

St Gabriel's Catholic Primary School

Friday Note



8th December 2023

Weekly Theme

As we continue through the season of Advent, we will light the second candle on the wreath which represents 'Peace'. We will pray for those affected by war and conflict in our world. We will also think of the need to give our families peace and time for reflection in our busy lives.

Christmas Dinner

On Thursday 14th December, we will be enjoying our Christmas dinner. Children may come to school wearing a Christmas jumper with their normal uniform. We are not asking you to donate money as we are conscious of trying to keep requests to a minimum.

Christmas Choir

Mr Hibbert's class had a wonderful opportunity to join Bedford High's performance of 'Christmas Carol' last night. They were absolutely fantastic and a real credit to us and their families. Thank you to all the adults who were able to join us. I hope you enjoyed it just as much as we did.

Advent Service - Liverpool Cathedral

Year 5 were also a credit to us when they attended Liverpool Cathedral this week for the Advent Service. Even with the delays on the way back, they remained calm and patient. Thanks also to parents/carers for your understanding.

Judaism

All children enjoyed their workshops on Judaism today.

Baptism

Congratulations to Lexie, Bella, Hollie, Riley, Harley and Oakley who were all baptised at St Ambrose Church, last Saturday.

Donations

We have asked for a small donation for our performances because we will be giving you the opportunity to donate whatever you can, on the day, for our charity CAFOD. The children have voted to raise funds for World Gifts which includes buying animals and emergency medical supplies. If you are able to contribute anything to this cause, we will be very grateful.

Family Mass

This weekend, Fr Paul is inviting our families to come together to celebrate Family Mass. This is a lovely opportunity for us to gather as a school community, and use this special season of Advent to prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus at Christmas.

When St Gabriel's church closed, the regular weekend Mass was moved to St Ambrose Barlow Church. It would be lovely to see as many of our St Gabriel's families come together with our parish.

Mass is at St Ambrose Barlow Church, Manchester Road, Astley (next to St Mary's High School) on Saturday evening at 6pm.

Hopefully, we will be joined by some of our children who can lead us in the readings and prayers.

I hope you are able to join us at St Ambrose Barlow Church this Saturday and I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible to make this a wonderful St Gabriel's celebration.

Christmas Tickets

Letters have gone out this week with information regarding your child's Christmas performance. If you would like tickets, then please return the slip to school with your preferred performance time. Tickets are allocated on a first come first served basis.

St Gabriel's Got Talent

On Thursday 14th December, our finalists will be performing to the whole school and showing their talents. We are very proud of everyone who has auditioned so far. Letters have gone home to the parents/carers of finalists about tickets. The show starts at 2.00pm and refreshments will be available to purchase.

Panto

On Friday 12th January the whole school will go on a visit to the panto at Parr Hall. We will return to school at approximately **5:00pm.**

Christmas Raffle

Raffle tickets have been sent home for our Christmas Raffle. We have some amazing prizes available to win. If you would like to purchase any extra tickets, please contact the school office.

Christmas Fun Days

Our Christmas Fun Days are on Wednesday 20th and Thursday 21st December. Over these 2 days, children will be timetabled to take part in lots of different activities. They will also have a visit from 'Louby Lou' on Monday 18th December. There will also be a visit from Santa's reindeer. To make this extra special there will also be a visit from Santa himself, he will be giving each child a small gift.

Christmas Cards

We have a Christmas post box in school. If your child wants to send Christmas cards to their friends please write the name and class of the child it is to be delivered to on the envelope. **Our Year 6 prefects will sort and deliver the cards.** Alternatively, they may like to write one card to everyone in their class, and just label it with the class name/number.

Home Reading

Reading is the essential skill to learning and it has a key emphasis within our curriculum. We need your support to ensure that your child is having regular reading practice at home. This helps to develop fluency, comprehension and understanding of words. In order to support you with reading at home, we are re-launching 'Bug Club' which is the online reading programme we have previously used. Children are able to access Bug Club through tablets or Ipads with their passwords. Texts will be allocated to your child to read. This does not replace the reading books but gives you the option and flexibility to read in different ways. Please contact your class teacher if you have difficulty accessing Bug Club so that any issues can be resolved quickly. Many thanks for your support in enabling our children to become confident readers - a skill for life!

AWARD WINNERS THIS WEEK

This week's certificates are awarded to:



Rosie, Kamile, Emma, Amelia, and Max for showing **LOVE & FORGIVENESS**



Emelia for showing **RESPECT**



Jackson and whole of class 9 for showing **HONESTY & COURAGE**



Harley for showing **RESPONSIBILITY**



Class 3 - **Michael**

Class 4 - **Andrea**

Class 5 - **Nikita**

Class 6 - **Nana**

Class 7 - **Libby**

Class 8 - **Haleem**

Class 9 - **Finley**

Class 10 - **Molly**

Class 11 - **Heebat**

Class 12 - **Emily**



For showing **EFFORT** (Star of the Week)

Congratulations and Well Done!

Reading

Our Green readers this week are: **Class 7,9, 11 and 12.**

The highest scoring class this week was Class 7 with 100%



Dates for this Half Term.

Thursday 14th December - Christmas dinner and Christmas Jumper day.

Tuesday 19th December - Year 1 and 2 Christmas performance at 9:15am.

Tuesday 19th December - Year 1 and 2 Christmas performance at 2:15pm.

Wednesday 20th December - Reception Nativity at 9:15am

Wednesday 20th December - Pre-school Nativity at 2:30pm

Thursday 21st December - Reception Nativity at 2:15pm

Friday 22nd December - Whole school Christmas visit to Holy Family Church.

Friday 22nd December - Key Stage 2 Christmas carols at 2:00pm

School closes for Christmas at 2:30pm.

School re-opens on Monday 8th January at 8:40am. (7:45am for children with places in Breakfast Club)

Friday 12th January - Whole school visit to the panto at Parr Hall. Returning to school at approximately 5:00pm.