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 15th December 2023

Friday 24th November 2023

Well we are very close to the end of term and celebrating Christmas with our friends and family. The autumn term has flown by. I am sure that we are all ready for some relaxing time after the busyness of the Advent season. The children have put on some spectacular shows this year and have enjoyed celebrating, but we must remember the real reason why we celebrate this very special time of year – the birth of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. The greatest gift we can give to anyone is the gift of our love.

We have had a busy week in school and have been grateful to all the parents, friends and family members who have been able to come into school to share our celebrations.

This week, our Year 2 children performed a carol concert for their parents which was great. The children smiled the whole way through. Our Nursery children led us in Christmas Phonics. Year 1 have been practising hard for their nativity ‘Follow the Star’ and performed for parents on Thursday. They were amazing! Our Mini Clares led key stage 2 pupils in prayer and liturgy. They set up six stations for prayer and reflection based around the Advent wreath, Mary, the manger, homelessness, the Christmas journey and the animals.

In addition to this, the children enjoyed their Christmas dinner on Wednesday. On Friday, we took pupils from Y1-Y6 to the Opera House theatre to see Jack and the Beanstalk. This was a wonderful experience for our children to share and we hope that the fun they had remains with them for some time. Our younger children were treated to a visiting pantomime in school and they had a fun-filled afternoon too.

**Next Week**

We finish on Wednesday at 1.15pm, but still have several events booked in for next week. On Monday, we are very proud to be hosting our music showcase at 9.30am. This gives our talented musicians and

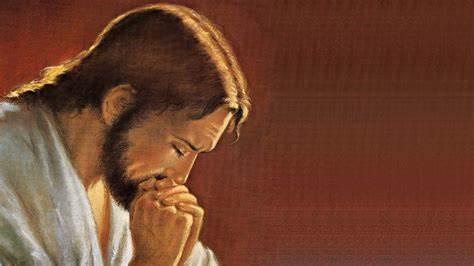
choir a chance to display their God given talents to pupils and family. On Tuesday, we are celebrating our end of year Christmas Mass in church at 9.15am. You are very welcome to join us.

**Assembly**

**Look, I am going to send my messenger before you… Mark 1: 2**

In our assembly this week, we were reminded of how John the Baptist prepared the way for Jesus and announced that Jesus is more powerful than he. Advent is a time for getting ready for us to prepare the way for Jesus. Will we be ready to announce His arrival, like the angels on Christmas Day?

**Morning Prayers**



Our school chapel is open every Tuesday morning from 8.30 -9.00am for parents (and children) to come into school for some private prayer, some time alone with God or quiet reflection.

**Pupil certificates**

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| 15/12/23 | Pupil of the week | Achievement |
| N | To all of the Nursery children for an amazing Nativity show! | |
| RDM | Gilly for a fantastic effort during carpet times | Florence for super phonics! |
| RS | Noarh for always being a kind friend to others. | Nathan for being a super reader in Phonics! |
| Y1D | Olivia K for always being ready to learn. | Lexi for your amazing confidence during our school play. |
| Y1G | Pharell for being such a hard worker all week. | Yaroslav for good behaviour and being focused all week. |
| Y2C | Shay for having an amazing attitude to learning throughout the week | Zane for trying his hardest with his letter formation in Read Write Inc. |
| Y2O | Emiley for always creating such beautiful work and being on task. | Rory for trying so hard with his behaviour this week! |
| Y3F | Nylah for being an excellent pupil in class, always willing to help me and others | Kian for writing a wonderful diary extract in RE as if he was Mary after the visit of Angel Gabriel |
| Y3H | Lilith Davis, for fantastic poetry recital | Isla for gaining lots of confidence in maths |
| Y4H | Roman for behaving very well all week and being super focused on his work. | Dale for writing an incredible poem about the Nativity! |
| Y4S | Ludiana for always doing the right thing and being kind to others. | Joris for fantastic poetry writing! |
| Y5G | Kyle for setting a fantastic example in art club of how to behave and for using his manners: always taking the time to say thank you! | Lewis for making huge improvements to his writing! He worked hard to include a variety of AP sentences to describe a desert island. |
| Y5W | Matiyar for his fantastic attitude towards school throughout the week | Hannah for her fantastic progress in reading over Autumn term. |
| Y6K | Ayla for being a great role model to the class. | Rosalie for a detailed model of a clay heart |
| Y6S | Rowan for being a kind, caring and considerate pupil and always helping others when they are in need. | Ikemba for a lovely persuasive letter in RE written as the prophet Isaiah on the topic of expectations of the arrival of Jesus Christ. |

**Millionaire Reader**

Well done to Etinosa in Year 6 who has now read three million words. What a great achievement!

**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, our award goes to Giovanni in Year 1 for great kindness to his brother.

**Attendance**

Whole school attendance this week is 94.6%

The best class this week is 6k with 98.4% - they will receive a longer break as a reward.

**Teeny Tiny Nativity**

Thank you to the families who have made a teeny, tiny Nativity and sent it into school – they are all amazing. The children are so proud of what they have created and I hope that you enjoyed sharing this little project with your children. The fact that they are made from materials you have re-cycled makes them more special. You can see a selection of some that have been sent into school on our website

<https://www.st-clares.manchester.sch.uk/religious-life-at-st-clare-s>

**Advent Prayer Packs**

We hope that you are enjoying sharing the Advent prayer packs which have been prepared by our Mini-Clares group with your family. 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.

**Christmas Raffle**

We have some amazing hampers which we are raffling. We will be drawing the winning tickets on Monday after our musical showcase and will contact our winners. We have raised an amazing £486 for CAFOD. Thank you all so much for your generosity and for supporting others with love.

**Staffing**

We have two members of staff leaving us this Christmas. Mrs Moorcroft, our Reception teacher and Early Years leader, is leaving us to spend more time with her young family. She has worked tirelessly at St Clare’s for nearly eight years as a dedicated and enthusiastic member of staff. We thank her for all she has done for the pupils of our wonderful school and wish her every happiness for the future.

We are also saying goodbye to Mrs McCorquodale as she retires after 12 years of dedicated service. Mrs McCorquodale has had the privilege of working one-to-one with some of our pupils as well as supporting the class as a whole. We wish her a long, happy and healthy retirement and we hope that she enjoys doing all the things that she hasn’t had time to do whilst working.

**Website**

Our website contains a wealth of information relating to our school. On the class pages, you can see what your child will be studying this half term. If you want to know what your child is learning in a particular subject, you will find the information you need in the curriculum section. There is a section showcasing what we do in relation to our religious life; support for SEND; a selection of key policies; online safety; newsletters; and holiday dates. Please take a look.

<https://www.st-clares.manchester.sch.uk/>

**Support**

As Christmas time draws nearer, we know that there may be some of you who are anxious about how you will cope over the Christmas period. If you feel that we can help in any way at all, please contact Mrs Sylvester at school. We may be able to help or direct you to support for presents or food.

**Christmas Dates**

Monday 18th December – Christmas music showcase 9.30am

Tuesday 19th December – Whole school Mass 9.15am

**Safeguarding**

Christmas can be a stressful time for families and there are more safeguarding reports made during the festive period for many reasons. We all have a duty to look out for and to help protect each other. If you are concerned for a child’s wellbeing or safety over the Christmas holidays, you can contact Manchester’s Children’s Services on the number below.



There will not be a newsletter next week, so on behalf of the pupils, staff and governors of St Clare’s I wish you all a happy and holy Christmas.

We look forward to welcoming you back to school in the New Year. School re-opens on January 8th at 8.50am

Mrs Howe