

St. John's RC Primary School

Love one another, as I have loved you

Newsletter: Issue: 13 Friday 11th December 2025



Headteacher's message

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we move into the second week of Advent, our school community continues to prepare our hearts and minds for Christmas. Thank you to all the families who joined us for our Advent Stay and Pray session—it was a peaceful and reflective opportunity to come together during this special season.

This week has been full of joy and celebration across the school. Our EYFS Nativity and KS1 Nativity performances were wonderful occasions, showcasing

the children's enthusiasm, confidence, and hard work. A heartfelt thank you to all the staff involved for their creativity, organisation and dedication in preparing the children so beautifully. We are really proud of all of the children and it was lovely to feel the sense of community and festive spirit brought by these performances.

Our Year 6 pupils enjoyed their residential at Kilvrough, where they embraced new challenges, strengthened friendships, and represented the school brilliantly. We extend our sincere thanks to the staff who accompanied them, ensuring the children had such a memorable, safe, and enriching experience.

We were also grateful to welcome Fr. Phillip, who visited school to carry out Reconciliation with our Year 4 and Year 5 pupils. This was a meaningful opportunity for reflection as we journey through Advent.

On Thursday, we enjoyed celebrating Christmas Jumper Day together. It is always a cheerful highlight of the season, and we appreciate your support in helping us spread festive spirit throughout the school.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. Wishing you a wonderful weekend.

Warm regards,
Mrs McGeehan

Prayer

This week we celebrated the second week of Advent, where we pray for peace.

Loving God, In this busy season, help us make space for stillness. Teach us to listen with patience, to speak with kindness, and to act with courage when others need our help.

May Your peace guide our school community— in our classrooms, on the playground, and in our homes. Let us be peacemakers who bring calm where there is stress, understanding where there is conflict, and hope where there is worry.

As we journey toward Christmas, open our eyes to small moments of joy and our hearts to those who need extra care this season.

We ask this with gratitude and hope.

Amen.

Christmas Dates

Christmas Craft Afternoon

We are delighted to invite you to our Christmas Craft Afternoon on Wednesday, 17th December at 2:30pm. This is a wonderful opportunity to come into your child's classroom and join them in a range of festive craft activities. The children are very excited to share this special time with you, and we hope the afternoon will be a joyful way to celebrate the season together. We look forward to welcoming you into school and enjoying some creative Christmas fun!

Farewell and Best Wishes to Miss Bingham

As we come to the end of this term, we would like to take a moment to share some special news. Our wonderful Deputy Head, Miss Bingham, will be beginning her maternity leave, and on behalf of the whole school community, I want to extend our heartfelt congratulations and best wishes.

Miss Bingham is an exceptional leader, colleague, friend and role model for our pupils. Her dedication, warmth, and unwavering commitment to our school have made a lasting impact, and we are incredibly grateful for everything she has contributed. While we will certainly miss her presence over the coming months, we are delighted for her as she begins this exciting new chapter.

We look forward to welcoming her back once she is ready, and in the meantime, we wish her health, happiness, and all the joy that comes with welcoming a new baby

Oracy Question of the week

Human Rights Day (10th) Why should everyone be treated fairly?

Attendance

Our whole school attendance for the week is: 93%. This is currently sitting just below our target of **96%**. With one week to go, we have a real opportunity to finish the term strongly and reach our goal. Every day in school makes a difference—both to learning and to the routines that help children feel settled and confident. We appreciate your continued support in helping your child attend regularly and arrive on time. Let's see if we can make a final push together and end the term on a high.

The class with the highest attendance, at 98%, this week is Year 6.

Year Group	Present R/C: Marks (%)
Reception	92.78%
Year 1	90.71%
Year 2	96.3%
Year 3	96.4%
Year 4	83%
Year 5	94.85%
Year 6	98%



🌟 Certificates and Celebrations 🌟

This week's awards go to

EYFS Nursery Reception	Syrus Claire
Year 1	Marthy
Year 2	All of Year 2
Year 3	All of Year 3
Year 4	Inioluwa
Year 5	Sanchez
Year 6	On residential
Headteachers Award	Year 1
Attendance Award	Year 6
Wrap Around Care	Catherine



Catholic Life



This term's values are:

Autumn 2: learned and wise.

Learned: learning how God wants us to live our lives

Whether we are young or old, we should never stop learning about what God wants of us. We learn many new things each day. By reading the Bible, listening to our teachers and listening to our hearts, we learn more of what God wants.

Wise: knowing how God wants us to live our lives and putting it into practice. God is always with us and hoping that we will live our lives in the right way, following the teachings of Jesus.

Chaplaincy Team

This week our Chaplaincy Team helped to put together the donations for our reverse advent calendar. The support with this has helped bring our school community together in such a meaningful way, and we are truly grateful for everyone's generosity. Thank you to all families who contributed—your kindness will make a real difference to those in need this season.



Upcoming Mass times

As we continue our journey through this special season of preparation and reflection, I would like to warmly invite you to join us for our upcoming school liturgies.

We will be celebrating our Advent Mass on Thursday 18th December at 10:00am. This is a wonderful opportunity for our whole school community to gather in hope and anticipation as we prepare for Christmas.

After the holiday, we will come together again for our Epiphany Mass on Tuesday 6th January at 10:30am, marking the visit of the Wise Men and the joyful continuation of the Christmas season.

Your presence at these celebrations means a great deal to the children and to our staff, and we hope you will be able to join us.

St. John's in Pictures

WOW... The KS1 team are bursting with pride at such an amazing Nativity Performance this evening 🎄 . They are all super stars!

The children have worked so, so hard to learn their lines off by heart, speak loudly and clearly, learn actions to songs, learn when to come on and off stage and have performed with such confidence - we could not be prouder!!! It takes many, many hours to put the Nativity together and the children have just blown us away! ★ 😄 ★

Thank you for your ongoing support and we hope you have a wonderful, happy Christmas break with your families.

Best wishes,
The KS1 team 🎄



This afternoon, we took part in some tricky den-making. We didn't have any instructions or pictures to help us, but we still did a super job!

In RE this week we looked at the visitation and how Mary and Elizabeth recognised and welcomed the presence of Jesus.



Key Dates December

Monday 15 th	KS2 Carol Concert St John's Church
Wednesday 17 th	Christmas Craft Afternoon
Thursday 18 th	Whole School Advent Mass Christmas Dinner day
Friday 19	End of Term 13:00 finish

★ EARLY CHRISTMAS FINISH ★

A gentle reminder, that on Friday 19th December, school finishes at the earlier time of 1:00pm. There is no after school club provision as all children need to be collected by 1:00pm.

The new Term will start on Monday 5th January