



Newsletter



Issue 14 12th December 2025

St Catherine's Catholic Primary School, S4 7BX

0114 3030381

Mission Statement

Our mission is to behave in the way that Jesus taught us:
that we are all equal and that we should behave kindly and humbly towards each other.

Christmas Disco Party



Thursday 18th December 2025
3:15 to 4:45pm

Children who have signed up for the disco will go straight from class, all children need to be collected from their classroom at the end of the party at 4:45! If you will be collecting early, you **MUST** let the teacher know on the morning of the disco – there will be nobody in the office to fetch them, we'll all be dancing!



No uniform on disco day, children can wear their Christmas jumper if they have one, or party clothes! Please wear sensible shoes though, it will be a normal day of learning and playing until the disco starts!

10% of the takings will be donated to the Save the Children Christmas Jumper Appeal



Save the Children

Contact us: enquiries@stcatherines.academy or www.stcatherines.academy/contact



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What week is it for school dinners on Monday 15th December?

Parent Information | School Meals

Please see the Packed Lunch Policy on the school website

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WEEK THREE	FAVOURITES MONDAY	WORLD TUESDAY	 MEAT or VEGETARIAN No jacket potatoes or sandwiches today!	PIZZA PARTY THURSDAY	FISH FRIDAY
Main Meal Option	Beef Burger with Home-baked Potato Wedges	Mild Chicken Curry served with Mixed Rice		Margherita Pizza with ½ Jacket Potato	Fish Fingers & Chips
Vegetarian Meal Option	Vegetable Burger with Home-baked Potato Wedges ^{VG}	Macaroni Cheese		Sweet & Sour Vegetables & Sunny Rice ^{VG}	Crispy Vegetable Fingers & Chips ^{VG}
Vegetables	Sweetcorn, Baked Beans	Broccoli, Cauliflower & Carrots		Broccoli or Sweetcorn	British Red Tractor Garden Peas, Baked Beans
Sandwiches	Cheese	Tuna Mayo		Tuna Mayo	Cheese
Wraps	Tuna Mayo Wrap	Cheese Wrap		Cheese Wrap	Tuna Mayo Wrap
Baked Jacket Potatoes	Jacket Potato with Cheesy Beans, Tuna Mayo or Cheese or Beans	Jacket Potato with Cheesy Beans, Tuna Mayo or Cheese or Beans		Jacket Potato with Cheesy Beans, Tuna Mayo or Cheese or Beans	Jacket Potato with Cheesy Beans, Tuna Mayo or Cheese or Beans
Dessert	Chocolate Oaty Slice ^{VG}	Syrup Sponge Pudding & Custard		Vanilla Cookie & Fruit Slices ^{VG}	Iced Sponge Cake

Dates to Remember and Other Important Things!

New information is highlighted

Sunday
14th December 2025



Week 3 of Advent



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Monday 15 th December 2025	Raffle Tickets on sale this week 	20p each, available from the office! Tickets will also be on sale in Breakfast Club.
Monday 15 th December 2025	Parent Workshop CHIMP "Planning Ahead – looking after yourself"	This workshop is from 2:00pm to 3:15pm, and will help you with remaining calm for your child. Please enter by the school office entrance.
Tuesday 16 th December 2025	 Y4IF Local Walk	Y4IF will be going to Loxley Court Nursing Home to sing Christmas Carols for the residents!
Tuesday 16 th December 2025	Nursery parents are invited to join our Christmas Activities from 8:30 to 9:30am! Children can wear Christmas jumpers, party clothes, or non-uniform!	
Tuesday 16 th December 2025	Advent Assembly Y4EB "Love"	Parents and family members are welcome to join us, the assembly starts at 9:15am in the school hall (not CCC), sorry but we are not able to admit latecomers as this will distract the children. Please enter through the staff car park to the KS2 building (near Y4 gate).
Wednesday 17 th December 2025	Reception to Year 6 Parent Coffee Morning Parent Voice	
Wednesday 17 th December 2025	Christmas Dinner!	Christmas roast dinner! On this day, there will be two dinner options (RED or GREEN), no jacket potatoes or sandwiches!

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Wednesday 17th December 2025	F2WS Nativity 	<p>Parents and family members are welcome to join us, the Nativity starts at 2:30pm, please enter by the school office. Sorry but we are not able to admit latecomers as this will distract the children.</p>
Wednesday 17th December 2025	First Holy Communion forms must be returned to school by the end of today 	<p>Letters have been sent home to all Catholic children in Year 3, and to those Catholic children in Year 4 to Year 6 who have not yet received this sacrament. The letter invites the children to sign up for the programme of preparation for First Holy Communion.</p> <p>If you are not Catholic, but would like to find out more about how your family can join the Catholic Church, please speak to Father Albert after Mass, or call or email ... his details are on the Diocese of Hallam website: https://hallam-diocese.com/parishes/st-catherine-of-alexandria-burngreave/</p>
Thursday 18th December 2025	Reception classes Local Walk	<p>Children will be walking to the post box, to post their letters to Father Christmas!</p>
Thursday 18th December 2025	Nursery parents are invited to join our Christmas Activities from 8:30 to 9:30am! Children can wear Christmas jumpers, party clothes, or non-uniform!	
Thursday 18th December 2025	Year 2 Nativity 	<p>Parents and family members are welcome to join us, the Nativity starts at 9:00am in the school hall (not CCC), sorry but we are not able to admit latecomers as this will distract the children. Please enter through the staff car park to the KS2 building (near Y4 gate).</p>



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Thursday 18th December 2025	Year 1 to Year 6 Christmas Disco 	<p>Non-uniform day for Year 1 to Year 6. The disco starts straight after school and children need to be collected from their classroom door at 4:45pm. Children can wear their Christmas jumper if they have one, or party clothes – please make sure their shoes are suitable for the school day though! 10% of the takings will be donated to the Save the Children Christmas Jumper appeal. Please sign up on</p>  <p>THERE IS NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUB TODAY, AND NO CRICKET!</p>
Friday 19th December 2025	Reception Class Party	<p>You can come to school dressed in party clothes for an afternoon of festive fun!</p>
Friday 19th December 2025	Christmas Raffle	<p>The raffle will be drawn in the afternoon, tickets are on sale in the school office, 20p each!</p>
Monday 22nd December 2025 to Friday 2nd January 2026	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY – SCHOOL IS CLOSED	
Monday 5th January 2026	<p>Back to school for Spring 1 half term</p> <p>This is the closing date for ordering school milk ... if your child is eligible for income based free school meals and has milk already, you do not need to do anything – if they <u>don't</u> have milk already, please email school using the address at the bottom of the page to request that they are added to the milk list (this includes children who have recently had their 5th birthday).</p>	
Thursday 15th January 2026	<p>If your child was born between 1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022, you need to apply for their school place before the closing date of 15th January 2026</p>	



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A Culture of Safeguarding at St Catherine's

Bargain hunters urged to stay alert to cyber scams ahead of holiday shopping season

The latest **Stop! Think Fraud** campaign provides practical advice to help individuals stay secure online. Online shoppers looking for savings over the festive period are being urged to stay alert to potential scams and secure their accounts.

Monday 17 November marked the launch of the nationwide Stop! Think Fraud campaign which provides trusted, practical guidance to help individuals and small businesses protect themselves from cyber criminals at a time when many people will be looking for deals online.

Scammers will often deploy underhand tactics, claiming that offers are only available for a limited time or that products are scarce, to manipulate people into acting quickly, parting with money or personal information.

Some £11.8m was lost to online shopping fraud over last year's festive shopping season (from 1 November 2024 to 31 January 2025), according to data from the City of London Police, the operational lead for tackling fraud nationally.

Check the shop is legitimate: check reviews on trusted websites before you buy.

Secure your important online accounts: **turn on 2-step verification (2SV)** for all your important accounts to instantly toughen up your online security, even if your password has been compromised. It creates an extra layer of security making it harder for fraudsters to access your information.

Check out and pay securely: check out 'as a guest' if you can, don't allow the website to store your bank/card details. Never pay by direct bank transfer and use a credit card (if you have one). If you use payment services such as PayPal, Apply Pay or Google Pay, check what cover they provide.

Beware of delivery scams: if you receive a message or a phone call about a delivery, stop and think if the request is genuine. Don't click links in unexpected messages. Check a request is genuine by contacting the organisation directly.

Individuals are encouraged to report suspicious emails, text messages or fake shop websites to the **NCSC**, which works with partners to analyse, investigate and take down malicious content.

NCSC (The National Cyber Security Centre) can be contacted here: <https://www.ncsc.gov.uk>



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Attendance and Punctuality

The highest attendance in school this week was 99.4%

Well done to the following class for the highest attendance:

Y5EH




You'll be having a little treat for the highest attendance!

**The best punctuality this week was
Y3JN, Y3MS and Y6ED with ZERO lates!**

Well done to your children and their families!

Overall school attendance for last week was:

95.3%

Class	Teacher	Lates	% Attendance
F2AS	Mrs Atkinson and Miss Sweeney	8	93.1
F2WS	Mrs Wood and Mrs Stables	11	93.3
Y1AM	Miss Morris	1	95.0
Y1LF	Miss Franks	2	92.3
Y2DH	Mr Hawksworth	6	97.3
Y2NR	Miss Rodgers	5	96.3
Y3JN	Miss Ng		91.0
Y3MS	Miss Suleiman		96.2
Y4EB	Miss Brian	5	96.6
Y4IF	Miss Frost	5	95.7
Y5EH	Miss Huddleston	4	99.4
Y5OW	Miss Willis	10	94.3
Y6ED	Miss Drinkhill		96.2
Y6RR	Mrs Ralph	4	97.4



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MERIT WINNERS – well done to all of you!

Y1AM	Noel	For always being so kind to everyone in our class, and for impressing Miss Morris with his amazing handwriting!
	Hazel	For being very thoughtful this week, thinking hard about others in the class and how she can help them, joining in so calmly with our Advent reflections!
Y1LF	Chikamara	For impressing Miss Andrew with her Read, Write Inc skills!
	Toby	For smashing his Read, Write Inc Phonics, he's been working so hard and it's paying off!
Y2DH	Enea	For working hard in Maths over the last few weeks, resulting in great progress!
	Danny D	For being a sensible and kind friend in the classroom!
Y2NR	Robyn	For blowing Miss Rodgers away with all of the learning she has been able to remember this term, and her confidence when talking or writing about it!
	Nahum	For working extremely hard on his emotions this term, and for contributing so well in all lessons!
Y3JN	Eyob	Mrs Woodhouse chose these two winners for impressing her lots in Reciprocal Reading, their partner reading has been brilliant, and they've worked well together and been incredibly supportive!
	Fenan	
Y3MS	Angelo	For impressing Miss Suleiman with his Literacy Big Write, the story of Romulus and Remus, very impressive adjectives in the retelling!
	Yulia	For coming up with great ideas when helping to plan the Celebration of the Word!
Y4EB	Abu-Bakr	For his amazing knowledge and enthusiasm in our History learning on the Golden Age of Islam!
	Aariz	For making great choices in class, and always sitting so smartly on the carpet, and setting a good example to others!
Y4IF	Zakariya	For trying hard to complete his tasks with good presentation and detail!
	Lidiya	For working hard to put her answers into coherent and descriptive sentences!
Y5EH		
Y5OW		



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Y6ED	Mo	For a fantastic contribution to our Advent assembly, and for working hard during Maths learning!
	Munibah	For being so kind to her friends in the Lodge!
Y6RR	Elyom	For fantastic commitment to her work, and a beautifully presented project book!
	Lawi	For putting in lots of effort and really impressing Miss Haywood in Maths!



Wonders of the Week

Audrey and Mariya, Year 5

For getting into the Christmas spirit and making staff smile!

Yard Winners: Year 5





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Advent

Sunday 30th November 2025 marks the beginning of Advent and the start of a new liturgical year in the church calendar.

What is advent?

Advent means 'coming'. It is a four-week season dedicated to preparing for the arrival of Jesus at Christmas time and the return of Christ at the second coming. Each week of advent focuses on a different theme—hope, peace, joy and love. In school our Y4 and Y6 classes will be helping us to prepare during this season with their wonderful advent assemblies, details of which are on the school newsletter. In classrooms and shared prayer spaces our altar cloths will change to purple, a colour that signifies repentance. Each class has their own advent wreath and will gather around it daily to think and reflect upon the advent season. We wish you and your families a peaceful and prayerful Advent season.

Prayer of the Month - December

Act of Contrition

O my God,
because you are so good,
I am very sorry that I have sinned
against you,
and with the help of your grace
I will not sin again.





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Mini Vinnies Reverse Advent Calendar 2025



This year during the season of advent the Mini Vinnies chaplaincy team have decided that they would like to run a reverse advent calendar again. Instead of receiving things during the season of advent we would kindly request that our school community bring in items that we can then in turn donate to Burngreave food bank. Burngreave foodbank do fabulous work to help local people in our area. A link to their website can be found here:

<https://burngreave.foodbank.org.uk/>

We would be extremely grateful if you could bring in any of the items in the list below. You do not need to bring in something every day. Just one item would be an amazing help. Your child can place the item around the prayer area in their class.

We also understand that it is a time of financial worry for us all, so if you feel it more appropriate, you may prefer to make a festive bookmark, Christmas craft item or a card for your collection box instead of buying something.

We will start receiving donations into classrooms from Monday 1st December

Yes
Tinned beans
Tinned fruit
Tinned Veg
Tinned tomatoes
Tinned soup
Rice
Cereal
Biscuits
Tinned fish
Cartons of fruit juice
UHT long life milk
Instant mash
Pasta sauce
Cooking oil
Shower gel
Shampoo
Deodorant
Nappies size 5&6
Small jar of instant coffee



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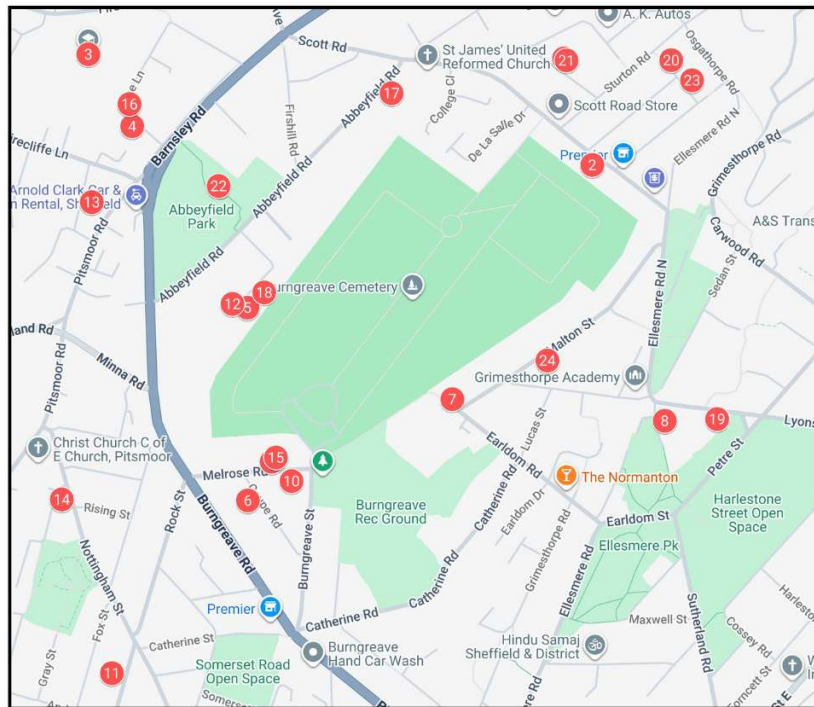
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Pitsmoor MIDWINTER WINDOWS



1st - 24th December 2025

Throughout Advent 2025, homes across Pitsmoor will create festive window displays to bring light to the dark nights.

Find each day's windows by going to the number marked on the map.

**Each window will also be shown at
www.pitsmoormidwinterwindows.co.uk**

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 - 26 Skipton Road | 13 - 9 Shirley Road |
| 2 - 130 Scott Road | 14 - 241 Nottingham Street |
| 3 - St Catherine's Catholic Primary School, Firshill Cres | 15 - 57 Melrose Road |
| 4 - 21 Roe Lane | 16 - 32 Roe Lane |
| 5 - 45 Holtwood Road | 17 - 176 Abbeyfield Road |
| 6 - 39 Coupe Road | 18 - 31 Holtwood Road |
| 7 - 85 Malton Street | 19 - 18 Lyons Street |
| 8 - St Peters Ellesmere, 6 Lyons Close | 20 - 2 Cawston Road |
| 9 - 53 Melrose Road | 21 - 24 Skipton Road |
| 10 - 28 Melrose Road | 22 - Abbeyfield House, Abbeyfield Park |
| 11 - 157 Rock Street | 23 - 21 Cawston Road |
| 12 - 34 Holtwood Road | 24 - 28 Malton Street |

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AT FIRTH PARK ACADEMY

ACCESS VIA SPORTS ENTRANCE ON BELLHOUSE ROAD(S5 0RD)

STARTING WEDNESDAY 7TH JANUARY 2026

(NEW PLAYERS CAN JOIN AT ANYTIME DURING THE YEAR(PROVIDING PLACES ARE AVAILABLE)



Group 1	5:00pm – 6:00pm	Ages 4 - 5
Group 2	6:00pm – 7:00pm	Ages 6 - 7
Group 3	7:00pm – 8:00pm	Ages 8 - 9
Group 4	8:00pm – 9:00pm	Ages 10 - 13

Dear Parents,

I am delighted to inform you that following the success of previous year's courses we are expanding the football coaching programme for the season. The course will run on a weekly basis **EVERY WEDNESDAY** during school term times.

All of our courses are run by F.A. QUALIFIED COACHES INCLUDING EX-PROFESSIONAL PLAYERS. All of our coaches have been DBS/CRB POLICE CHECKED. The course is open to boys and girls aged between 4 and 13. All abilities are catered for with total beginners introduced through FUN and confidence building practices. The course is tightly structured to ensure all aspects of football skills are developed.

At the end of the term(usually 10-15 weeks) every child will receive an engraved merit trophy and course certificate, with chances to win extra trophies including penalty shoot out, american shoot out and champions league competitions.

The cost of the course is £7.50 per week, which is payable every four weeks (£30) with the first payment due on week one. Parents are welcome to stay and watch however the club is fully supervised so children may be left in our care. **We have the use of excellent facilities with the course held indoors in the large sports hall.**

**TO BOOK A PLACE ON TO THE COURSE PLEASE TEXT
'FIRTH PARK' + CHILD'S NAME & AGE + GROUP TO;**

07846 770 250

Steven Nugent (Course Co-ordinator)

Contact us: enquiries@stcatherines.academy or www.stcatherines.academy/contact



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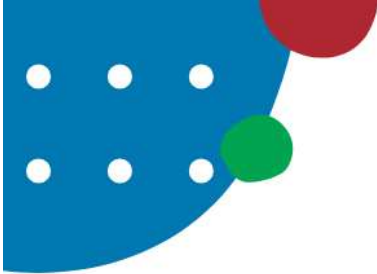
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Need ideas for family activities during the school holidays?
We've got you covered with our bumper edition....

SOUTH YORKSHIRE CHILDREN'S UNIVERSITY HOLIDAY ACTIVITY NEWSLETTER!

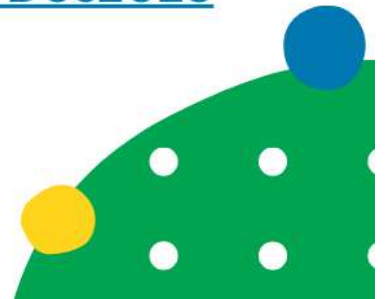


[Download it here:](https://bit.ly/SYCUActivityNewsletterDec2025)

<https://bit.ly/SYCUActivityNewsletterDec2025>



Earn CU Awards for doing the things
you **love** right across South Yorkshire





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Trans Pennine Trail
www.transpenninetrail.org.uk

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Merry Christmas from our caterers, Taylor Shaw!

You can access the Taylor Shaw Christmas newsletter here!

<https://www.stcatherines.academy/school-meals>