



Dear Parents and Carers,

It's the 1st December and it is certainly beginning to feel a lot like Christmas here in school! Rehearsals are in full swing for both our productions – quite a challenge – many schools do not arrange such performances as we do! The standard of singing and acting I've seen/heard in rehearsals so far is wonderful. Thank you to all our parents who have helped with costumes, we do appreciate all your help. We just need everyone to stay fit and healthy, and keep those bugs at bay!

Spotlight On... St Vincent's Mini Vinnie's



On Monday we held our own Commissioning Ceremony at which we officially welcomed our new members of St. Vincent's Mini Vinnies. Mr Brown and Mrs Flood from the St Vincent de Paul society presented our children with certificates and badges. These children are dedicating time to help others and to organise events for the whole school to do the same. They have already launched their first project, the reverse advent calendar – letters regarding this were sent out earlier this week. All items of food will be donated to a local food bank to help those less fortunate than ourselves.

Attendance –

Reception	97.9%	Year 4	96.6%
Year 1	96%	Year 5	97.4%
Year 2	95.3%	Year 6	95.3%
Year 3	98.7%		

Awards

Courtesy Award – Good manners and polite behaviour.

Merit Award – Super work and effort in a particular area of the Curriculum.

Good Conduct Award – Excellent attitude in all aspects of school life.

Year Group	Good Conduct Award	Courtesy Award	Merit Award
Reception	Mikolaj S	Isla T	Rocco T
Year 1	Ava B	Alice A	Issac K
Year 2	Joe V	Sienna N	Daniel N
Year 3	Giorgio V	Georgie M	Sarah A
Year 4	James S	Kelsey B	Timmie J
Year 5	Aurora M	Ollie K	Polly F
Year 6	Oliver N	Kayla D	Liam H

Christmas Performances

Our KS2 productions take place next week on Thursday evening and Friday afternoon. Please note that admission is strictly by ticket only and pre-school aged children may only attend the afternoon performance. The hall will be very full and priority for seats will be given to those with the greatest need.

Tickets

Letters have been sent home today with Christmas Performance tickets details. Please check schoolbags!

Christmas Lights

A selection of children from our FS/KS1 classes will be singing at the switching on of the Christmas lights on Saturday in the town centre. Our slot is at 3.50pm, so don't forget to come and cheer us on.

Advent Mass

You are all very welcome to join us for the Advent Mass which takes place at school at 9:30am Tuesday next week. This is wonderful opportunity to join us as we begin that special journey to Christmas Day.

Theatre trip – Treasure Island

We are all looking forward to our theatre visit to the New Vic on Friday 15th December to see Treasure Island – the productions at the New Vic are always first rate. I am sure it will prove to be a fantastic day out and a great way to finish the school term. We will leave school shortly after 9am and be back about 1.30pm. Letters with further details will be sent home tonight.

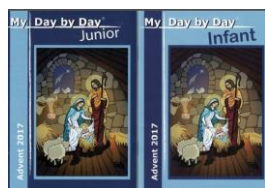
Please do remember to return your slips with payment and indicate whether you need some financial assistance regarding transport. This trip is a highlight of the year and it is lovely to see the animated faces of all the children as they watch the performance.

Influenza

On Wednesday 6th December Reception, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3 and Year 4 pupils will receive their Flu vaccine (nasal spray). If your child has already received the vaccine from your GP then please inform the office via email.

Christmas Dinner – advance notice reminder

The Christmas Dinner will be on Wednesday 13th December this year. The menu will be a traditional roast turkey dinner. Even though this may seem a bit too far in advance to think about – it will certainly help our kitchen ladies to be able to plan ahead for the event. If your child wishes to have a Christmas dinner, please return the form that was sent out last week (only if your child normally has packed lunch).



Advent Resources for sale

A reminder that we have booklets for sale to support your journey through Advent this year. The Infant and Junior Booklets are 50p. They can be purchased from the office, or you can send money in an envelope.

Party Days

All children are able to come to school in party clothes on Wednesday 20th December for their Christmas parties.

Parent Readers

Unfortunately there will be **no parent readers** next Wednesday morning due to Fluenz vaccine.

Polite Reminder

Parents are not allowed to park or turn into the staff car park unless they have been given permission to do so. This is for the safety of all children, parents and staff. Thank you for your understanding.

Message from Damian Cunningham, Director of Schools

I hope this finds you well. Last year the Government promised to lift the 50% cap on faith admissions for new religious schools. This policy had proved to be an effective ban on any new Catholic schools as our Bishops ruled that opening a Catholic school that turned away Catholics for being Catholic was against Canon Law.

The 50% cap was a policy that specifically targeted Catholics as Catholic schools are popular with parents of all faiths and none. Last September the Government acknowledged the cap was unfair to the Catholic community and pledged to scrap it. The Conservatives even included a commitment to remove it in their manifesto.

Unfortunately, the feedback we are getting is that the Secretary of State for Education is thinking about U-turning on this and breaking the Government's promise to Catholics.

The Catholic community now needs to make its collective voice heard and tell the Secretary of State that this level of discrimination against Catholic schools, parents and children will not be tolerated.

As such we are urging Catholics to write to the Secretary of State and their MP expressing their concern that this promise to our community could be broken. These letters can be easily sent by following this link,

(www.catholicnews.org.uk/education-cap) inserting your postcode and clicking 'send'. Also attached is a letter from Bishop Mark to all clergy of the Diocese.

Also, it would be hugely appreciated if you could share this link with as many people as possible.



Breakfast with Santa - Saturday 2nd December

With just 1 more sleep till our 'Breakfast with Santa' event on Saturday, Santa Claus, Mrs Claus and all the Elves are looking forward to welcoming our 134 expected guests. While our little guests enjoy a healthy breakfast there will be sausage finger rolls, bacon baps, tea, coffee and mulled wine available for our adults to purchase. Raffle tickets will be on sale throughout the morning so don't miss out on your chance to win with some amazing prizes! There will be lots of exciting activities taking place in the school hall to entertain our guests throughout the morning, including face painting, nail varnishing, writing letters to Santa, guess the name of the reindeer, creating Christmas wreaths and a lucky dip to name a few. There will be a selection of Christmas wreaths on display. Thank you to everyone who has volunteered for this special event. We look forward to seeing you tomorrow.



Christmas Trees for Sale – Knutsford Scouts

If you are planning on purchasing a real Christmas Tree this weekend then please pop along to Mobberley Scout Hut, Hall Bank, Mobberley WA16 7JB. The trees are on sale Saturday 2nd & 9th December & Sunday 3rd & 10th December from 8am until 2pm. There is free delivery in three mile radius of Knutsford or Mobberley, so there is no excuse!



Children decorating the Christmas tree today

The Week Ahead

Subject	Start Time	End Time
Monday 4th December 2017		
Y4/ Y5 – Remember Musical Instruments		
Multisports	15:15	16:15
Tuesday 5th December 2017		
Whole school Advent Mass	09:30	10:00
No Mad Science (has now finished)		
Choir Practice	15:15	16:00
Wednesday 6th December 2017		
No Parent Readers		
Fluenz Vaccine R, Y1, Y2, Y3 & Y4		
Gardening Club	15:15	16:00
KS1 Football	15:15	16:15
Y1 & Y2 Christmas Craft Club	15:15	16:15
Streetdance	15:15	16:15
Y5 & Y6 Hockey Taster at Knutsford Leisure Centre	15:15	16:30
Thursday 7th December 2017		
Indoor Athletics (Rec – Y4)	15:15	16:15
Y3 & Y4 Mixed Football at Knutsford Leisure Centre	15:30	17:00
KS2 Christmas Performance	18:30	19:30
Friday 8th December 2017		
KS2 Christmas Performance	14:00	15:15
KS2 Football	15:15	16:15

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