there is still space but its best to book to avoid disappointment.

If you intend to go to the 4pm Christmas Eve Mass could you let me know please? If we have enough children from school we will put together a little choir to help sing carols.

Christmas Cards

Many children enjoy sending Christmas Cards to their friends. If your child wants to do this please send the cards into school with the recipient and class clearly marked. We need to be careful about the handling of these so please note cards must not be handed out by children but should be posted in the school postbox and will be distributed on Mondays having been quarantined for at least 72 hours. Thank you.

Christmas Gifts Message

Just a reminder from staff about the **no presents** request please.

If you would like to thank a particular member of staff a card, a letter or a drawing would be much appreciated. We hope this makes life a little bit easier for everyone as it is one less thing to think about.

It is true that you give us the best gift of all by allowing us to teach your child, God's gift. And in 2020, that is something for which we are thankful.



Parent Governor Vacancy

We are now seeking nominations for the role of Parent Governor in school. In the first instance, your nomination should be supported by 2 other parents. If you are interested please send an e-mail titled "Parent Governor Nomination" to the school admin e-mail with your name and the names of the 2 parents who support your nomination by Wed 16 December. If we receive more than one nomination we will hold an election when school returns in January Thank you.

Applications for Reception

A reminder that the deadline for applications for a place in Reception Class for September 2021 is fast approaching on 15 January 2021.

Parents with children of Nursery age (3 years old) can make an application now to start in January, April or September 2021. Contact the school office for information.

Christmas Lunch

Kirstie, our school chef, is ready to roll out the Christmas Lunch for 200+ pupils and adults on Wed 16 December. Children who would normally take a packed lunch are able to change for that day- payment can be made through Parent Pay. We'll be eating lunch in our bubbles this year, but it will still be as tasty as ever.

Christmas Nativities (Nursery-Y6)

We'll be putting together special re-tellings of the Christmas story and sharing a link with you before the end of term so that you can view at home. Whilst we won't be together to enjoy our shows you will be able to watch as a family in the comfort of your home.

Christmas-themed Clothing Day

Monday 14th December is our annual Christmas Jumper day. Please don't feel pressure to go out and buy a Christmas jumper- children can wear a Christmas jumper, socks, hairbands, PJs, something red or green, or even their own clothes. This year we'll be asking for donations of tinned foods for the local food banks.

Christmas Raffle

There won't be a Christmas fair this year but you can win a magnificent Christmas hamper filled with Christmas goodies generously donated by school staff.

We'll not be sending out raffle tickets this year. However, we are asking for a voluntary donation of £2 (or more if you are able) through Parent Pay which we'll put towards purchasing materials for Christmas and beyond. Thank you.

Christmas Parties

On Monday 21 December each class will enjoy their Christmas party. On this day children can wear their own clothes to school. Children can bring their own food that day, thus avoiding issues with allergies/dietary requirements/likes/dislikes. This can be pre-wrapped eg crisps, biscuits, fruit or wrapped in foil or clingfilm on a paper plate. No NUTS please. Party food won't be refrigerated ahead of eating in the afternoon so please bear that in mind.

A reminder-school closes at 2pm on Tuesday 22 December

Best wishes



Headteacher