

St John Evangelist Catholic Primary School

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Issue 7

NEWSLETTER



DATES

Wednesday 1st December

Year 6 pupils will attend a Carol Service at Westminster Cathedral
Children will not return to school until 4:15pm

Friday 10th December

Christmas Fair (Please discuss with Brigid / Mandy if you can volunteer your time)

Wednesday 15th December

Christmas Lunch for children

Friday 17th December

Last day of school
Children finish at 2pm

Stephen Royal, Bright Futures, continues to be in school every Monday from 9:00 - 12:30. Please email the office for an appointment.

Twitter

Please follow St. John's on Twitter @stjeN1 to see exciting updates about the children's learning and events in school.

Advent is here...

"Advent is a journey towards Bethlehem. The birth of Jesus brings us the good news that we are loved immensely by God"
Pope Francis

During this time, we think about ways that we can give to others and show love and kindness in all that we do.



Bambinelli

The beautiful Advent Tradition, Bambinelli Sunday, was instituted by Saint Pope John Paul II during his Papacy. The tradition follows that on the Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday) children and adults bring their Baby Jesus figures from their homes to St Peter's Square where they are blessed by the Pope. The children are going to create a model of Baby Jesus, Fr Jakub will bless these and they will be sent home to open on Christmas day.



Star of the Week (week beginning 15th November)

Well done to the following children who have shown particular dedication to their work, excellent behaviour choices or kindness to their peers. The children enjoyed hot chocolate with cream, chocolate sprinkles and marshmallows.



Mercury – Charles
Venus – Ella-Mae
Mars – Amen
Jupiter – Matan
Saturn – Leah
Neptune – Matthew
Pluto – Shia

Spirituality day

On Monday 29th November, we began the season of Advent with a spirituality day. On this day, we prayed through music, art and meditation. Please look at twitter to see what the children have been doing.

Reading Raffle

Each week, children who have read every evening will be entered into the reading raffle and one child from each Key Stage will be picked out and the child will win a new book.



Well done Leah and Sophie

Sunday 28th November Gospel according to Luke

"There will be strange things happening to the sun, moon and stars. The son of man will appear with great power and glory. When these things happen, stand up and raise your head. Be careful not to let yourselves become occupied by day to day life. Be on watch and pray always."
Jesus spent these days teaching in the Temple. Early each morning all the people went to the Temple to listen to him.

Follow us on Twitter @stjeN1

Advent prayer sessions

During Advent, Fr Jakub is going to join us each Tuesday for a short prayer and blessing.

30th November – Sun, Stars, Moon

7th December – Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars

14th December – Jupiter, Saturn, Neptune, Pluto

**Advent wreath prayer
Week one**

Let us pray - Loving God, we thank you for the hope you give us. Help us prepare our hearts for the Lord's coming by being open to seeing the light of Christ in others. We ask this in the name of the one born in Bethlehem, Jesus our Lord.
Amen

Gifts for those less fortunate

As in previous years, we are asking for kind donations of socks, scarves, hats and scarves for those that will attend Christmas dinner at the church on Christmas Day. Please wrap the gifts and write male or female on the tag.

Class News this week**Sun Class – Nursery**

We will be reading 'The Tiger Who Came to Tea' and our nursery rhyme will be 'Hey Diddle Diddle'. This week our focus is the start of Advent.

Moon and Stars Class – Reception

Stars and Moon had an exciting week of learning. We recapped important sounds a,e,i,o,u in phonics and have learnt that these are vowels and they are in every word. The children have learnt about maps and used maps to help Little Red Riding hood find her way to Granny's house. We have also been finding patterns in the inside and outside environments and have been making our own repeated patterns.

Mercury Class – Year 1

Mercury Class have been getting ready for Advent and have made Bambinelli's to take home ready to open on the third Sunday of Advent.

We have made some beautiful stars for our Advent display too which we all decorated and finished with our photos.

Venus Class – Year 1 and 2

This week in Venus class, we have been starting our Advent preparations. We designed an Advent candle and discussed ways that we can bring light to people's lives throughout the time of Advent. We also created our Jesse tree decorations to go onto our school Christmas tree.

Earth Class – Year 2

This week in Earth Class we have began some of the preparations for Christmas, by getting our Advent display ready. We created angels, using lots of gold and silver glitter! In Maths we have been working on shapes and looking at shape patterns and shapes in our environment. We have been looking at Materials and their properties in Science.

Mars Class – Year 3

Mars Class have been working hard on their reading. Last week we had a visitor to the school who listened to some of Mars Class read and was very impressed. This week we will be creating Advent mosaics using scripture.

Jupiter Class – Year 3 and 4

Jupiter Class have been focusing on Advent in our RE lessons. We have looked at the traditions and symbols of Advent and created a class book to show how Christians prepare for the coming of Jesus at Christmas time.

Saturn Class – Year 4 and 5

To begin the season of Advent, Saturn class have been looking at Mafa Jesus art and used this as inspiration to create their own Christmas cards.

Neptune Class – Year 5 and 6

Neptune Class have been exploring the O Antiphons based on the reading from Isaiah. The O Antiphons are seven titles of Jesus that are prayed during the week leading up to Christmas Eve. Please ask your child what they have learnt.

Pluto Class – Year 6

Pluto have got a very exciting week planned! We've got architects coming in as part of our Walls and Barricades topic and we are going to Westminster Cathedral to join a Nativity. A very busy week!

Advent Giving Calendar (attached to the Newsletter)

Advent is a special season in the Church's year when we prepare to celebrate the coming of Christ. However, for many people experiencing food poverty, Christmas can be a difficult time. Food insecurity has increased by 250% during the pandemic, and last year, 8.4 million people in the U.K. regularly did not get enough to eat. This Advent Giving Calendar is designed for you to use this season as a time to think about those who might be struggling, and do your bit to help them in the run up to Christmas. It gives you a way to reach out to those going hungry by following along each day and making up a food parcel. As the effects of the pandemic are still being widely felt, this act of generosity will be needed this Christmas more than ever.

How to use the Advent Calendar (attached to the Newsletter)

Each day in Advent, find the corresponding angel on the calendar which will tell you what you need to buy / donate. Bring the item to school and place in the numbered box at the infant gate (Ms Daniels will be there to direct you).

At the end of the term, we will take the donated items to a food bank for those who need them.

If a date occurs at the weekend (or after we finish for the holidays, you can donate these on Monday / Friday). Ms Daniels will send a text each day so you know which boxes will be available.