



ENGLISH MARTYRS

CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY



Newsletter

20th December 2024

COMING UP

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| Mon 6th Jan | Back to school! Y5 Swimming | Drama 3.30-4.30pm |
| Tues 7th Jan | Flute lessons PM | |
| Wed 8th Jan | Drum lessons PM | Piano lessons PM |
| Thurs 9th Jan | Y1 Swimming Guitar lessons AM | Drum Lessons PM |
| Fri 10th Jan | 9.15am Nurture Assembly for parents Piano lessons AM | LAMDA lessons PM Celebration Assembly 2.45pm |

NOTICES

• Parent Governor Vacancy

We have a vacancy for a Parent Governor. Please contact the office if you would like more information.

• Pictures of St Joseph's

Do you or your families have any historic pictures of celebrations in St Joseph's parish? Please let the office know if you do!

• Wraparound bookings

Remember to book your Breakfast and After School Club session for next term on Arbor.

• Arbor payments

Just a reminder to please bring any debit balances up to date for the new term. Thank you.



Dear families,

As we reach the end of another busy term, I would like to thank you for your ongoing support and partnership. We are so blessed to have our wonderful community, and I hope that you all have the time to relax, celebrate and create cherished memories with your loved ones this Christmas. Our children continue to flourish, and the various Christmas performances and carol concerts have showcased their talents and enthusiasm. They have been fabulous! I would like to also extend thanks to all of the staff, governors and FEM for their hard work and dedication. We look forward to welcoming you back at the start of the new term. Have a happy and peaceful Christmas.

Best wishes,
Mrs Brown



Happy Christmas

BIRTHDAYS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Y3 - Abigail, Ruby
Y4 - Mabel, Y5 - Adam
Y6 - Elizabeth

CHRISTMAS TREE

A big thank you to Tesco, Oakham for the lovely Christmas tree donation. The children did a great job with the fantastic decorations too!



PRAYER

Light two purple candles and the pink candle on your Advent wreath this week. Say this prayer together as a family: God of joy, be with all the people in the world who are sad, bringing your presence and light. Hear our prayers of joy: (share your family's intentions) Help us to bring joy to others. Amen



St Joseph's Church

Keep up to date with the Parish news [here](#).

VIRTUE OF THE WEEK

Faith

Happy Retirement

GOODBYE MRS KEANY



We had a beautiful whole school Celebration of the Word for Mrs Keany on Wednesday to wish her a happy retirement! The children, staff and families all thanked her for her 21 years of service and commitment to all the children she has helped over the years. It was lovely to see past members of staff, past pupils and parents, as well as current parents come together to celebrate Mrs Keany. The children gave her a memory book that all the children had contributed to and she also received a special retirement rose bush and a voucher from parents. We will miss Mrs Keany very much but she will always be part of our English Martyrs family.

EYFS EXTRAVAGANZA!

The children in EYFS enjoyed their extravaganza on Monday! They had fun taking part in Christmas crafts and they treated the audience to a mini Nativity play! A big thank you to all the families who came along.



THE POLAR MUSUEM

On Thursday Year 5 had a virtual live session with The Polar Museum in Cambridge. This linked in with their work all about Antarctica and Shackleton's Journey. The session was extremely interesting - they found out so much more about Antarctica, different expeditions and the children had some challenging questions!



KS2 CAROL CONCERT

Well done to our KS2 children who attended the KS2 carol concert at St Joseph's on Wednesday. They sang beautifully. Thank you to the families who attended.



FEM NEWS

Thank you to everyone who bought hamper raffle tickets. The lucky winners were:

Heidi Y4

Freya Y4

Logan Y5

Evelyn Y3

The total amount raised was **£369!**
A big thank you to everyone who donated items.

MP CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION

Well done to Orla who was a runner up in Alicia Kearn's annual Christmas card competition this year. She received a special teddy from the House of Commons and her design will be inside Alicia's 2024 Christmas card.



GOODBYE

We say a sad goodbye to Zoltan, Clair, Leo and Assumpta who are leaving us today. We wish them all the very best in their new schools, we will miss them very much!

MASS IN SCHOOL

We had a lovely Mass in school today to celebrate Christmas. Thank you to Father Stephen for coming in and to the children who read beautifully. Thank you also to Mrs Topping for arranging the Mass.



REINDEER RACES

This week Y4 and 5 joined forces for a special Christmas themed PE! They played reindeer races, developing essential skills such as agility, speed and stamina. And teamwork, of course!



STAFFING UPDATE

We are delighted to say that as well as working in After School Club, Mrs Reeson will now be working in Y3 part time as a teaching assistant and 3 days a week as a lunchtime supervisor.

