

ST CLARE’S R.C.P NEWSLETTER

Our School Mission Statement: Guided by Jesus Christ, our teacher, we journey together learning to dream, believe and achieve. Friday 5th December 2024

Friday 24th November 2023

December is here and Christmas has hit St Clare’s! Everywhere you look, I’m sure that you can see naughty elves up to mischief. Year 2 performed Christmas Carols for parents on Thursday starting off our Christmas celebrations. The children were wonderful and very excited to perform in front of an audience! Thank you for your attendance at this lovely event. Next week sees Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 3 perform for parents.

This week, parents were invited in to stay and plays in Nursery where they got to take part in dough disco. Thank you to everyone who was able to attend. The children were delighted to welcome you. In Reception, the children have been sharing the story of ‘Percy the Park-keeper’ and focusing on the vocabulary and meaning of words. In RE, Year 1 have been learning about Advent being a period of waiting and related this to the story of the Visitation. As part of their DT topic, Year 2 have been using printing techniques to make their final design for their wallpaper in the style of William Morris. Year 3 have been making castles following their designs. In art, Year 4 have been experimenting with different techniques (such as hatching) using oil pastels. In RE, Year 5 have been discussing the different times when we have to wait in life, the emotions that this brings and why we choose to wait for Jesus. Year 6 were lucky enough to attend science workshops run by the Royal Institute and took part in various investigations which involved exploding foods. It was very exciting! Thank you to the parents who attended the afternoon workshop and to Mrs Salza for organising.

**Assembly**

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We had two class assemblies this week. They both explained the meaning of Advent and the significance of the different parts of the Advent wreath. The spoke clearly and loudly, oozed confidence and sang beautifully. Thank you to everyone who joined us for these special celebrations of the Word of God. During this season of Advent, let us focus more on the presence of God in our lives rather than presents under the Christmas tree.

**Advent Prayer Packs**

The Mini-Clares have prepared prayer packs for you to share as a family at home. During Advent, we need to remind each other of the true meaning of Christmas – the celebration of the birth of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. We aim for each family to receive the pack, but it does need to be returned to school the next day for this to happen. Our Mini-Clares hope that you take the opportunity to pray together as a family.

**Teeny Tiny Nativity**

Following the success of this last year, we are once again asking you to create a teeny, tiny (small) Nativity scene with your child at home. We do not expect you to buy anything in order to do so, just use the empty boxes etc that you have lying around at home. The children love making things at home and bringing them into school to share. Any nativities sent into school, will be displayed around the class / school. Have fun creating!

**CARITAS**

Last Christmas, we collected a great supply of toiletries for CARITAS to support people living in Greater Manchester. They have once again asked if we can help them. We will hold **an own clothes day on Friday 13th** December and in return ask that you donate the following:

Nursery – pasta

Reception – rice

Year 1 – tins of beans

Year 2 – tins of vegetables (peas and carrots)

Year 3 – tins of fruit / rice pudding / custard

Year 4 – tins of potatoes

Year 5 – shower gel

Year 6 – bottles of squash / cordial

You are always so incredibly generous and kind to others, so thank you in advance. Anything that you can donate will be gratefully received.

**CAFOD**

We will also be selling raffle tickets for Christmas hampers in the run up to Christmas in aid of CAFOD. Tickets will cost £1 each.

**Chapel / prayer garden**

Our chapel / KS2 prayer garden is open each Tuesday morning before school for staff, pupils and parents to come and pray privately. Starting the day with God is beautiful. You are very welcome to pop in from 8.15am each Tuesday.

**Pupil certificates**

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|  | Pupil of the week | Achievement  |
| N | Bobby for amazing singing during our Nativity practise  | Tinsley for always completing her homework and bringing her book bag in every week! |
| RDM | Yasir for always being ready to learn with a smile on his face! | Gia for fantastic independent writing |
| RS | Uhmiana for great work on 4-sided shapes this week in Maths! | Theodore for a brilliant autumn homework! |
| Y1G | George for using his clear and loud voice when practising our nativity this week.  | Amelia for her fluency and expression when reading her RWI book Elvis.  |
| Y1S | Savanna for fantastic dancing and acting in our nativity practice. | Zion for brilliant independent writing in English. |
| Y2C | Arly for always working hard in class | Joshua for blowing us away with his amazing piano talent in our Christmas concert |
| Y2D | Olivia K for always making sensible choices and setting a good example to others.  | Ugochi for writing a lovely letter in our literacy lessons.   |
| Y3F | Jadon for being an exceptional mathematician and explaining his methods so everyone understands. | Emily for really trying to improve her handwriting this week, keep it up! |
| Y3H | Oscar for excellent participation in all lessons. | Jaxon for superb listening and engagement during mats lessons. |
| Y4H | Jake for having lovely manners and always following school rules. | Evie for doing some brilliant geography work on making comparisons between two countries. |
| Y4O | Rudi for making good choices on the playground. | Esra for an interesting piece of art based on Peter Hill! |
| Y5G | Yoel for showing kindness to his learning partner and for beautiful presentation in every book!  | Harry for writing a fantastic opening to his narrative about being stranded on a desert island! |
| Y5K | Casie for always working hard and trying her best in everything she does! | Lacey for an amazing start to her narrative writing in English. Well done Lacey! |
| Y6S | Nneoma for always doing the right thing, always following the school rules and being a great role model to others.  | Nadia for fantastic scientific questioning during our science show led by the Royal Institution.  |
| Y6W | Jessica for welcoming another child into her group and supporting them with their work. | Jagger for his fantastic work writing a balanced argument on xenotransplantation. |

**Headteacher awards**

Poppy W in 1G for being a good talk partner.

Joshua in 2C for being a brilliant singer and painist.

Lexi in 2D for amazing confidence in the class assembly.

Saara in 3F for always being to help others.

Roman in 5K for a big improvement in his handwriting and the content of his writing.

Oliver K in 6S for trying so hard to improve his handwriting.

**Caritas Award**

The Caritas is awarded each week in recognition of someone in school who has shown kindness to others by putting love into action. This week the award goes to Oscar B in 1S for being a kind and caring friend to everyone. He looks out for those in need and has even handmade presents for children in his class.

**Year 6 superstar**

We are thrilled to have a superstar at our school – a budding actress. Karis in Year 6 attends drama school and has starred in many shows over the years. She was lucky and talented enough to land the role of the young Elphaba in the film adaptation of Wicked. Karis has been busy doing interviews for the local and national news and made an appearance on This Morning too. We are so proud of her and her achievements and wish her every success in future years.

**Attendance**



Whole school attendance this week is 94.23%. We are still getting over 100 instances of children being late each week. Some children are literally a minute or two late, but that is still classed as late. Please make a concerted effort to leave home a few minutes earlier each day and be in school for 8.40am. Should you need any advice or support, please contact Mrs Burgess Hamlett, our Attendance Officer.

The best class for attendance this week is 4H with 97%. They will receive a longer break time next week.

**5G**

Today we say au revoir to Miss Gibson as she commences her maternity leave waiting for the safe arrival of her twins. We look forward to meeting the newest members of our St Clare’s family in the New Year. We also welcome Mr Chadwick who will be teaching 5G in Miss Gibson’s absence. I am sure that he will be made to feel very welcome here at St Clare’s.

**Advanced warning of statutory assessment dates:**

Every year, schools have to carry out statutory assessments in weeks provided by the Department for Education**.**

The **Y1 phonics screening check** will be completed in school the **week commencing Monday 9th June**. Year 1 pupils and pupils in **Year 2 who did not pass the check** in Year 1 will need to be in school all week.

The **Year 4 multiplication and times table check** will also be carried out the **week commencing Monday 9th June**.

**Year 6 SATs will be completed on Monday 12th May up to and including Thursday 15th May.**

It is vital that your children are in school on these dates.

**Support**

As a school we are here for both your children and your family. If you are experiencing any difficulties or have any anxieties, please get in touch with Mrs Sylvester for a private conversation. Her email address is c.sylvester@st-clares.manchester.sch.uk or you can ring the school number or message via the school app. If we are unable to help you, we may be able to refer you to somebody who can.

If you are struggling to buy food at the moment, please contact school. We do not want any families to go without food. We do have contact with some food banks who may be able to offer support.

**Safeguarding**

Safeguarding children is everyone’s responsibility. If you have any concerns regarding the safety of a child, please report it. You are able to refer concerns directly or you can contact one of the Designated Safeguarding Leads in school. Contact details can be found below.



Wishing you a relaxing, peaceful weekend,

Mrs Howe

**Christmas dates:**

**TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE OFFICE.** *You do not require tickets for the Years 4, 5 and 6 Christmas Service in church, but we do ask, if you are able, to donate a tin for the parish foodbank.*

Reception carols – Tuesday 10th December 2.15pm

Nursery carols – Wednesday 11th December 2.15pm

Year 1 Christmas play – Thursday 12th December 2.15pm

Year 3 Christmas play – Friday 13th December 9.30am

Music Showcase – Monday 16th December

Whole school Mass – Tuesday 17th December 9.15am

Year 4, 5 and 6 Christmas service – Wednesday 18th December 9.15am

Christmas dinner / jumper day – Wednesday 18th December

Pantomimes in school and party afternoon – Thursday 19th December