

Dear parents, children, staff, and parishioners,

# During December we journey into Advent as we begin a new church year: "Slow down; Be ready."



We have continued to use Advent as a time of preparation, and this week we have ensured that we have been preparing our hearts to welcome Jesus at Christmas time. The lead up to Christmas is always such a busy time, and we, as a school, have fully embraced the festivities and have really tried to bring the joy during this special time of year. However, as much as we are enjoying the hustle and bustle of 'tinsel term' (as I like to call it!) we also must take time to slow down and reflect upon the magical event that is about to happen on Christmas Day. Children, during their prayer times, have reflected upon the peace that Jesus brought with him when he entered the world and thought about how they could bring and promote peace in the world today. For them, it was simple: show kindness to all, respect each other's differences and to never stop believing that good can happen - and personally, I couldn't have said it better myself!

The First Week of Advent has been a very busy one for us at St Gregory's! After we had cleared away the glitter (thank you to our wonderful cleaning team!) from our very successful Advent Art Day last Friday, we have spent the first week of Advent preparing our school and our hearts to welcome Jesus on Christmas day!

It was also lovely to see a number of families and staff members joining with the Coventry Catholic community to sing, reflect and pray together at the Blessing of the crib in the town centre last Sunday.

Our blessing of our Christmas Tree and Advent Wreaths was a beautiful service on Monday. Thank you to Father Sebastian for coming in to bless our tree and wreaths. Advent is a time of joyful preparation and the children in all year groups have been preparing and practising for their Christmas performances. The children are looking forward to sharing these with you in the weeks to come.



# First Sunday of Advent ~ Whole School Mass

Thank you to those children who attended our Whole School Mass on Sunday 3rd December to mark the First Sunday of Advent! We were overwhelmed with the number of you in attendance and this made for a lovely celebratory Mass! Fr Sebastian would also like to extend his thanks to those families who supported the Parish Bazaar afterwards too! It was a wonderful occasion and provided festive cheer!

# ☆ Star of the Week ☆

Our Celebration Assembly was full of joy this week as we were told of all of the children's fabulous achievements.

Congratulations to all of our Stars of the Week!

Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
n/a	David	Elsie	Kaylen	Tireni	Arina	Bobby	Tofunmi
	P.E. Days (come to school dressed in P.E Kits)						
n/a	Friday	Thursday & Friday	Tuesday & Thursday	Wednesday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Wednesday
House Poi	House Point Winner		Weekly Winner: Belgrade ~ 360! Overall Winner: Belgrade ~ 1247				
Gifts and Talents		Evie-Mae for her success in her Taekwondo Grading Maisie and Millie for their wonderful Irish Dancing Deepak for his player of the match award!					

### St Greg's is off to the Panto!

On Wednesday 20th December, children in Reception – Year 6 will be off to watch Jack and the Beanstalk at the Royal Spa Centre in Leamington. If you wish for your child to attend this trip, please sign them up via the trip section on Arbor. The cost for this trip is £12 (we have subsidised this by paying for the coaches out of school fund!).

We are very much looking forward to this experience – it is set to be a great afternoon out and something that will get us all in the Festive Spirit

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**Telephone:** (024) 7645 5900 ■E-mail: admin.sq@romeromac.com Website: www.stgregorys-coventry.org.uk

Executive Principal: Dee Williams Associate Principal: Megan Scullion



# Saint John Fisher Catholic Church

Tiverton Road, Coventry CV2 3DL Telephone: (024) 7644 3439 Website: https://www.sjfcov.org/

■E-mail stjohnfishercov@yahoo.co.uk

Parish Priest: Father Desmond Devenney Mass Times Saturday 6.30pm Sunday 9.30am & 11.30am









All children in KS2 (Yr3 4 5 6) will be taking an active part in our annual Carol Service "When Love was Born." We want all the children to be present to share with us the real meaning of Christmas and the staff are working hard to make this a very special reflection as we journey towards Christmas and the birth of Jesus. Please put this date in your diary. It is an expectation that all children attend. If in exceptional circumstances your child is unable to attend, we request this in writing please.

The service is open to families of St Gregory's and our St John Fisher Parish Community, and we do hope that you will be able to join us.

### Nursery/Reception Nativity Plays

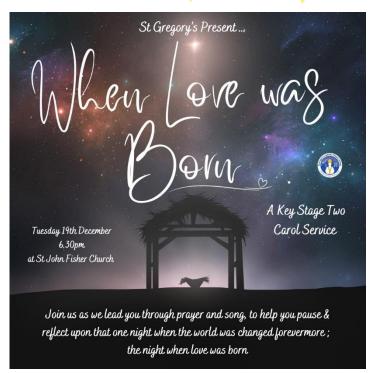
Reception supported by Nursery will be sharing their Nativity "I-Spy Christmas"

on Tuesday 12th December 2023 at 2pm and Wednesday 13th December 2023 at 9.30am

# Year 1/Year 2 Nativity Plays

Year 1 and Year 2 will be sharing their Nativity "Prickly Hay"

on Tuesday 12th December 2023 at 5.30pm and Thursday 14th December 2023 at 9.30am



This term, we will be holding an Achievement Award ceremony. These Awards now take place in the second half of every term so that we are able to celebrate and highlight some of the key children's achievements in each year group. If your child has been selected to receive an award, you will have received an invitation via email. We can't wait!

Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	9.00am	Key Stage 2 Achievement Awards (invitations via email)
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	9:00am	EYFS Achievement Awards (invitations via email)
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	9:00am	Key Stage 1 Achievement Awards (invitations via email)

## Rock Steady Concert!

On Tuesday afternoon, the school was treated to a rock concert from those children who have been involved in our Rock Steady Music Lessons. The children took to the stage in order to share how they have progressed with playing their instruments and really showcased how much they are enjoying the experience of becoming rock stars too! Thank you to those parents and carers who also came along to share their support – it was so lovely to see the children beaming with pride!







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Issue 11: Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2023



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### Christmas Dinner

On Thursday  $21^{st}$  December we will be having our annual Christmas lunch, cooked by Mrs Mockford and Ms Hill. All children in Year R/1/2 will get a "free" meal. If any children who are not on school dinners would like a meal, there will be a charge of £2.40. All children will be allowed to come in wearing a festive hat, headband, hair attire for the day. It is still FULL school uniform for the day. All the staff will be eating with the children during lunchtime, and myself and Mrs Priest will be helping serve! We cannot wait!

### **Outstanding Debts**

We would like to remind parents that there are a number of outstanding debts for such things as dinner money, Care Club and educational visits that must be cleared. If your Arbor balance is in debt, please could we ask that you see to this matter as soon as possible. Thank you.

## Reception September 2024

Reminder that applications close on January 15th for places to start Reception on 1st September 2024. Please note, even if your child attends St Gregory's nursery and you wish for them to attend our Reception, you must still fill in an application as a place is not automatically guaranteed. To apply click here!

Please also contact the school office if you would like to take a tour- we wholeheartedly recommend you visit so you can see all the school in action and fully experience the Catholic ethos on offer.

### Year 2 SATs tests

From 2023/2024 new government guidance has now come into effect: KS1 (Year 2) SATs are no longer statutory for schools to implement. This means that children currently in year 2 will not have to take these types of tests. Instead, they will take the same style of tests as in Year 1/3/4/5 using our PiXL framework. This will enable us to conduct the tests in a balanced way, which will support the children's wellbeing, whilst providing the academic information needed to support their journey of learning. If you have any queries, please come and speak to us.





### Welcome to the new member of Team St Greg's - Ralphie!

This week, we welcomed a visitor ... Ralphie the Christmas Elf! He has begun, what could be come to known as, the biggest game of hide and seek the world has ever seen! Each day of December, Ralphie hides somewhere in school and the children have to try and find him. Once they do, they mark their class chart! If they manage to find Ralphie each day in December, they earn a special treat!

We have all been loving this challenge and can't wait for it to continue!

Ralphie – ready or not, here we come!



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Mass Times Saturday 6.30pm Sunday 9.30am & 11.30am



Nursery	99.28%
RECEPTION	94.07%
YEAR 1	95.48%
YEAR 2	97.24%
YEAR 3	98.33%
YEAR 4	97%
YEAR 5	97.33%
YEAR 6	97%

# St Gregory's Attendance

THIS WEEK'S WHOLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE PERCENTAGE IS

96.83%

WE ARE AIMING FOR AT LEAST 97%

<b>Attendance</b> There are 190 days in a school year				
(9)	<b>⊕</b> ∅�����	<b>3</b>		
	100%	>>> Perfection		
% equates to				
4 Missed school days	98%	>>> Impressive		
8 Missed school days	96%	>> Good		
9 Missed school days	95%	>> Nearly, there		
Missed school days	94%	>>> Needs to improve		
19 Missed school days	90%	Concerns		
29 Missed school days	85%	>>> Serious concern		

The children and staff at St Gregory's enjoyed a festive fun run on Wednesday, when they were all invited to participate in a Jingle Bell Jog, complete with Christmas tunes, glitter and sparkle!! The theme was 'break the rules', and the children were encouraged to break as many rules as possible while completing the run! We had crazy hair, funny faces, Christmas hats and jumpers, and tonnes of tinsel, glitter and face tattoos! Mr Lindley had set up a Jingle Bell Jog track on the playground and the children and staff all ran around the circuit to very loud Christmas music. After doing the Jingle Bell Jog, the children then did Jingle Bell Star Jumps and a Jingle Bell Jig before heading back into the classroom. The children enjoyed this so much we even had Christmas music on the playground at lunchtime! All money raised will go towards the cost of the coaches for transporting children to the pantomime later in the month!









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# St Gregory's Advent Calendar FOR THOSE IMPORTANT DATES YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS!



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
4 <sup>th</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup> December 1 <sup>st</sup> Week of Advent	2.15pm Blessing of the Advent Wreaths and 'Nativitree' Assembly		Nursery — Year 6 Break the rules Jingle Jog	Years N/R/1/2/3/4/5/6 Advent Class prayer times (9:00am) for parents to join us in Prayer	Day of Service: Whole School Social Action project - feeding the homeless
11th – 15th December  2nd Week of Advent	9:30am EYFS Dress Rehearsal 1.30pm Key Stage 1 Dress Rehearsal	9am KS2 Achievement Awards 2pm EYFS Nativity Performance 5:30pm KS1 Nativity	9:30am EYFS Nativity 1:30pm CAFOD World Gifts Assembly	9.30am KS1 Nativity	9am EYFS Achievement Awards 1.30pm Year 2 Christingle Workshop
18th - 22nd December 3rd Week of Advent		9:00am KS1 Achievement Awards  PM Father Christmas to visit EYFS & KS1  All day KS2 Carol Service Rehearsal  6:30pm KS2 Carol Service at Church	Rec — Y6 Pantomime Visit to see 'Jack and the Beanstalk'	AM Rolling worship morning 11:30am – 1:15pm St Gregorys Christmas Dinner Christmas Jumper Day!	9.15am Final Mass of Term  2pm Step into Christmas  3.15pm finish for Christmas Holidays (school closes)



Issue 11: Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2023





### Week at a Glance

Date	Time	Activity		
Value and Virtue — Attentive and Discerning				
Second Week of Advent				
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	9.30am and 11.30am	2 <sup>ND</sup> Sunday of Advent Parish Mass at St John Fisher Church with Fr Sebastian		
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	All Day	Nativity Dress Rehearsals		
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	9am	KS2 Achievement Awards		
	PM Rock Steady Lessons			
	2pm EYFS Nativity 'I-Spy Christmas'			
	5.30pm	KS1 Nativity Performance 'Prickly Hay'		
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	9.30am	EYFS Nativity 'I-Spy Christmas'		
	PM	CAFOD World Gifts Assembly		
	3.30pm	Netball Game vs St Patrick's Away		
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	9.30am	KS1 Nativity Performance 'Prickly Hay'		
_	3.30pm	Netball Game vs St Thomas More Home		
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	9am	EYFS Achievement Awards		
_	PM	Year 2 Christingle Service		
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	9.30am and 11.30am	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent Parish Mass at St John Fisher Church with Fr Sebastian		

Have a wonderful weekend!

Megan Scullion

Mrs Scullion Associate Principal



Toutholic Prom	R E D O P T I O N	Y E L L O W O P T I O N	BLUE PURPLE ORANGE OPTION
мом	Sausage and Mash,	Vegan Sausage Roll	Jacket Potato
	with Vegetables and	with Mash and	with
	Onion Gravy	Vegetables	Tuna/Cheese/Beans
TUE	Chicken Curry with Rice and Baby Naan	Vegetables Samosas with Rice and Baby Naan	Jacket Potato with Tuna/Cheese/Beans
WED	Traditional Roast Meat	Quorn Roast Fillet	Jacket Potato
	with Roast Potatoes,	with Roast Potatoes,	with
	Veggies and Gravy	Veggies and Gravy	Tuna/Cheese/Beans
THU	Beef Cottage Pie with Vegetables and Gravy	Macaroni Cheese, Mixed Seasonal Vegetables and Garlic Bread	Jacket Potato with Tuna/Cheese/Beans
FRI	Battered Fish or	Cheese and Tomato	Jacket Potato
	Salmon Nuggets, Chips	Pizza and Chips with	with
	and Beans or Peas	Beans or Peas	Tuna/Cheese/Beans



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Part of The Romero Catholic Academy



1st) £100 - Maria Marshalsea (claimed)

2nd) £50 - Faye Bridge (Claimed)

3rd) £25 - Tracey Allen

4th) Bottle Of Malt Whiskey - Emma Flynn

5th) Bottle of Champagne - Raji Joshy (Claimed)

6th) Bottle of Bells Whiskey - Mary D

7th) £20 Millpool Gift Voucher - J Abbott

8th) Meal for 2 with wine of choice at the Town Wall Tavern - Conway

9th) £20 Milpool Gift Voucher - N Upton

10th) 2 Traditional carvery eals at the Walsgrave - F Clark

11th) £10 Voucher for Malt Kiln Farm Shop -

12th) Voucher for K9 Devine - M Griffin 13th) £10 "I Love Latte" Voucher - Z

14th) Selection of L'Occitane hand creams - Joy

Pululu

15th) Bottle of Wine (donated by Devonshire Arms) M McNally

16th) Thunderball Ticket (donated by Kennedys News) M-Marshalsea (Claimed)

Congratulations to all the winners and thank you to everyone who supported the raffle and bazaar. Please contact Cathy O'Toole at St John Fisher Church to claim prizes.

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