



## The Good Shepherd Catholic Primary Academy

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Diary Dates

Headteacher Newsletter 3, 15<sup>th</sup> October 2021

### November

1 <sup>st</sup>	All Saints' Day mass in school – 9.30am
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Year 5 to the Space Centre
4 <sup>th</sup>	Year 3 Stone Age Day
5 <sup>th</sup>	Year 5 Space Museum - 1.30 – 3.15pm
9 <sup>th</sup>	Individual and family photographs
11 <sup>th</sup>	Remembrance Day Liturgy led by Y6 – 10.45am
12 <sup>th</sup>	Year 5 Party Day (missed from Y4 due to the class isolating in the Summer term)
23 <sup>rd</sup>	PTA AGM - 7.30pm – venue tbc
25 <sup>th</sup>	Book fair in school for one week
26 <sup>th</sup>	Non-uniform Day – bring a bottle for the Christmas Fair
27 <sup>th</sup>	Good Shepherd Christmas Fair: 10.30am - 2.30pm in the Parish Centre

### December 2021

4 <sup>th</sup>	Secret Santa in the Parish Centre – 1 till 3pm
7 <sup>th</sup>	Panto Day in school – funded by the PTA
8 <sup>th</sup>	Nursery Christmas Carols - stay and play - 9 till 10.30am
9 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Activity and Disco Day
14 <sup>th</sup>	Y1 Nativity Performance – 9.30am
14 <sup>th</sup>	Reception Nativity Performance – 2pm
15 <sup>th</sup>	Reception Nativity Performance – 10am
16 <sup>th</sup>	Y1 Nativity Performance – 2pm
17 <sup>th</sup>	Carol Service in Church - 10am

**17<sup>th</sup> December – Last Day of Term**

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are well and looking forward to the half term break. The children have had a great first half term with lots of exciting learning taking place around school.

We enjoyed a wonderful celebration of mass with Key Stage 2 on Wednesday and I was overwhelmed by your generosity for the foodbank. It is a shame that the wider school community couldn't join us for the mass, but hopefully (assuming Covid cases stay down) we will be able to welcome parents back in for school events very soon.

Many thanks also for signing up to the virtual parents' evening a couple of weeks ago. On the whole, feedback was positive and most people valued the opportunity to hold the meetings online. However, some of you have expressed that you would have liked longer with the teachers. We have taken this on board for future meetings, starting with the one in Spring term which will be a 10-minute session.

You will notice from the dates above that we have 'tentatively' put in some Christmas events in the hope that we can reintroduce lots of the lovely things that have been so missed over the past couple of years. We hope and pray that they will be able to take place without restrictions!

Have a fantastic half term everyone and I look forward to seeing you back in school on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November.

Yours sincerely,

Celine Toner

## First Confession and Holy Communion



For those of you who have children eligible to take part in the programme for First Confession and Communion this academic year, Fr Philipp has asked me to let you know that enrolment cards are available in the Church after any weekend mass. Please ensure cards are completed in full, including contact details.

Please note there is a slight change to the programme this year. The expectation now is that parents will register first for the Alpha Course, to refresh them in the gift of Faith and parish community, after which they can progress their children into the First Sacraments programme. Further details will be available in this week's parish newsletter.

## Attending School Events

We hope to be able to welcome parents back to our school events when we return after half term. However, as this is dependent on whether there are Covid cases in school, I will write to you again after the break to give further details on this. Many thanks for your understanding.

## Parish Christmas Fair: 27<sup>th</sup> December – 10.30am – 2.30pm

Our parish community is excited to be able to hold the Christmas Fair again this year after a two-year absence. This is a wonderful social event and a great opportunity for the school and parish to work together to raise vital funds for the upkeep of our Church. After half term, your child will be coming home with two books of raffle tickets to sell to friends and family. Also, don't forget it's non-uniform on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> November in exchange for a bottle for the bottle stall which is run by the school PTA.

## Secret Santa: 4<sup>th</sup> December 1-3pm in the Parish Centre

Tickets for the parish Secret Santa Party are on sale via MyEd, priced at £4.00 each – adult and child tickets available. Every gift is valued at least £4.00, with one box containing the top prize of £200! All money raised will support the parish building fund which looks to be an estimated cost of £200,000 over the next few years.



## Mobile Phones

Please remember that mobile phones are not permitted on the school premises. Please do not use your phones when dropping off and collecting children from the playground. Many thanks for your cooperation.

## Winter Woollies!

Now that the weather is getting colder, please ensure children, from Y2 to Y6 have their full winter PE kit in school and that each item is clearly labelled. Also, I ask that all winter coats/hats/ scarves/gloves etc are clearly labelled to avoid expensive items getting misplaced.