



St. Nicholas Catholic Primary School

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Executive Principal: Mr N Porter

Love, live and learn with Jesus Christ.

Dear Parents/Carers,

Friday 24th November 2023

Christ the King

This weekend when we go to Mass we will celebrate the Feast of Christ the King. This feast celebrates Jesus' kingship and marks the last Sunday of the church's year. Attending Mass this weekend is a wonderful way to give glory to Jesus.

'After that will come the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, having done away with every sovereignty, authority and power. For he must be king until he has put all his enemies under his feet and the last of the enemies to be destroyed is death, for everything is to be put under his feet.' 1 Corinthians.

Remembrance Board

It has been an honour and a privilege to have the faces and names of deceased loved ones shining down on us from our Remembrance Board during the month of November. The board will be staying up until the end of November so please pay a visit if you wish to. Photos and other items will be returned with care when the board comes down.

Miss Smith

Very sadly, Miss Smith's mother passed away this week after a short illness. Miss Smith will be away from school for a while. Please keep Miss Smith & her family in your prayers during this difficult time.

Wednesday Word

Please follow the link below to enjoy this week's Gospel as a family:

[Click here for the WEDNESDAY WORD](#)

Virtues Wristbands

This half term we are focusing on living out the Gospel Virtues of **ATTENTIVE & DISCERNING**. Pupils are growing to be **attentive** to their experience and to their vocation; and **discerning** about the choices they make and the effects of those choices.

PFA Christmas Fair - TOMORROW (25/11) 2pm-4pm

Our wonderful PFA volunteers have been working so hard to put together a wonderful Christmas Fair. It would be lovely to see everyone there. Father Allen has kindly suspended the parking cameras in the church car park between 9am and 5pm tomorrow to assist with volunteers and visitors parking.

Coats

As the temperatures are dropping, it is **imperative** that every child has a well-fitting, warm coat in school (preferably one with a hood). We are seeing many pupils trying to come outside at break and lunchtime without putting on their coats. Please remind your child/ren how important it is to stay warm. Thank you.

Centrestage Recital - 30th November 2023

Any child who takes Centrestage lessons through school is invited to take part in a recital on Thursday 30/11/23. Parents are also invited to attend. The recital begins at 4pm and lasts for approximately 45 minutes in the school hall. Pupils involved will not be dismissed at 3.30pm, they will have a final 30 minute rehearsal with Centrestage staff. If your child takes part in Centrestage but cannot attend the recital, please drop us an email to enquiry@ to let us know. Thank you.

This week's attendance

Let's find out which class/es had the best attendance this week.

| Year group | % attendance for w/c 20.11.23 | |
|------------|-------------------------------|-----------|
| Reception | 91.3% | BELOW 95% |
| Year 1 | 98.3% | |
| Year 2 | 97% | |
| Year 3 | 93.7% | BELOW 95% |
| Year 4 | 93.3% | BELOW 95% |
| Year 5 | 93.3% | BELOW 95% |
| Year 6 | 97% | |

Well done to Year 1 who are this week's winners! You can negotiate some reward time with Miss Guest.

Lighthouse Preschool

Places are still available for pre school children. If you are interested, please contact Carole Baird on 07590411118.

Rudolph Run - raising money for Birmingham Hospice (formerly John Taylor)

As we have done in previous years, we will be supporting the Birmingham Hospice (formerly John Taylor) by taking part in the annual Rudolph Run.

Hettie the Hedgehog has visited the children to introduce the fundraiser and explain how important the money that they raise is in supporting patients in their hospices.

'By raising £53 this December, your school could pay for a bereavement support session for someone who has lost a loved one; £157 would cover the cost of an OT home visit to help aid independence or even just £20 will pay for a teddy bear containing a voice recording of a terminally ill person which can be treasured by loved ones when they have died. Let's take the reins and help local families living with a terminal diagnosis, by providing the support they need to have the best Christmas possible!'

Every child will be taking part by running laps around the playground wearing their reindeer antlers and you can sponsor your child by using our [Just Giving page](#).

We totally understand the financial pressures that this time of year can bring but even a small donation can make a huge difference.

Maths challenge

Thank You to everybody who has been taking part in the challenge - it's great to see maths being enjoyed by the whole family! If you would like to take part, please email Miss Smith at mathschallenge@stnicholassutton.org.uk and earn two merit marks!

Odd Nut Challenge

Three squirrels ate a total of 25 nuts.
Each of them ate a different odd number of nuts.
How many nuts did each of the squirrels eat?

Find as many different ways to do it as you can.

The graphic includes an illustration of a squirrel on a tree branch and several acorns.

Dates of EYFS/KS1 Nativity Plays & KS2 Advent Prayer Services - 9.30am

- EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 will be performing their Nativity play on **Tuesday 12th December at 9.15am** and **Wednesday 13th December at 9.30am**. Ticket information will be sent closer to the time. Two tickets per family (can be taken as 1 per performance if desired) will be made available to you.

Feedback from our recent Catholic Life, RE & Collective Worship parent survey has shown us that many of our parents would like to join in the prayer life of our school even more. This is fantastic! To this end, please see below invitations from KS2 to join them in Advent prayer:

- Parents & grandparents of pupils in Years 3 and 4 are invited to join them in an Advent Prayer Service at **2.30pm on Tuesday 19th December**. This is not a ticketed event.

- Parents & grandparents of pupils in Years 5 and 6 are invited to join them in an Advent Prayer Service at **2.30pm on Thursday 21st December**. This is not a ticketed event.

Word of the month

idyllic

Definition: extremely pleasant without any dangers or difficulties

Opening the curtains with excitement, the young child was mesmerised to see the idyllic blanket of snow covering his garden.

Synonyms:

Perfect, ideal,
wonderful, peaceful,
unspoiled, charming,
heavenly



Antonyms:

Imperfect, unpleasant,
unattractive, flawed

Young Voices

If your child is part of the Young Voices choir, please use this link to access the music room. Here, you will find backing tracks, lyric videos and the song sheets.

[Young Voices music room](#)

Amazon wish list

'A book is a gift you can open again and again' - Garrison Keillor

Many thanks to everybody who has contributed to our growing classroom library at St Nicholas - it is greatly appreciated. If you would like to purchase a book for school for your child and their friends to enjoy, the wish lists below have been updated. Thank you.

[Reception](#)

[Year 1](#)

[Year 2](#)

[Year 3](#)

[Year 4](#)

[Year 5](#)

[Year 6](#)

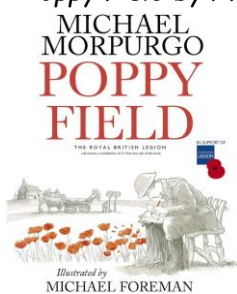
Phonics home links

| Group | Reading | Writing | Words to read |
|--|---|---------------------------|---|
| Mrs Bowen's lilac group | p g o c k | p g o c k | p g o c k Fred games |
| Mrs Connor's lilac group | n p g o c | n p g o c | n p g o c Fred games |
| Miss Beamond's purple group | ow oo oo ar or air | oo ar or | A bad fox Fred talk Red words |
| Miss Guest's pink group | | | In the sun Fred talk Red words |
| Mrs Trappett's and Mrs Vale's orange group | aw are | aw are | A bad fright Fred talk Red words |
| Mrs Maguire's yellow group | | | Off sick Tom Thumb Fred talk Red words |
| Mrs Shephard's blue group | o-e | o-e | The poor goose Fred talk Red words |

Staff book recommendations

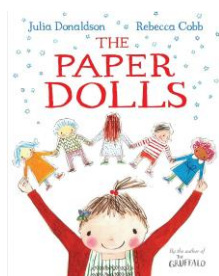
A special recommendation by Mrs Noble-Barton for the season of Remembrance (suitable for all pupils):

Poppy Field by Michael Morpurgo



In Flanders' fields, young Martens knows his family's story, for it is as precious as the faded poem hanging in their home. From a poor girl comforting a grieving soldier, to an unexpected meeting of strangers, to a father's tragic death many decades after treaties were signed, war has shaped Martens's family in profound ways - it is their history as much as any nation's. They remember. They grieve. They honour the past.

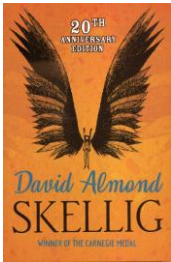
[Click to purchase](#)



A recommendation for KS1 by Mrs Matthews *The Paper Dolls* by Julia Donaldson

A string of paper dolls go on a fantastical adventure through the house and out into the garden. They soon escape the clutches of the toy dinosaur and the snapping jaws of the oven-glove crocodile, but then a very real pair of scissors threatens...

[Click to purchase](#)



A recommendation for KS2 by Miss Guest

Skellig by David Almond

When a move to a new house coincides with his baby sister's illness, Michael's world seems suddenly lonely and uncertain. Then, one Sunday afternoon, he stumbles into the old, ramshackle garage of his new home, and finds something magical. A strange creature - part owl, part angel, a being who needs Michael's help if he is to survive. With his new friend Mina, Michael nourishes Skellig back to health, while his baby sister languishes in the hospital. But Skellig is far more than he at first appears, and as he helps Michael breathe life into his tiny sister, Michael's world changes forever... [Click to purchase](#)

Dates for the diary

| | |
|--|---|
| (Sat) 25/11/23 | PFA Christmas Fair in school hall - 2pm to 4pm |
| 30/11/23 | 4pm - Recital involving all pupils who take 'Centrestage' lessons |
| 5/12/23 | KS1 theatre trip |
| 5/12/23 | 5pm - PFA meeting in the hall |
| 7/12/23 | Reception Class Curriculum Workshop - 9am to 10am |
| 12/12/23 | EYFS & KS1 Nativity Play at 9.30am - TICKET ONLY |
| 13/12/23 | EYFS & KS1 Nativity Play at 9.30am - TICKET ONLY |
| 15/12/23 | Last Achievement Assembly of the term |
| 19/12/23 | Years 3 & 4 Advent Prayer Service - parents invited - 2.30pm |
| 21/12/23 | Years 5 & 6 Advent Prayer Service - parents invited - 2.30pm |
| 22/12/23 | End of Autumn Term - last day in school for pupils |
| CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS W.B 25/12/23 & 1/1/24 | |
| 8/1/24 | Start of Spring Term - pupils back in school |
| 23/2/24 | Young Voices concert |
| 15/4/24 | INSET Day - school closed to children |
| 4/7/24 | INSET Day - school closed to children |
| <u>PFA events</u> | |
| 25/11/23 | Christmas Fair from 2pm-4pm |
| 20/12/23 | Christmas Disco from 3.30pm-5pm |
| 5/7/24 | Summer Festival from 4pm-6pm |

God bless,

Mr Porter
Executive Principal

Mrs Noble-Barton
Head of School

Miss Smith
Assistant Head



St. John Paul II Multi Academy

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