





St. William's Weekly News Round 1 December 2023

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HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE BOARD

ADVENT



It is the 1st Sunday of Advent this weekend! Thank you to Fr. Jones, who came to bless the class advent wreaths that have been made by the pupils. Advent comes from the Latin word 'adventus', meaning 'the coming'. The first candle,

which is purple, symbolises hope. It is sometimes called the "Prophecy Candle" in remembrance of the prophets, especially Isaiah, who foretold the birth of Christ. At this time of year, the church gathers to celebrate light coming into the world. Christ came to give hope that life could be different, He came to give us life in abundance, freedom from the chains of the law, freedom from slavery to fear and control. He came to bring light into the darkness. The Lord of light and the bringer of hope. Advent wreaths are circular, representing God's infinite love, and are usually made of evergreen leaves, which "represent the hope of eternal life brought by Jesus Christ." The hope of Christ is through His gift of everlasting life, and in the life, we see Him bringing in every day. Remembering the truth of the nativity and listening to God's Word in our world, can help bring hope to a hopeless world. Let us be filled with hope, as we start this holy season, of Advent. A prayer that Catholics say in this season of Advent is the

Act of Contrition: Oh my God, because you are so very good, I am sorry that I have sinned against you; and with the help of Your grace, I will not sin again. Amen.



St. William's Church News:

Christmas Mass Schedule

This year the Fourth Sunday of Advent is also Christmas Eve. Therefore, there will be the usual weekend (Sunday Masses)

Saturday 23 December 6pm (Advent IV) Vigil – St William's.

Sunday 24 December 9.30am (Advent IV) – St Matthew's.

Sunday 24 December 11am (Advent IV) – St William's.

Fr Jones intends to celebrate **one** other mass on the 24 December at St William's Church as the First Mass of the Nativity between 8.00pm – 11.30pm at the time suggested by parishioners and yet to be confirmed. The reading will be those of the Midnight Mass.

Christmas Day – Monday 25 December 2023 9.30am St Matthew's 11.00am St William's

There is a meeting for the children and parents who have completed the **Sacrament of Reconciliation Programme** on Friday, 8th Dec at St. William's Church at 4:30pm to practice what they need to do on Saturday, 9th December from 10am, when they will receive this sacrament for the first time. Attendance of both children and parent(s) is essential. Thank you!

Fr Jones will be in the school chapel on 12th Dec at 11am to offer Sacrament of Reconciliation to those pupils who are eligible for this holy sacrament.

School Family Mass



Thank you for joining us at last Sunday's Mass, where we celebrated Jesus is King of Kings!
Thank you, Win, King, Vivienne, Jeriel, Cassidy,

Oskar, Jeremiah and Enoch for your contribution, you all did amazing and were great ambassadors for the school.





Being Internet Legends

Holly Class thoroughly enjoyed taking part in the 'Being Internet Legends Day'.





Peace Museum

Thank you to Shannon and Liz for the wonderful session and involving Holly Class in the consultation on the design of the new Peace Museum.





Message received back from Shannon: -

Always a pleasure to work with your pupils! Always inspired by our conversations and we are definitely going to take lots of their suggestions forward - I'd also absolutely love a peace ball pit as suggested by one of your pupils, but let's see on that one!

Oak Class

Oak Class made the Tin Forest to go alongside our English lessons.



Lime Class

Lime Class made working art bot products with a battery pack, motor and propeller. Well done!



Holly Class

Holly Class working through Tuesday's Tough Ten to improve their arithmetic proficiency.



School Photographs



Please place your school photograph orders by **Saturday 2 December to receive free delivery to school.**Order taken after this date will be posted to your home address with a postage and packaging charge. If you

have lost your forms, please contact the photograph company on 01295 250812, who may be able to help you.

Faith in action during Advent!

The Mini Vinnies and School Council met and decided to raise money for the **Bradford Toy Library** based at St Lukes Hospital.



Weather



Please send your child/children prepared for our ever-changing weather conditions. Children must have a coat, preferably with a hood,

every day, and suitable outdoor shoes. All children must bring a water bottle to school, this will help keep them hydrated during the day. Please clearly mark your child(ren)'s uniform/P.E.kit with their name, this will help to eliminate lost items.

Keeping Children Safe

Attendance and Punctuality sits in Safeguarding.

The Local Authority Attendance Officer, Molly Searle, met with me (Miss Parker) Tuesday, 30/11/23. She will be working closely with our school family to ensure that parents/carers fulfil their legal duty to ensure their child has good attendance and punctuality. Poor attendance and punctuality negatively impact learning, personal development, and friendships. Ms Searle will monitor school records for poor attendance and persistent late arrival. We must ALL work in partnership to champion the needs of our pupils, to be on time, is to be ready and an important life skill for the world of work.

The Local Authority Attendance Officer will attend meetings with parents/carers for Attendance, whose children meet Persistent Absence (PA) threshold. Ms Searle will also contact parents whose children are close to falling below PA, to alert them and help them improve this quickly to avoid any further action. Please ask me (Miss Parker) for further information should you have any questions. Thank you for your support with attendance and punctuality.

Contact details for parents/carers.

Please make sure that if you change your phone number you inform school staff. Following safeguarding recommendations, we need at least 2 accurate contact details

in the event of an emergency; accidents do happen and there are times when we are not able to contact a parent because they have not kept us informed. Thank you.

Attendance and punctuality are a huge part of keeping children safe and it is the law for schools to know why and where children are if they are not in school: schools must report children absent from school, including parts of the day, not just absent days. As a result, systems for attendance are robust and all parents have a responsibility to inform school of their child's absence - make sure you TELEPHONE Mrs Gadd 1st thing in the morning if your child is absent. Home visits are part of our Attendance procedures to check and do not be alarmed if safeguarding staff appear at your door. As a parent you are committing an offence if you fail to make sure that your child attends regularly. The details of parents with children who have unauthorised absence (including those who have taken unauthorised leave during term time) will be passed to Bradford Council, who could consider issuing a Penalty Notice or starting legal action. When a child meets Educational Neglect threshold then a referral to Children's Social Care can be made.

Arriving on time is an essential life skill and for safeguarding reasons we must lock the school gates at 8:55am – if you are arriving at that time you will have to go to the main entrance. Equally, as a school we respect parents need children to be ready for home-time at 3:15pm to collect family members from other schools or colleges; we aim to be ready to hand the children to you at that time at the end of the day and not delay you.

Did you know		•	
If in a school year, a child is late every day by	A child would have lost approximately	or they would have missed approximately	
5 Minutes	3.5 Days from School	20 Lessons	
10 Minutes	7 Days from School	41 Lessons	
15 Minutes	10 Days from School	55 Lessons	
20 Minutes	14.5 Days from School	82 Lessons	
30 Minutes	22 Days from School	123 Lessons	

Late pick-up charges

There is a late collection charge £1, per child, for every 5 mins you are late; sadly, some parents have been persistently late and without good reason; taking the view that it is okay for school staff to take responsibility for children after the school day. Unfortunately, we do not offer childcare after 3:15pm and many staff finish at the same time the pupils leave. Congested traffic, a late taxi, forgetting the time, having a hair colour on at the hairdressers are not acceptable reasons to be late for your child. We are understanding, if there are exceptional reasons and it is not usual for you to be late and we appreciate a phone call from you if you are going to be late, it re-assures the child as well. After school teaching staff have meetings, work to do following the school day and in preparation for the next day. Thank you for your support with this.

Have you logged on to the National Online Safety webiste to help protect your child online?

https://nationalonlinesafety.com

Parents, PLEASE monitor what child(ren) use(s) and who they have contact with online; to ensure we keep children safe and protected when they are using the internet. Check out the tips and advice for parents to keep yourself in the know! Here are some useful websites for further information to keep children safe online:

https://www.onlinesafetyuk.com https://learning.nspcc.org.uk



More useful websites: https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk, https://childnet.com, https://www.internetmatters.org

Congratulations...Bravo...Well done!!!



Class teachers' Achievement Awards:

Congratulations to these fabulous award winners: Daniel, Shawna, Hoorain, Enoch, Frantiska, Jeremiah, Jaden, Vivienne, Sofia and Megan.

Hot Chocolate Friday:

Fabian, Kiyan, Victoria, Harper, Ishioma, Oskar, Sofia, Jeriel. Ethan and Romana.

Virtue Certificates this week:

Ewa, Mia, Gerald, Jethro, Peace, Monika, Joel, Oliver, Oliwia and Emilia.

Golden Table Tuesday:

Tymon, Ethan, Oracle, Bella and Nicola.

'Golden Mention to our lunchtime stars'

Grayson, Amelia, Phoebe, Abubakar, Rumaisah, Jeremiah, Ralfs, Kamsi, Delvin and Enoch.



Happy birthday to you, happy birthday to you, happy birthday dear

Zoe, Frantiska, Gerald and Mia

Happy birthday to you! Hope you have a special day.

Breakfast Club



Breakfast Club opens every day at 8am,

50p per child per day. A lovely way to start the day! Please arrive before 8.30am - book in advance every Friday for a place the following week via a dojo message to Mrs Gadd, Mrs Fagan, or Miss Parker!

Dates for your diary:

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5 Dec	9.00am Meeting for Oak Class parents	
	about Year 2 Teaching and Learning	
	and arrangements for KS1 SATs May	
	2024.	
7 Dec	Ash Class Parents Reading Workshop	
	08.45 – 09.00am	
11 Dec	Beech Class Homework Project due in.	
12 Dec	Oak Class Homework Project due in.	
14 Dec	Ash Class Parents Reading Workshop	
	08.45 – 09.00am	
14 Dec	Carol Service at St Joseph's Catholic	
	Church, 40 Pakington Street, Bradford,	
	BD5 7LD all welcome time T.B.C.	
15 Dec	Holly Class Homework Project due in.	
18 Dec	Ash & Oak Nativity (PM) time T.B.C.	
19 Dec	KS2 Carol Service at St. William's	
	Church	
	2pm – all welcome	
19 Dec	Lime Class Homework Project due in.	

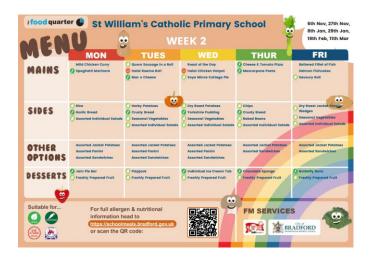
20 Dec	Christmas Jumper Day	
	50p per child or £1 per family	
	& Christmas Lunch £2.10 pay at office	
	or via parent pay	
	& Class Parties	
20 Dec	School Closes at 3.15pm and Re-opens	
	Thursday 4 January 2024	

P.E. Kits / Lessons

Please keep P.E. kits in school during term time, they will be sent home at the end of each term for washing.



Lunch Menu - Week Commencing 27/11/23.







KS1 Nativity

Ash and Oak Class

SHINE STAR SHINE!



Monday 18 December 2023 2pm - Main Hall All Welcome

KS2

Beech, Lime and Holly Class

Carols and Readings





Tuesday 19 December 2023 2pm – St. William's Church – All Welcome

Have a lovely weekend, See you all on Monday 4 December 2023 at 8.45am.

Remember, it's COOL to be in SCHOOL!