



CORPUS CHRISTI CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

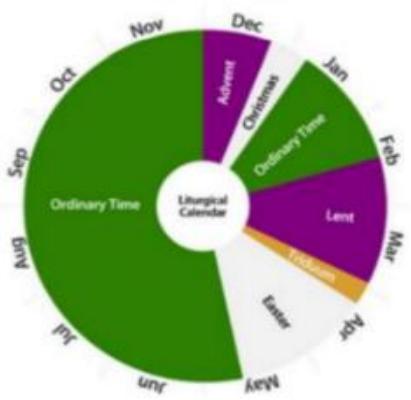
ONE BODY, MANY PARTS



2025-2026 Newsletter 14 (8th – 12th December 2025)

Catholic Life and Mission

Liturgical year



Third Sunday of Advent.

Week 1- Hope

Week 2- Peace

Week 3- Joy (the rose coloured candle)

Week 4- Love

Christmas Day- Jesus (white candle)



This Sunday is the third Sunday of Advent. Advent is the four weeks before Christmas and is a time of **joyful** preparation for the celebration of Jesus' birth as our Saviour. The third Sunday of Advent is also known as **Gaudete Sunday** which stands for **joy**. **Gaudete** is a Latin word which translates to "rejoice" in English. We are halfway to Christmas and that is something to celebrate so the scripture readings for **Gaudete Sunday** reflect that joy and recall the "jubilee" spirit that Jesus brought with him when he became one of us. Therefore, the candle that is lit is coloured rose to show the change from penance and preparation to **joy that Jesus is almost here!**

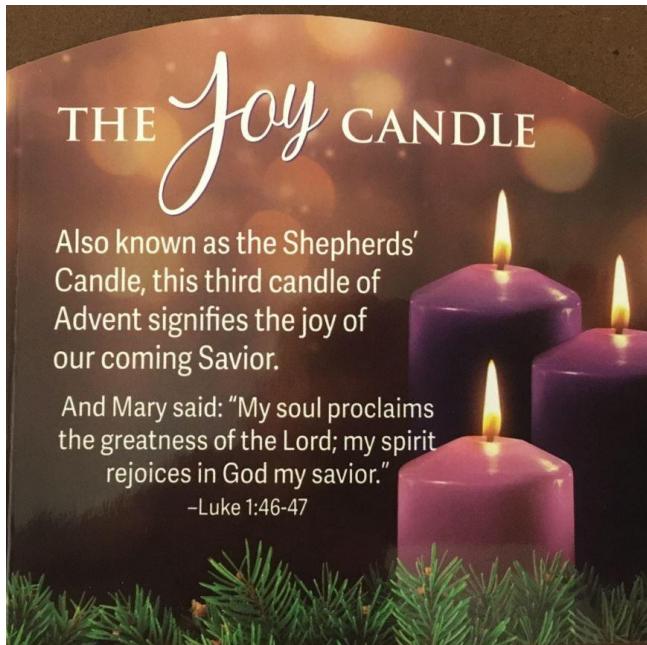
Let us continue to prepare our hearts to welcome Jesus Christ at Christmas and may that this season of Advent fill us all with **hope, peace, joy** and **love** as we prepare for the birth of Jesus the light of the world.

Amen



Mission- our faith in action

Each week we send the children out with a ‘mission’ to actively live out their faith in their everyday lives.



Also known as the Shepherds' Candle, this third candle of Advent signifies the joy of our coming Savior.

And Mary said: "My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my savior."

—Luke 1:46-47

In the week ahead, we ask the children to fill their week with **JOY** and to share it with everyone around them, helping us all prepare to celebrate the true meaning of Christmas.

The theme for the **third week of Advent** is **JOY**. Joy means the feeling of extreme happiness, especially related to the getting, or expectation of something good. Joy is a wonderful feeling.

On this third Sunday of Advent, which the Church calls "**Gaudete Sunday**" meaning **rejoice**, we light the third candle and **rejoice** like the shepherds. For this reason, the third candle of Advent is called the "**Shepherd's Candle**" and its colour is **rose**, the liturgical colour for joy.



Pope Leo at the Angelus this week said, **'Believe as Mary did and say YES to God'**



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Advent Prayer Workshop with Corpus Christi College

Staff and pupils from **Corpus Christi Catholic College** visited our school to lead classes **Year 3/4** and **Year 4** in a special time of prayer. The focus of the session was **Advent**, and together they explored its four themes: **hope, peace, love, and joy** culminating in an Advent labyrinth with the manger at its centre.

The children took part in a variety of meaningful and creative activities, spending time in calm reflection and prayer. It was a spiritual and enriching experience that helped them prepare their hearts during this Advent season to welcome God's gift of love to the world-Jesus.





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This week, our **Year 4** children enjoyed a special visit from staff and pupils of Corpus Christi Catholic College. They joined us to share a beautiful Advent activity centred around the Christmas wreath that is so meaningful at this time of year.

The visiting students guided our children through four reflective stations—**Hope**, **Peace**, **Joy** and **Love**—each representing one of the Advent candles. At the stations, the children took part in thoughtful activities: colouring a rainbow for **hope**, crafting a dove for **peace**, creating a candle to symbolise the **joy** of Jesus as the light of the world, and decorating a present to remind us of the gift of **love** that we have all been given.

The children also journeyed through a reflection maze, exploring the story of Jesus' birth, before taking a moment of quiet prayer at the Christ candle in the centre of the wreath to share their own thoughts with Jesus.

The staff from Corpus Christi Catholic College were full of praise for our Year 4 pupils, commenting on their respectful and reverent prayerfulness throughout the entire experience.





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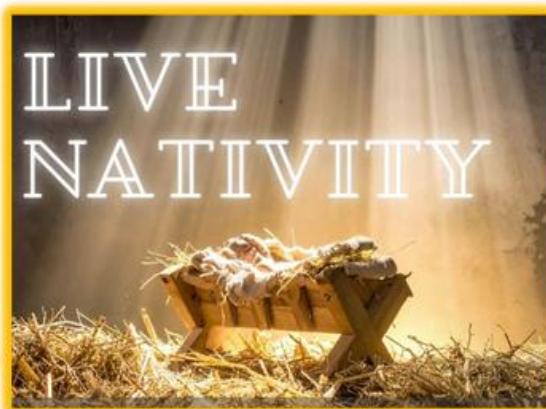


Your invitation from the Franciscan Sisters to all our neighbours and friends, please join us for our

Live Nativity



Live animals!



All welcome



Free drink
and biscuits!



Saturday 20th
December
2.00pm
Corpus Christi Church
Neville Road
LS9 0TT



Carol Singing!



Children's
Christmas Activities!



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This week, **Year 1, Year 2, Year 3, Year 3/4 and Year 4** delighted us with their wonderful Christmas carol service in church. The children retold the Christmas story with great confidence and sang gloriously throughout. Their performance reminded us all of the true meaning of Christmas and the importance of sharing hope, peace, joy and love during this season of Advent, Christmastide and beyond.

Well done to all the children and staff involved for creating such a beautiful and uplifting celebration.





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This is Year 1 and Year 3 along with Year 2, Year 3/4 and Year 4 produced a wonderful Christmas Service for parents this week retelling the Christmas story. They all sang beautifully and expertly reminded everyone about the true meaning of Christmas celebrating the birth of Jesus, the Son of God. Well done to all the children who worked so hard to read aloud so clearly and sing so reverently.



Year 1

Year 3





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Year 1 sharing some of the beautiful photos sent to us when they have taken home our Travelling Crib to share the Christmas Story with their families.





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Year 1 enjoyed an exciting PE lesson this week' Elf Training'. They had a special mission to deliver all the presents without waking up the children. Each 'elf' had to practise all the gymnastics skills which they had learnt this term as they quietly crept through all the obstacles to put the presents in Santa's sack. It was very exciting and the elves did an excellent job helping Santa!



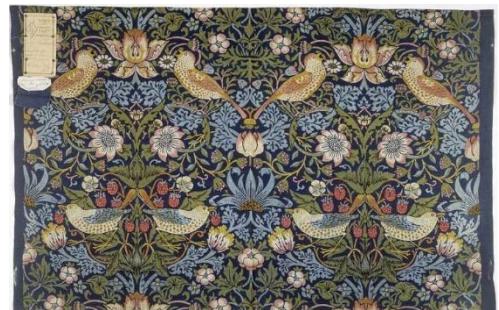


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Year 3/4 have been studying the artist William Morris. The children learned how Morris was inspired by the countryside and wanted to bring nature into Victorian cities through his artwork. They explored the repeated patterns found in his famous floral wallpaper designs.



Strawberry Thief

The children then created their own floral printing tiles and used a repeated-pattern technique to produce their final artwork. These beautiful designs have now been made into calendars, which will be available to buy at the Christmas Fair.



Peacock and Dragon



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This week, a group of **Year 5** children had the opportunity to work with Leeds City Council's Travel Behaviour Change Team, taking part in a travel-safety inspection walk and workshop.

During the workshop, the children evaluated how safe the local roads are and then headed out on a walk with the transport professionals to identify areas where safety and accessibility could be improved.

The pupils shared a range of thoughtful and practical ideas for making the local streets safer for both pedestrians and drivers. The team were extremely impressed by the children's insight, enthusiasm and the quality of their suggestions.



PIC•COLLAGE



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Y5/6, along with classes Years 5 and 6, enjoyed a fantastic visit to Leeds Playhouse to watch **A Christmas Carol** by Charles Dickens.

The children have been studying Dickens' works, including *Oliver Twist*, and exploring aspects of Victorian life in their lessons. This trip brought their learning to life, and everyone thoroughly enjoyed the wonderful experience.





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LEEDS UNITED FOUNDATION



This half term, the **Leeds United Foundation** has been working with our **Year 3/4** class to deliver engaging PSHE lessons. The children have been learning about the key aspects of leading a healthy lifestyle, including eating a balanced diet, staying active through regular exercise and looking after their mental wellbeing.



They have taken part in a variety of fun, practical activities such as PE sessions, group discussions and even creating their own healthy cheese salad wraps. The pupils thoroughly enjoyed the experience and gained valuable knowledge to support their everyday health.





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Over this half term, the children in **Year 4** have participated in a Leeds United Foundation project looking at Health and Well-being. Each Thursday afternoon for the past five weeks, Tom has joined the class to explore ways to keep both our minds and bodies healthy. Alongside discussing positive mental health habits, the children also enjoyed an additional PE session each week, packed with fun and energetic activities.

In the final weeks of the project, the focus shifted to healthy eating. The children learned about nutritious foods and the Eatwell Plate, before having the exciting opportunity to design and make their own healthy wraps. This practical session was a real highlight, with the children especially enjoying choosing their own ingredients!





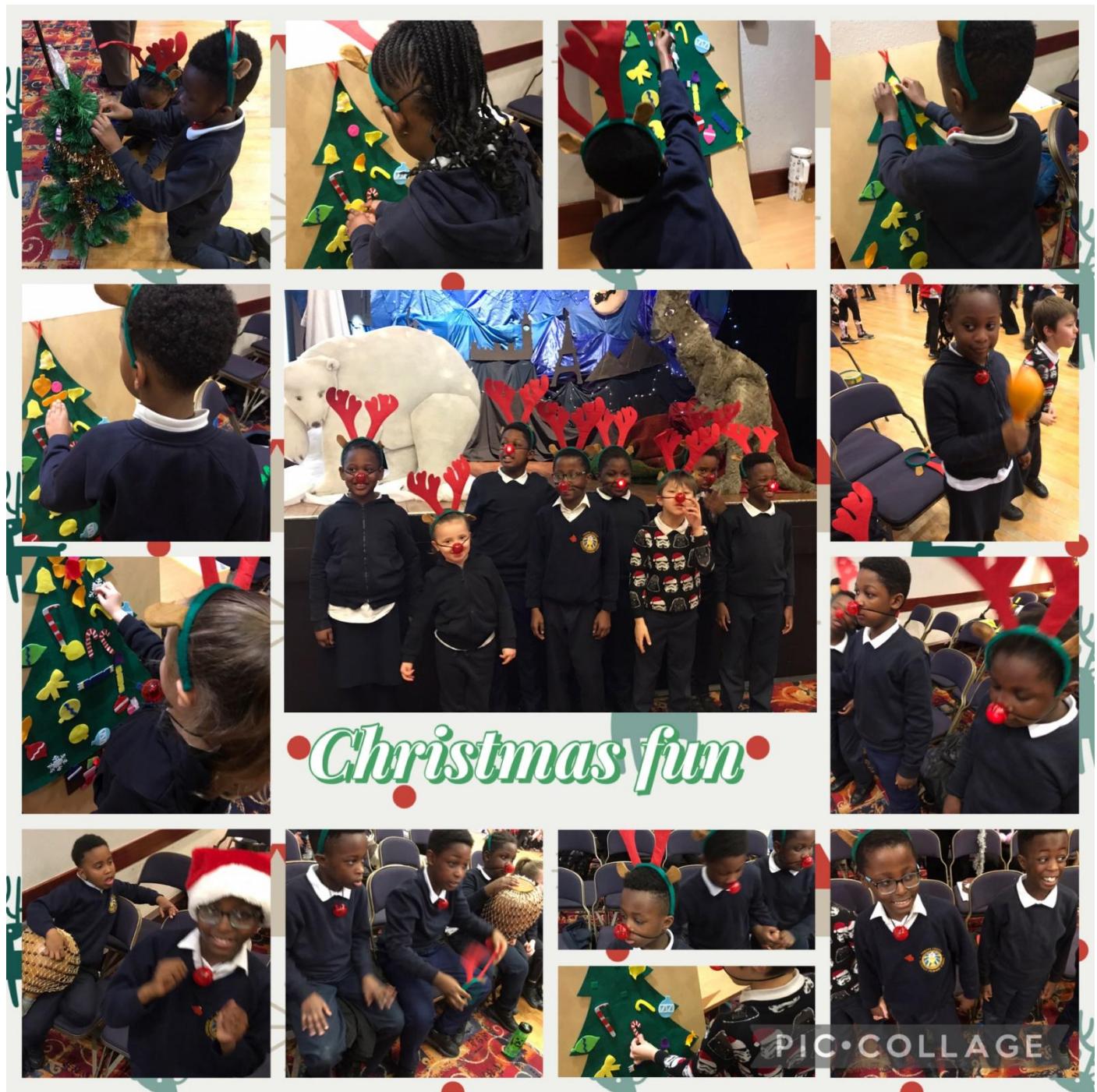
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Christmas Singalong

This week some children from various classes visited Pudsey Civic Hall to participate in a wonderful Christmas singalong with children from across the city. The children joined in signing and playing musical instruments to Christmas carols from around the world. Then the children decorated their own Christmas tree and met Santa.



PIC·COLLAGE



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EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS!

Our attendance target is

Every pupil, on time, every day.

97%

Attendance (8th – 12th December 2025)		
Class	This week	Since 02.09.2025
Reception (Miss Kirk)	84.3%	97.3%
Provision (Miss Laxton)	95.2%	95.2%
Year 1 (Miss Horkan)	93.3%	96.7%
Year 2 (Mrs Grailey)	83.7%	95.9%
Year 3 (Mr Goodall)	92.1%	97.3%
Year 3/4 (Mrs Hossack)	94.7%	96%
Year 4 (Mrs Child)	97.2%	97.5%
Year 5 (Miss McBride)	98.6%	96.5%
Year 5/6 (Miss Guy)	95.9%	95.1%
Year 6 (Mr Doyle)	95.8%	94.7%
Overall attendance	93.7%	96.2%

Thank you to all our parents and carers who have made sure their child is in school and on time every day.

We are very aware that many absences have been due to illness. Some children have been hit with a virus in school, as well as the usual coughs and colds but hopefully everyone is on the way to recovery ready for our exciting week of Christmas parties and activities.

In the event of absence, we ask that you contact us each morning of your child's absence—via phone, text, Class Dojo, or Tapestry. This helps avoid spending valuable administrative time trying to trace children who are absent without explanation.

We appreciate your support in improving attendance. By working together, we can help ensure all pupils are able to achieve their **highest academic and personal potential**.

Thank you



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Important Christmas dates for your diary in the coming week

<u>Sunday 14th December</u>	<u>3rd Sunday of Advent – Theme JOY</u>	
<u>Monday 15th December</u>	<p>2.00pm UKS2 Nativity in Corpus Christi Church (Classes Year 5-Miss McBride, Year 5/6- Miss Guy and Year 6- Mr Doyle)</p> <p>All welcome but please be on time!</p>	
<u>Tuesday 16th December</u>	am- 'Beauty and the Beast' pantomime in school	pm- Christmas parties (own clothes with appropriate footwear and coat)
<u>Wednesday 17th December</u>	<p>10:00 am- Reception's Nativity for parents and carers in the school hall (3 Tickets per child)</p> <p>All welcome but please be on time!</p> <p>Christmas Fair 3.30pm in the school hall</p> <p>All welcome</p>	
<u>Thursday 18th December</u>	<p>Christmas jumper day but a Christmas top, T-shirt, hat or headband can also be worn. We ask for a donation of <u>50p per child</u> for our CAFOD World Gifts fundraiser</p>	
		<p>2.15pm Provision class Christmas event for pupils and parents</p> <p>2.15pm- Road Safety Panto (Hall)</p>
<u>Friday 19th December</u>	9.30am Mass in Corpus Christi Church	1.00pm - School closes
	<p>All welcome</p>	



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Thursday 18th December



Thank you for your continued support.

Have a lovely weekend and best wishes the week ahead!

God bless
from Mrs Walsh
and the team at
Corpus Christi Catholic Primary School