

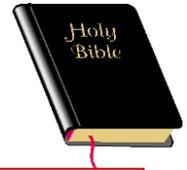


The Cathedral Catholic Primary School, Lancaster, LA1 3BT

Newsletter 27th November 2020

Mission

Each Monday we share our mission of the week in our whole school assembly. This week we are looking for children who show little acts of kindness and light up our school for the first week of advent. Our stars of the week will be the children who have been spotted following the mission.



Stars of the Week

Rec - Kevin
Year 1 – Alfie S
Year 2 – Szymon
Year 3 – Timi
Year 4 - Hannah
Year 5 – Kyle
Year 6 – Janko

Punctuality and Attendance

Reception- 95.6%
Year 1- 96.6%
Year 2- 95.8%
Year 3- 98.3%
Year 4- 98.6%
Year 5- 97.6%
Year 6- 99.3%
Whole school- 96.8%

Be in the line for quarter to nine!!

We have been so lucky not to have shut any bubbles so far. Please can you continue to help us by socially distancing on the playground and wearing a mask as we move into Tier 3.

Positive COVID Cases

We have been very lucky in our school so far with no bubbles shutting. If any child or member of your household has a positive COVID result please email: bursar@cathedral.lancs.sch.uk or head@cathedral.lancs.sch.uk as soon as possible. If we do have to shut a bubble this will be done quickly and we appreciate your support in this.

Home Clothes Day

Thank you for all your support and gifts that were brought into school to support our school PTA. All the gifts will be used in our secrets room.

Advent

This Sunday marks the start of Advent. We have lots of Advent activities organised and a separate letter is at the bottom of the newsletter to explain them. During this time we pray that we become closer to God ready for Christmas.



Poppy appeal

Thank you very much for all the donations you gave for The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. We raised £220 and this week received a thank you letter from them.

STEM week

The children have had a wonderful week learning all about Science and its relevance in every day life. It all began with an exploding assembly by Mr Hodder and ended with each class showcasing their work in our zoom assembly. Please look at the website for photos and blogs from each class to see what fun we have had.

Christmas cards

Some parents have raised the question of Christmas cards and whether, due to restrictions on passing things between households, it is OK for the children to bring them in for their friends. The simple answer to this question is yes, but in order to stick to recommended control systems, we will have to 'quarantine' the cards for the recommended 48hrs! Nevertheless we have thought of a simple way to overcome this. Class Christmas post boxes will appear in the classrooms on Monday 30th November and children will be welcome to post cards to their friends each day. The cards will remain in the post boxes during the whole week and be emptied every Monday morning and delivered to classrooms. This way we stay safely within current guidelines but allow the children, if they wish, to keep up with this wonderful festive tradition. Last post will be Wednesday 16th December!

Winter clothing

We send the children out at playtime regardless of weather to ensure they are getting as much fresh air as possible. If your child's coat does not have a hood please send them with a hat so they are not soaking wet.

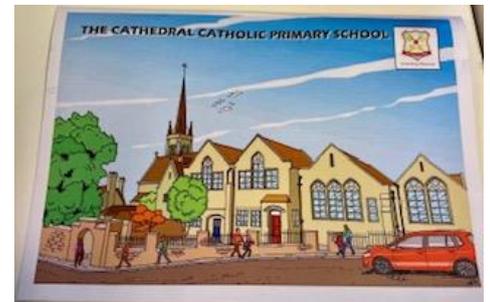
Christmas Nativity

As I am sure you will appreciate we cannot perform our Christmas Nativity in the Cathedral as we have done for the last few years. This year we will be recording a Nativity production in school time and this will be available for you to watch on the website at the end of term. Children will be bringing home words to learn in the next few days.

Christmas Calendars

I imagine by now, we will have sadly realised that our traditional Christmas Fair will not be going ahead this year. It's absence will seem very strange as it usually signals the start of the festive season in school. More importantly, the Christmas Fair is a key fundraiser for our PTA in order to continue supporting and funding some wonderful things in school. Without the Christmas Fair their funds will be greatly depleted.

To compensate for this, they have created a wonderful calendar. Each class has been assigned a month and every child is on it. It really is wonderful and a really professional calendar which would make a great Christmas present. To order please pay £5 on Parent Pay and your calendar will be delivered via your child's book bag. Watch out for a sneak peak video preview on the PTA Facebook page.



Nits

We have had a number of cases of nits in classes. Please could you check your child's hair and treat where necessary. The most effective way to do this is to use a nit comb and conditioner to get rid of live lice and eggs and then treat with treatment.

Diary Dates

27th November - Home clothes day in exchange for a gift for the Christmas Secrets room

29th November – Advent begins

Calendars available to buy on parent pay.

30th November – Christmas post box open in the hall.

14th December – R, Year 1 and Year2 Christmas Dinner

15th December – Year 3 and 4 Christmas dinner

Reception, Year 1 and 2 Film night

Secret room open for all year groups (more details to follow)

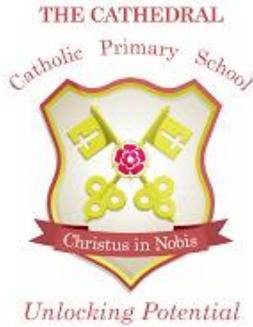
16th December – Year 5 and 6 Christmas dinner

Year 3, 4,5 and 6 Film night

Christmas jumper day to raise money for Missio

17th December – Christmas Virtual Panto for all children.

See below for Advent letter



Friday 27th November 2020

ADVENT ACTIVITIES

This Sunday is the first Sunday in Advent. Advent is a time when Christians take time to reflect on their lives and how they can make more room for Jesus as we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus at Christmas.

In school, our Advent theme is '**Light Up Advent**' and the children will be encouraged to use small acts of kindness to brighten up the lives of others at school and at home. Every day after lunch, the children will participate in a few minutes of silent reflection to help them think about acts of kindness they have shared that day.

Usually, we send home a Christmas story book with each child for you to share as a family. Due to Covid, we are unable to do it this year, but your child will still have the opportunity to read and respond to a Christmas story in class. Later in Advent, you will be sent details about a Christmas Crib family prayer time.

As always, there will be other activities during Advent which will help us to reflect and wonder at the amazing feast we are preparing to celebrate. Reception Class and Key Stage One are preparing a retelling of the Christmas story. Each Key Stage Two class is preparing a short reflection on a different part of the Christmas story to share with the rest of the school. If you are passing school during the day, you may hear children singing Christmas carols outside as we are unable to sing in the classrooms this year.

The children in our Charity Committee have just launched their new **charity appeal** for Advent. We are raising money for Mission Together which Pope Francis particularly encourages children to support. This year, our fundraising will go to help children in a country called Myanmar, near India. Our Charity Committee have produced a video about this project which can be found on the school website – news. More information can also be found at <https://missiontogether.org.uk/calendar/together-in-myanmar/>. Each class will have a collection box for loose change and on **Wednesday 16th December, children can wear Christmas jumpers** (these can be ordinary jumpers decorated with drawings/ tinsel etc) for a donation of £1 per child – all money raised will go to the Mission Together project.

We hope that our times of stillness and reflection, our re-enactment of the Christmas story, singing carols together and giving to those in need will help us to remember and celebrate the birth of Jesus, God's son, at Christmas.

With thanks for your support,
Mrs Claire Dickinson
RE Subject Leader