



# Newsletter Friday 13th December 2024

Matthew 1 :

She will give birth to a son. You will name him Jesus. Give him that name because he will save his people from their sins.21

Dear Parents and Carers,

## Festivities

The school is buzzing with preparations for our Christmas festivities. We have a range of exciting events still to come and a number of events successfully completed and enjoyed including:

- Christmas performances: Our talented children have been working hard on their Christmas productions, as demonstrated by Key Stage 2 in their show featuring singing and readings. We can't wait to showcase the enthusiasm and performance skills of Key Stage 1 and Early Years as their time to shine comes round on Monday.
- Festive activities: We have undertaken a variety of festive activities, including Christmas crafts, the choir singing at Boundary Mill, card making at Nelson Manor and so much more.
- Christmas lunch: We enjoyed a delicious Christmas lunch together, where Christmas music and the sound of crackers snapping, accompanied a well cooked lunch.

## Attendance

We're incredibly proud of our children who have achieved 100% attendance this year. Their commitment to their education is truly commendable, and we believe it sets a fantastic example for their peers. Regular attendance is crucial for academic success, and we encourage all parents and carers to continue supporting their children in attending school every day. There are 36 children who have not had one day off school this term - 100% amazing and a further 7 with 99%. WONDERFUL.

## Important Reminders

- School holidays: The school will be closed for the Christmas holidays from 2pm on 20th December to 8.45am on 6th January 2025. We wish everyone a safe and happy break.
- School uniform: As we return in the new year, please ensure that your children are wearing the correct school uniform. TIES are a central part of our uniform as they represent the four houses we have in school. Each child should wear their tie with pride.

## Season's Greetings

We wish all our children, parents, carers, and wider community a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Thank you for your continued support and cooperation throughout the year. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in the new year, ready for another exciting term of learning and growth.

Warm regards,

Mrs M Underwood



### This weeks Medal Winners are:

Callie	-	Reception	- for their first independently written sentences
Maeve	-	Reception	- for their first independently written sentences
Jessica	-	Reception	- for their first independently written sentences
Lola F	-	Year 4	- for doing additional maths work at home
Isla H	-	Year 4	- for fantastic detailed art work
Ruby	-	Year 5	- for sensational spelling work
Rivelino	-	Year 5	- for rocking RE
Aibel	-	Year 6	- for amazingly drawn artwork
Corbin	-	Year 6	- for amazingly drawn artwork
Sam	-	Year 6	- for excellent english

### KS1 Nativity

Tickets have been on sale this week for the performances on Monday 16th at 9.15am and 2pm. For anyone needing extra tickets, the spare ones will go on sale on Friday afternoon from 2.30pm via the office on a first come first served basis.



### Christmas Holidays

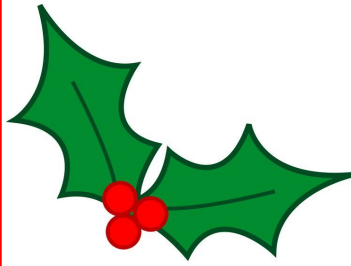
Reminder to all parents that school finishes at 2pm on Friday 20th December for the festive break. School reopens on Monday 6th January at 8.45am.

### Choir Practice

There is no choir practice after school this week - the children have earned a well deserved break from singing. This will continue after the Christmas Holidays as usual on Wednesday 8th January.



And lastly, on behalf of the office, we would like to wish all our families a very merry christmas and we wish you all the best for the new year.



Our school choir have been out in the local community singing some very festive songs, and have raised over £200 for Friends. We are very proud of their amazing efforts and grateful for this amazing contribution. Next week the choir will be visiting a local care home to bring them some festive cheer.



### Christingle

Last Friday we invited our families in to school for Christingle making with the children. Parents also got to experience the Christingle service afterwards. It was lovely to see so many friendly faces.





Children from Year 5 & 6 visited Nelson Manor last week alongside LAL to take part in their Cards for Kindness Workshop. Both the residents and children had a great time creating festive cards.





# Queen Street Mill

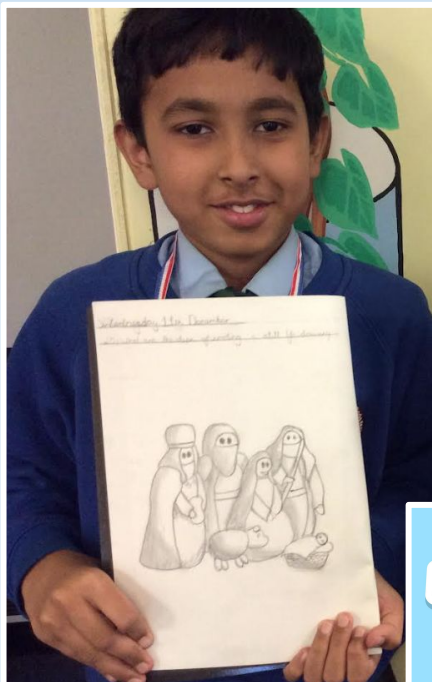
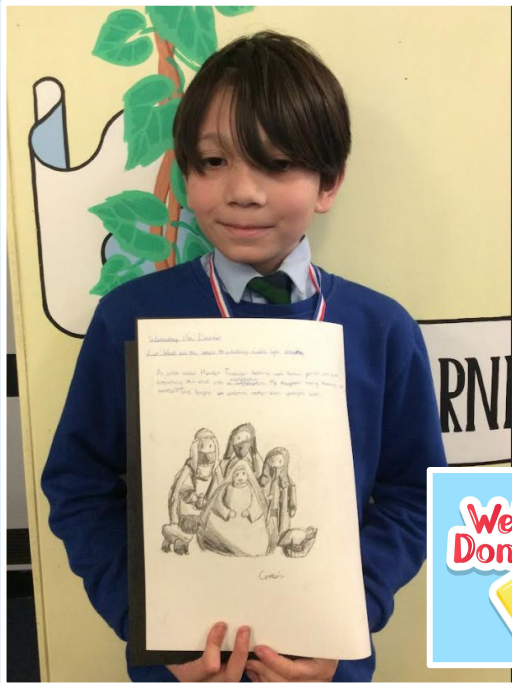
This week Year 6 were lucky enough to visit Queen Street Mill Textile Museum as part of their local history topic.



They explored the daily life of a mill worker and were assigned jobs to try out.

# Good Work Page

This week in art the children in Year 6 were looking at still life and sketching using a range of pencils. We were blown away with some of the artwork they produced.



# Christmas at St John with St Philip

## Sat 7th Dec

6pm Asian Carol Service *followed by curry*

## Sun 8th Dec

10:30am International worship for Advent

4pm Messy Christmas – *for families*

## Sun 15th Dec

10:30am Traditional worship for Advent

6pm No room at the Inn

Carols by candlelight and drama  
*followed by mulled wine, mulled punch  
and mince pies*

## Sun 22nd Dec

10:30am All age Christmas

## Christmas Eve

4pm A Christingly Christmas!  
*goody bags, candlelit singing, refreshments*

11pm International Midnight Mass  
*followed by South Asian refreshments*

## Christmas Day

10:30am Holy Communion (45 mins)

St John's Church Centre, Barkerhouse Road, Nelson  
following Jesus together as family



the fun starts at 4pm Sun 8th Dec

Christmas crafts

Christmas story



Christmas

*Yummy hot meal*

*make a mess!*

all children must be accompanied by an adult

entrance is free



St John's Church Centre, Barkerhouse Road

following Jesus together as family



# 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

## SAFETY OVER THE FESTIVE SEASON

The holiday season, marked by Christmas and New Year, brings joy and togetherness but also presents unique safety challenges for children, families and educators. From busy holiday shopping, traveling and family gatherings to managing digital activity during school breaks, staying safe during this period requires heightened awareness. This guide offers practical tips to help families and educators maintain a more secure and fulfilling festive period.

### 1 MONITOR DIGITAL ACTIVITY

Children spend more time online during school holidays. Increasing exposure to potential dangers such as cyberbullying, inappropriate content and online predators. Balancing screen time, avoiding harmful websites and ensuring children engage positively online can be difficult without proper monitoring tools. Set clear boundaries, encourage open discussions about online safety and use parental controls to manage content exposure and screen time effectively. Regular check-ins and positive reinforcement around digital habits encourage safe online behaviour.

### 2 PRACTICE FIRE SAFETY PROTOCOLS

The incidence of house fires increases during Christmas due to greater use of candles, cookers and electrical decorations. Open flames, electrical overloads and the need for quick response plans can make fire safety challenging. Ensure smoke detectors are operational, keep fire extinguishers on hand and teach children how to respond in case of a fire emergency. Avoid leaving cooking unattended and use fire-safe candles to prevent mishaps.

### 3 CREATE TRAVEL SAFETY PLANS

More families tend to travel during the holidays, resulting in busier roads, increased traffic accidents and weather-related hazards. Weather conditions, road rage, fatigue and busy airports can all compromise travel safety. Pack emergency kits and adhere to seatbelt laws. Plan routes in advance and allow extra travel time to avoid rushing and mitigate risks on busy roads.

### 4 BEWARE OF ALLERGIES

Holiday meals often involve many foods that may contain allergens. Cross contamination, unclear labeling and lack of allergy-friendly options can lead to severe reactions. Communicate any allergy needs to hosts, provide safe food alternatives and carry necessary medications like antihistamines or EpiPens. Teaching children how to advocate for themselves and recognize dangerous foods also contributes to safer celebrations.

### 5 PREVENT THE SPREAD OF ILLNESS

Cold weather and seasonal socialising can increase the spread of viruses like flu and COVID-19. Crowded gatherings, schools out of session and frequent travel can lead to higher infection risks. Emphasize hygiene, encourage vaccination, disinfect surfaces and isolate symptomatic individuals. Communication with children about proper hygiene practices is essential to reduce the spread of illness.

### 6 STAY VIGILANT ON THE ROAD

Increased holiday traffic heightens the risk of accidents for both drivers and pedestrians. Distracted driving, pedestrian safety and inclement weather can complicate road safety. Encourage pedestrian safety practices, avoid distracted driving and never drive under the influence.

### 7 MAINTAIN SAFE DECORATIONS

Festive decorations such as Christmas lights and candles can pose electrical, fire and choking hazards if mishandled. Frayed wires, toppling Christmas trees, small ornaments and open flames can be difficult to control, especially in busy households with children. Inspect and maintain decorations, secure Christmas trees, place fragile or small items out of reach and ensure candles are never left unattended. Testing smoke alarms and using flame-retardant decorations can significantly reduce risks.

### 8 SET BOUNDARIES FOR GIFTS

Some toys and gadgets can present choking, sharp-edge or safety risks, particularly for young children. Ensuring that gifts meet safety standards and are age appropriate can be complex with so many options available. Inspect all toys carefully and ensure any tech devices have parental controls. Setting expectations around safe gift use and discarding packaging that poses a risk also helps to prevent accidents.

### 9 ADDRESS STRESS & FATIGUE

Holiday pressures can lead to burnout, which affects both physical and mental health. Overpacked schedules and a lack of downtime can cause stress and fatigue, leading to accidents or poor decision making. Incorporate rest, maintain regular routines and seek support to reduce stress. Encourage activities that promote relaxation to create a healthier, happier holiday experience for everyone.

### 10 DRINK RESPONSIBLY

Alcohol is commonly present at holiday events, raising concerns about safety and supervision. Excessive alcohol consumption can lead to accidents, impaired judgment and lack of supervision for children. Designate responsible adults, limit consumption and provide transportation alternatives for guests. Teaching moderation and modelling responsible behaviour in front of children ensures that celebrations remain positive and secure.

## Meet Our Expert

James Whelan is a chartered health and safety consultant with 10 years of experience in promoting family and community safety. Specialising in risk assessment and preventative strategies, he has worked with educational institutions, public health agencies and community groups to deliver safety education and training.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Funda

# NEW YEARS HOLIDAY CAMPS



LIMITED  
HAF  
SPACES

**NEW**

## ACTIVITIES

SPORTS & GAMES

UV LAZER TAG

UV DODGEBALL

INFLATABLES

ASSAULT COURSES

THEME DAYS

MEDALS & REWARDS

BREAKOUT ACTIVITIES



## WHEN

30th, 31st Dec & 2nd, 3rd Jan



## WHERE

AT A VENUE NEAR YOU



## WHY?

ENGAGE-INSPIRE-  
MOTIVATE-EMPOWER!

**AGES 4-12**



# BOOK ONLINE

[FUNDAactive.com/holidaycamps](https://FUNDAactive.com/holidaycamps)

