



# St John's Catholic Primary School

## December 2017



***So you also must be ready. The Son of Man will come at a time you don't expect him.***

*Matthew 24:44*

Well we are nearly there!

There have been lots of bugs around this term and we are now firmly in the season of coughs and colds. Constant reminders about hand washing can reduce the spread of germs and so please reiterate this message at home to help us all to stay fit and healthy.

The impact of the germs on attendance can be seen below. Target 96.7% Attendance since 1<sup>st</sup> November.

EY2:92.37% Y1: 97.46 Y2: 95.29% Y3: 95.9% Y4: 96.03% Y5: 96.55% Y6: 93.10%

The impact of lateness is harder to quantify but the number of children arriving after 9:00 is once again creeping up. The minutes between 8:50 and 9:00 are used to change reading books, complete editing of previous work and provide pre-teaching to some children. Please ensure your child is in school in plenty of time so they can start the day smoothly alongside their peers.

Thank you for the feedback received in response to the SEND parent questionnaire. If you wish to find out further information regarding SEND please see the school website for details. Use the Statutory Tab to find the SEND page. We hope you have a very Merry Christmas and the children enjoy a well-deserved rest.

### Advent Art Week

The children and staff rolled up their sleeves last week to decorate the school ready for Advent.

The themed displays are also an interactive advent calendar with a treasure hunt feel. They feature the prayers of the children to help us slow down and remember what advent is all about and you can find one for each day of December by searching for the numbers in the right order.



### Christmas Extravaganza

Congratulations to the PA for all the hard work and creativity that went into creating a fantastic evening.

There was lots to do and plenty of laughter. It was lovely to see so many people supporting the event.

### A Big Thank You

As a school we are interested in how the children feel about their learning. We conduct a termly pupil voice to survey a group of children across Y1-6 and across 6 subjects. Overall the children spoke positively about learning. They have noticed improvements particularly in RE, Reading and Maths and enjoyed using the new table tennis tables. The maths feedback from years 1-3 was extremely positive about the new teaching resources and how much these have helped them to learn. The impact of the new reading books was also positive:

*"I can sound out long words." Y1*  
*"They aren't ripped anymore, the old ones had pen in them where people had written in them." Y3*  
*"I like them better now, and there is more range than the old ones." Y6*

The PA provided the funding for the maths resources, reading books and table tennis tables and so a huge thank you for all your hard work and generosity in 2017. It has had such a positive impact on the lives of the children at St John's and is very much appreciated by all the staff. Well done to the PA team and good luck in 2018.



### Feed The World 2050 - Food Security

*The state of having reliable access to a sufficient quantity of affordable, nutritious food.*

The children considered how we would feel to have beans on toast for every meal including Christmas Day. As we are all made in the image of God, please support the Reverse Advent Calendars and keep in your prayers those whose food supply is limited in both supply and variety, particularly in the lands of Jesus' birth.

### Looking Ahead

8 <sup>th</sup> December	Occasional Day – School Closed
11 <sup>th</sup> December	Clarinet Christmas Concert
12 <sup>th</sup> December	Wheelchair Basketball Festival
13 <sup>th</sup> December	Nativity Dress Rehearsal 9:30am
14 <sup>th</sup> December	Nativity Performances 1:30pm & 6:00pm
15 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Jumper Day
18 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Lunch
19 <sup>th</sup> December	Advent Mass in Church 10am
20 <sup>th</sup> December	End of Term – School Closes at 2pm
5 <sup>th</sup> January	School Opens
10 <sup>th</sup> January	Mass in School 10am
22 <sup>nd</sup> January	Year 6 to KTS for The Wizard of Oz