

# St Mary and St Peter Catholic Primary School



8th December 2023

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Through nurturing trust and strong relationships, our learning adventure will see each and every one of us thrive in God's love.



## Whole School Advent Mass

Thank you to Father Alvan for leading our Advent mass in school today. The children shared prayers for their families; for peace around the world; that people remember the real meaning of Christmas; to look after our planet; for those who are sick and weak and those who have died; and with Mary our mother, one of the patrons of our school.



## Advent

On Monday we celebrated the start of advent - a special time when we get ready for the coming of Jesus. Jesus asks us all to keep watch for him so that we will be ready when he comes. This week we are going to think about how we can make sure we are ready for Jesus when he comes again. We will be sharing the Gospel Value of 'Hope' by helping others, being kind, sharing our love and peace. We are going to be showing our kindness to all.



### **Mini Vinnies**

The Mini Vinnies were busy spreading Christmas cheer on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December. They created Christmas cards for the residents of Gresham care home and sang lots of festive songs.



### **Christmas Fair**

We were thrilled to see such an amazing turnout on Tuesday night for our Christmas Fair. The children had worked hard on their craft designs and it was lovely to see them take pride in showing them off at the sale. Thank you to everyone who contributed and to all the parents and staff who stayed behind to help.



### **Bracelets Buy Presents**

A big well done has to go to Abi, Eden and Flora who came to see me a couple of weeks ago with an idea of raising money for less fortunate children. They wanted to use their skills to make jewellery to sell and use the profits to buy Christmas presents for underprivileged children. The girls have given up lunchtimes to sell their wares and raised a total of £78.00. The proceeds will be given to Action for Children through their Secret Santa scheme. If you are interested in the work of Action for Children, the girls have shared some information below:

**What is a charity Secret Santa?** Each year, we ask people to **be a charity Secret Santa for a vulnerable child** with Action for Children by donating directly to our appeal. Because for vulnerable children across the UK, Christmas is anything but magical. No stockings. No presents. No festive food - maybe no food at all. But your gift could change this. You could help a vulnerable child feel the magic of Christmas. Being a Secret Santa means you could buy a child the essentials of warm clothes, a hot meal, or a special present just for them. We know the magic of Christmas begins in childhood. And with



your help, we could give more children the Christmas they deserve this year.

<https://www.actionforchildren.org.uk/support-us/secret-santa/>



#### **Sounds 4 Christmas**

As if a Christmas Fair isn't enough for the children and staff at SMSP, the KS1 choir also managed to squeeze in an amazing performance of Christmas songs at the Drill Hall only 2 hours later. A mixture of Year 1 and Year 2 children performed in front of a number of different schools, entertaining parents and parishioners. Splendidly accompanied by Mr Hardy on the piano, they were an absolute delight and represented the school with gusto and enthusiasm.



### **Christmas Performances**

Please enter through the rear hall door. After the performances have finished, please exit out of the same door. Children should be collected by their adult from the classroom as per a normal dismissal and the gates will be open for access.

### **School Values**

**Believe, Love,  
Respect and Trust.**

With Christ at the centre of  
all we do we Believe and

### **Upcoming Events**

- Tuesday December 12th **Christmas Performance** from 3:15pm  
- 4:30pm and involves all children from Reception to Year 6.
- Thursday 14th December Christmas Performance from 1:30pm  
- 2:45pm Reception to Year 6

Trust in Him to help us to show Love and Respect to all.



- EYFS are collaborating for an additional performance so that Nursery children can participate on Monday 18th December. Their Nativity takes place from 10:45am - 11:30am.
- The ever-popular **Carols by Candlelight** returns for another year on Wednesday 13th December.
- The week is rounded off with **Christmas jumper day** and **Christmas dinner** on Friday 15th December. Christmas dinner **MUST** be pre booked on Aspens. No meals can be booked on the day.

### School Vision

We believe that even with God's love we can sometimes experience challenges. Just like our patron saints, Mary and Peter, they experienced difficult times in their life that took strength and perseverance to overcome. At our school, we value this challenge and encourage children to experience it, knowing that together with our support and love, they will experience a successful outcome be it in an academic subject or through social experiences. We are all exploring our own talents and each day we

**'Set Sail for Success'**

### New Parent Governor

We begin the New Year by welcoming Mr Evans to the governing body as a parent governor. Thank you for offering your time to work as part of the governance team.

### School Dinners

We have noticed that some children are not eating much dinner and they are saying that they don't like what has been ordered for them. Please can you check with your child which items they would prefer from the menu as these can't be changed once ordered.

### Children In Need

Thank you to all the families who contributed to Children In Need. We are amazed to say we raised a total of £247.50.



### Warm and Well at Norfolk Libraries

If you are finding it difficult to make ends meet, visit [your local Norfolk library](#) to pick up free Winter essentials. You will be able to collect items such as blankets and hot water bottles, as well as toiletries like deodorant, shampoo, body wash and toothpaste, should you or your family need them.

Our Tricky Period initiative is also running in our libraries, where you can get free sanitary products. Sustainable items are also available whilst stocks last, including menstrual cups, washable pads, and period pants.

Free hot drinks are also available during staffed hours, please check with your local library for times.

All items are free, with no questions asked - simply pop into your local library and tell a staff member what you need.

**Key Dates:**

**Carols by Candlelight 13th December**

**Christmas Performances please go on Wisepay to reserve tickets. Only two per show. Must be pre ordered**

**Tuesday December 12th 3:15-4:30pm (Rec - Y6)**

**Thursday 14th December 1:30-2:45pm (Rec - Y6)**

**Friday 15th December 9-10am EYFS Christmas Cafe**

**Friday 15th December - Christmas Jumper Day**

**- Christmas Dinner Day**