



Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School

Earlsbury Gardens, Birchfield, Birmingham B20 3AE

Tel: 0121 356 4721 email: enquiry@sacredheart-sch.net

Executive Principal: Mr. G M O'Hara

4th December 2020

Dear Parents,

Advent is the season of preparation and hope, leading to the celebration of the birth of Jesus, which brings us the good news that we are loved unconditionally by God. This Sunday's Gospel is also filled with hope. John the Baptist points away from himself towards Jesus. John makes it clear that it is Jesus that the people should follow: the hope of the world. Pope Francis reminds us, "Hope is a strength, a grace and a gift from God".



“Lord, open my heart, mind and ears to receive your Word.”

It is written in the book of the prophet Isaiah: "Look! I am sending my messenger ahead - he will prepare your way." John the Baptist was a prophet who lived in the desert. People from all around came to him and John told them to change their ways and prepare to welcome the Lord.

As they were baptised by him in the river Jordan, the people confessed their sins. John told them, "I baptise you with water, but someone is coming soon who is more powerful than I am, and he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit."



"Always know in your heart that God is by your side. Let us never lose hope!"

Pope Francis

**The Wednesday word is
Hope**

Academy Food Bank

It is wonderful that Sacred Heart can work with the other schools in our academy to support each other. As part of this faith in action, during the month of December, we will be asking parents to donate whatever food they can to school. This will be then gathered together with donations from the other MAC schools to help support all families who need it. We would be very grateful for donations of: beans, pasta, rice, any tinned goods, sugar, flour or long life milk.

If any families need support, please remember we are always here to help. Parents may call the school office and speak to Mrs Craig, or if you feel better about emailing, you can email school using this confidential email address. family@sacredheart-sch.net

Votes for Schools

In KS2 this week, the children have been discussing whether social media make it easier to talk about disabilities? The younger children in KS1 have been talking about whether celebrities help us talk about disabilities?





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Advent and Christmas activities



Things are obviously very different this year but at Sacred Heart we are doing everything possible to ensure that the children still understand the true meaning of this season and prepare for the coming of Jesus at Christmas (maybe with a few special treats too!)

KS1 Nativity

The children in KS1 will be performing the story of The Birth of Jesus in their classes during Advent. This is a fundamental way for the children to truly understand the greatest story ever told. We are sad that parents cannot come into school to see this special event but photographs will be taken for all parents to see. Please make us aware if you do not wish your child to be photographed for the school website.

Christmas Jumper Day

On **Friday 11th December**, it is Christmas jumper day. The children can wear their festive clothes on this day for a donation of 50p towards St Chad's Sanctuary.

Christmas Cards

Children will be allowed to bring in Christmas cards to school during the week beginning **7th December**. The children can deliver them into their class post boxes upon arrival to school. We ask that cards are given to those only in your child's year group. Anything from home needs 72 hours of quarantine to be shared, therefore, the cards will be handed out on **14th December**. We will not be allowing Christmas cards into school after 11th December.

Christmas Dinner

The children who normally have school dinners will have their Christmas lunch on **Wednesday 16th December**. The children may wear their own clothes on this day.

Determined December- Reading challenge

Miss Joseph, the Reading Champions and Sarwa, Michael, Charis and Kwabena have been thinking of some wonderful ideas to get children in school reading. They want your children to '*Advance their reading in Advent*'. They are challenging children to choose some exciting books to read, create book reviews for other children and create their own blurbs for books. Remember- reading with your child is the key to everything!

KS1- Polar Express Day

On **Thursday 17th December**, KS1 will be having a special Polar Express day. On this day, there may be a special visitor in a red suit who might bring them all a small gift just in time for Christmas! The children can come to school in their pyjamas or a onesie with a special teddy from home to enjoy the treats that staff have prepared for them. We will send more details next week.





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Christmas raffle

The children have been working really hard to prepare for Christmas by earning raffle tickets for their efforts in their work, wonderful behaviour and displaying our school virtues. We have been inundated with amazing prizes for the children to choose from- this is just a small pile!

Please encourage your child to do their very best so they have a chance of choosing a special gift on **Wednesday 16th December**. Every child who has earned a raffle ticket will receive a treat.



Dates to remember

- Week beginning- 7th December- donations of food for food banks.
- Week beginning 7th December- Christmas cards to be sent to school
- Friday 11th December- Christmas jumper day- 50p donation
- Wednesday 16th December- Christmas lunch
- Wednesday 16th December- Christmas raffle
- Thursday 17th December- KS1 Polar Express Day
- Friday 18th December- own clothes day for the end of term

Praise certificates: Congratulations to the following children in school who have been praised this week: Angelo, Chiamaka, Diarra, Xavi, Anisur, Sarwa, Nicoloy, Yoh, David, C'Asia and Jhenaya.

Gospel Virtues:

This week the following children have displayed their wonderful virtues of being **intentional** and **prophetic**. Alisha, Vhenice, Enzo, Efrata, Prince, Deborah, Is'Haq, Aaron, Valery and Mailis.

Presentation Award: Well done to the following children who have shown such pride in their work this week: Eziah, Daoud, Ezra, Idrees, Noah, Meliyah, Tavia,, Diya, Karen and Timari.

The winning houses for the last two weeks were St Mark and St John.
Congratulations to all of the children for their hard work.

Thank you for your support.
Have a lovely weekend.

Stay safe
Yours sincerely

Mr G M O'Hara
Executive Principal

Mrs G Elliott
Acting Head of School

Mrs D Cooper
Acting Vice Principal

