

ONE BODY, MANY PARTS

2024-2025 Newsletter 15 (16th -20th December 2024)

Catholic Life and Mission

School reopens on Monday 6th January 2025

On behalf of myself and all of the staff and governors at Corpus Christi Catholic Primary, I would like to thank all our parents and carers for their support this term. Although it has been a long, busy term, we have seen wonderful achievements from happy, focused children.

Reflecting on the blessings of the past term, we are grateful for the growth and progress of our pupils, the commitment of our dedicated staff, and the continued support of governors and Canon Pat. Each day, we are blessed to see our pupils progress academically and also grow in their faith and character, embodying the values that are central to our Christian mission.

I know that all the staff in school are grateful for all your generous gifts and really appreciate your kind words and thanks.

We would like to wish you all a joyful, holy and peaceful Christmas and hope that you have a lovely break with families and friends. We look forward to welcoming all the children and you back to school on **Monday 6th January 2025**.

A Christmas Blessing

May love come alive within your heart As Christmas time draws near May hope fill each room you decorate And bring joy to those you hold dear May peace be before you at every meal And faith ring through every song For Christ is alive, the light of the world May he bless you all season long.









Saturday 21st December

<u>2.00pm</u> – The Live Nativity at Corpus Christi Catholic Church

Sunday 22nd December-

4th Sunday of Advent- Theme Love



Wednesday 25th December- Christmas Day



Wednesday 1st January 2025



Monday 6th January 2025

SCHOOL REOPENS

The Feast of the **Epiphany** which celebrates the arrival of the wise men who came to see Jesus Christ soon after he was born.





Knowing, Loving and Serving Christ

Mass Times during the Christmas Period

Masses in the Parish for Christmas

Confessions: 2 Priests hearing Confession at St Theresa's between 11am to 12 noon on Saturday 7th - 14th - 21st December, also available as per the bulletin. Carol Service at St Theresa's Church Sunday 15th December 3.00pm

Christmas Eve Masses Tuesday 24th 4.30pm St Theresa's 5.00pm Corpus Christi 5,30pm St Gregory's 11.00pm Carols at St Therena's 11.30pm St Theresa's (Mass starts at 11.30pm)

Christmas Day Masses Wednesday 25th

8.15am St Theresa's 9.00am St Gregory's 10.15am St Theresa's 10.30am Corpus Christi NO EVENING MASS ON CHRISTMAS DAY

Boxing Day Feast of St Stephen Thursday 26th December 10.00am See bulletin for venue

27th December Friday 10.00am See bulletin for venue

28th December Saturday 12.15pm St Theresa's

Saturday Vigil 28th December & Sunday 29th December Mass times as Normal

> Ring 0113 2645260 or email office.stjohnnewman@dioceseofleeds.org.uk



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This Sunday is the fourth Sunday of Advent and is when the third purple candle on the advent wreath is lit. The last purple candle is lit to mark the final week of prayer and preparation as we wait for the birth of our Saviour. The fourth candle of Advent is also known as the "Angels' Candle' and symbolises love. It reminds us that God is love. Love is a gift, a gift from God. At Christmastime, we believe that God's greatest gift of love was His Son Jesus.







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.

The theme of the fourth week of Advent is



We ask the children to be shining examples of God's love by filling the week ahead with LOVE for everyone around them through their words and actions.

"It is Christmas every time you let God love others through you...yes, it is Christmas every time you smile at your brother and offer him your hand." -MOTHER TERESA



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Our Nativity Performances

Reception and Reception/Year 1

performed their first school nativity, 'A Very Special Baby', for their parents and family members. Their wonderful singing and acting were praised as they confidently retold the special event of the birth of Jesus. I was overwhelmed to see our youngest pupils performing the important story of Jesus' birth so beautifully. What a superb performance from our youngest pupils!





It was lovely and wonderful to see the children perform so well.

Parent Comment





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Year 1, Year 2 and **Year 2/3** sang and beautifully narrated a lovely carol service which parents enjoyed -particularly the glitter cannon finale! Well done everyone for singing so beautifully and speaking so clearly and all looking so festive! It was a lovely service that prepared everyone wonderfully for the Christmas season.









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Year 6 led classes Year3, Year 4, Year 4/5 and Year 6 in retelling the story of the birth of Jesus through their performance of 'Stargazing'. Balthazar, Melchior and Caspar have spent many years watching the night skies, waiting for the stars to reveal a sign of great things to come. As time went by they grew impatient, as well as old and grey! However, one night a brand new star appeared and they began an eventful journey which led them to the stable in Bethlehem that first Christmas and the realisation that some things in life are definitely worth waiting for! All who came to watch were very impressed with the children. Well done everyone!







I found this very inspiring and encouraging. Thank you to all the team for their amazing work.

Parent Comment





A wonderful Nativity! Each and every one of you should be extremely proud.

Parent Comment









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NATIVITY PERFORMANCES

In the lead up to Christmas, we are all busy preparing for the special dayputting up our Christmas trees and decorations, buying presents and making sure we have everything we need for our Christmas dinner. However, during this season of Advent, we also need to prepare our hearts to celebrate the wonder and joy of that first Christmas Day when Jesus was born in a stable in Bethlehem. That is why we involve all the children in school in sharing the Christmas story with their families in our Reception, KS1 and KS2 nativities so that we remember the true meaning of Christmas. All our classes from Reception to Year 6 have worked very hard in school to spread the love and joy of Christmas through their Advent Collective Worships and Nativity performances.



Thank you to all the parents, carers and family members who came to watch their children in their Nativity performances. The children loved seeing you there and the younger children were very excited to show off their costumes! Once again, I would like to thank the staff team for their hard work in preparing the children for the performances. These things do not just happen by chance and I know the staff's hard work is appreciated by all of you.







End of Term Advent Mass



As a Catholic school community, we were blessed to be able to celebrate our end of term Mass with Canon Pat. It was a joyous and wonderfully fitting conclusion to our Advent preparations. Thank you Canon Pat and the parish, for your support this term.

The Live Nativity

A fantastic performance from some of our children at the Live Nativity held by the Franciscan Sisters at Corpus Christi Church on Saturday 21st December. Thank you to the children and their families for attending on a Saturday. The congregation complimented the children on their beautiful singing. We are so proud of the children- their hard work certainly paid off!





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Look what else has been happening in school.



<u>Christmas Panto</u>

The whole school gathered to watch Jack and the Beanstalk pantomime- oh, yes they did! They cheered, laughed, clapped and danced throughout the show showing their enjoyment and appreciation to M&M Productions.... It was a lovely Christmas reward for another successful term in school.

The big baby was so funny and it had a huge baby bottle.

Year 2 pupil

























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Last Friday, pupils from our after-school **Choir Club** gave a wonderful performance for parents and family members, spreading joy and showcasing their hard work. Led by Mrs Cossavella, the choir delighted the audience with a variety of songs, including some much-loved Christmas favourites. The pupils' enthusiasm and dedication shone through, creating a truly festive and heartwarming event for all who attended. A huge well done to everyone involved!













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The children in **Year 2** really enjoyed their Christmas party. They all had a wonderful time, eating, watching movies, dancing and playing games. Then they had a surprise visit from Santa and everyone received a chocolate selection box from him. What a super day!

























Year 2/3 had a great time partying and receiving a gift from Santa.







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Year 4 having great fun and enjoying their Christmas festivities.









Year 4 displaying their designs for the Christmas card competition organised by Leeds Irish Health and Homes.





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Christmas Sing-Along Celebration!

This week, a group of pupils took part in a Christmas Sing-Along event, organised by Artforms music service, with children from other schools. They sang a selection of Christmas songs, played games, and enjoyed dancing together. The highlight of the day was a surprise visit from Father Christmas which brought lots of smiles and excitement. It was a great way to celebrate the festive season!











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Year 6 enjoying their Christmas party.















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Canon Pat kindly drew the raffle for the Christmas hamper after our school Mass on Friday.

Congratulations to Pete in Year 4 who won!







Thank you for your continued support.

May God bless you all this Christmas as we wish everyone the joy of this special season.



Have a wonderful holiday and best wishes for a prosperous New Year!

May God's love light your way and lead you into a new year that shines with this special joy.

From Mrs Walsh and the team at Corpus Christi Catholic Primary School