



Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School

Earlsbury Gardens, Birchfield, Birmingham B20 3AE

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

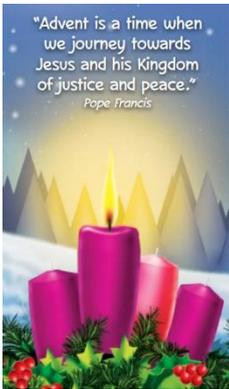
Executive Principal: Mr. G M O'Hara

27th November 2020

Dear Parents,

The countdown is about to begin – Christmas is coming. This Sunday we begin to celebrate the season of Advent, a time of waiting and preparation. Now is the time to think especially about, and look forward to, the celebration of Jesus' birth and to his return in the future. Well, since it's Jesus who is coming – are you waiting eagerly? The message is clear: we are to 'stay awake!' A little extra daily prayer throughout Advent is a great way to do this – to be alert to Jesus' presence around us. The Sunday's Gospel reminds us to 'stay awake' – to see if there are any ways that we could make a change for the better. Advent is a time to increase our good deeds. Even small acts of kindness bring more of Christ's light into our world and make us ready to welcome Jesus at any time.

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



Jesus said to his disciples, “Be on your guard, stay awake, because you do not know when the end time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad; he leaves his house and puts his servants in charge, each with his own task, and orders the doorkeeper to stay awake. So, stay awake - because you do not know when the Master of the house is coming; it may be evening or midnight, cockcrow or dawn. If he comes unexpectedly, he may find you still sleeping. What I am saying to you now, I say to everyone: Stay awake!



“Advent is a time to prepare our hearts to receive Jesus.”

Pope Francis

The Wednesday word is Advent

Advent activities

During the season of Advent, there will be many lovely events happening in school for the children. As a family, you may wish to spend some time reflecting with you children about the true meaning of this season. These websites help the children to prepare by counting down to Christmas using the interactive Advent calendars. All children will be bringing home an Advent calendar on Monday and their Walk with Me booklet which helps to guide them through their reflections each day.

<https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Primary-teaching-resources/Advent-calendar-for-children>

Parental concern

A parent has spoken to the leadership team today to praise Mr Watchorn's efforts in keeping us all safe by reminding all visitors on site about wearing face coverings, social distancing and parking in a safe way. We are very fortunate to have members of staff supporting us all in this way.

However, this parent also raised concerns and expressed his disappointment at the manner in which some parents and carers are being very rude and abusing Mr Watchorn. A reminder for all caregivers that we have a zero tolerance policy in staff being treated in this way.





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School lunches

Last week, we had a discussion with Year 6 regarding their opinions of our school dinners; the results were generally very positive as you can see. If you wish for your child to change to school dinners, or packed lunches, then we need at least one week's notice of this in writing. We will continue to seek the children's opinions about their lunches and act on any issues that arise.

Year 6 school lunches pupil conference	
Comments	<p>"I like them. They're delicious. I like the potato and pasta"</p> <p>"I like the cheese and ham sandwiches."</p> <p>"I had pizza, chips and fruit. It was ok. The pizza had more tomato sauce."</p> <p>"I had chicken tikka, pizza and chips. I choose to have it because I like it."</p> <p>"I had pizza, chips and jelly and I really liked it."</p> <p>"I like it. It's better quality."</p> <p>"I like it. There are days that I ask for school dinners because I have packed lunches."</p> <p>"I would have dinners again."</p> <p>"I like the sausages, they were nice."</p> <p>"I have pasta and pizza but I don't like it."</p> <p>**"Someone told me to take the skin off my chicken and it was pink."</p>
Actions	<p>**This issue was discussed with the lunchtime supervisor on duty who was confident that all food was cooked thoroughly on this occasion. The children had made the member of staff aware at the time so she was able to check.</p>

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

This week, KS2 children have been discussing the parts of American culture that appeal to them and whether we are influenced by what happens in other countries. KS1 have been thinking about whether it is important to vote.

Results in your school





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Birthday parties

The children had a wonderful time yesterday celebrating their birthdays with their friends who have had birthdays since the start of the academic year. There were lots of special drinks and food, dancing, party games, crafts and treats. A special thank you to all the staff at school for donating money to make this happen for your children and to our school Governor, Mark Mills, who generously donated too. The children were thrilled as you can see from the photographs below.



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