



Bishopton Road West, Stockton-on-Tees, TS19 0QH



enquiries@olsb.bhcet.org.uk



(01642) 704970



olsb.bhcet.org.uk



**Our Lady & St Bede**  
Catholic Academy



A Proud Member of  
**BISHOP  
HOGARTH**  
Catholic Education Trust

Head Teacher: Mo Wilkinson

## **2023 - A Christmas message from the Headteacher**

It has been a very busy, productive and successful term for staff and pupils at Our Lady and St. Bede Catholic Academy.

Academic excellence continues to be enhanced by our extensive and well-supported range of extracurricular events and opportunities. This highlights the willingness of pupils to get involved, and the commitment of inspirational staff who choose to go the extra mile in organising such a wide range of activities, for the benefit of our school community.

The run up to Christmas is always a particularly vibrant time in our school with Christmas dinners, Advent liturgies, Christmas tea parties and our annual Christmas hamper charity appeal.

Thank you to our pupils who organised a festive Christmas tea party for families, parishioners and the wider community. A delightful afternoon was had by all!

Our annual Christmas liturgy provided a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the true meaning of Christmas, as well as the many talents of our young people. Watch this space for more information about our summer production!

On a more practical note, as the calendar year closes, it is timely to remind families that the last day in school this term is Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2023. As is the tradition, pupils will leave school at 12.00 noon after brunch and will return to school on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2024 as teachers have a scheduled inset day on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January.

Can I once again ask for the support of parents and carers in ensuring the consistent attendance of your child. Research clearly demonstrates that frequent absences lead to poor academic progress and negatively impacts wellbeing. Attending school consistently, helps pupils stay engaged, participate fully, and build meaningful relationships.

As we approach the end of term, can I take this opportunity to wish you all a joyful, happy, and peaceful Christmas and I look forward to working together with you, our families in 2024.

Best wishes

Mrs Wilkinson  
(Head teacher)

**Noverim Te Noverim Me**