

The Good Shepherd Catholic Primary Academy

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Headteacher Newsletter 3, 4th November 2022

November	
6 th	First Holy Communion Enrolment Mass – 10am in Church
8 th	Individual and family photographs
11 th	Y6 Remembrance Day Liturgy – 10.45am – all are welcome
11 th	'The Big Sleep in' for Years 4, 5 & 6
14-18 th	Anti-bullying and Peace week
25 th	Non-uniform Day – bring a bottle for the Christmas Fair
26 th	Good Shepherd Christmas Fair: 10.30am -2.30pm in the Church Hall
December	
1 st	Year 3 to Creswell Craggs
4 th	Advent Mass in Church – 10am
4 th	Secret Santa in the Parish Centre – 1 till 3pm
6 th	Nursery Christmas Carols - stay and play - 9 till 10.30am
9 th	Christmas Activity and Disco Day
13 th	Y1 Nativity Performance – 2pm
15 th	Y1 Nativity Performance – 10am
13 th	Reception Nativity Performance – 10am
15 th	Reception Nativity Performance – 2pm
16 th	Reception trip to The Playhouse to see Goldilocks and the Three Bears
19 th	Christmas Dinner Day
21 st	Carol Service in Church - 10am
21 st December – Last Day of Term	

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you had a wonderful half term break and managed to enjoy the unusually mild weather – without getting too wet!

We had a very busy end to last half term with the Bishop's visit to mark our Platinum Jubilee. It was a wonderful celebration and fantastic that so many of you were able to join us for mass and refreshments afterwards. Bishop Patrick blessed the St Mary's building and visited the children in Nursery – he even had a snail named after him!

Bishop Patrick was very complimentary about our school and in particular the enthusiasm and reverence of the children. Here's to the next 70 years!

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Toner

Parent Governor Elections.

Many thanks to the four parents who have put themselves forward for the role of Parent Governor in school. A letter has gone out with your child today with further details about the candidates and information on how to cast your vote. The closing date is Friday 18th November 2022.

PE News

Along with this newsletter is a PE Newsletter from Miss Sweeney which highlights all the wonderful ways we have been keeping active so far this term. It also includes details of how you can take part in some fun fitness activities as a family too.

Please note, that the Monday after school club has now finished for the term as the mini-leaders have completed their training. We hope to resume this in the New Year.

First Confession and Holy Communion



Please note that this Sunday is an Enrolment Mass for those children wishing to take the sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion. Our Year 6 children will also be leading the congregation in the Liturgy of the Word.

Parish Christmas Fair: 26th November – 10.30am – 2.30pm

The parish Christmas fair 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. At the beginning of this week your child should have come home with some raffle tickets to sell to friends and family. **Also, don't forget it is non-uniform on Friday 26th November in exchange for a bottle for the bottle stall which is run by the school PTA.**

Frameworks' 'Big Sleep in' for children in Years 4-6

So far, 38 children have asked to take part in the 'Big Sleep in' next Friday night in school. It would be great if more were able to attend. Please fill in the google form via this link to sign up and raise money for this very worthwhile charity.

Attendance and Punctuality

Please be aware that I am only permitted to authorise absences where there are **exceptional circumstances** and this does not include family holidays. Requests must be put in writing via the school office. Each request will be looked at on a case-by-case basis and you will be notified of the decision in writing. If we are unable to authorise your request, your child's absence will be recorded as unauthorised and may result in a fine from the local authority. Fines are issued at £60 per child, per parent.

In addition, please support us by ensuring your child is in school every day on time. The school gate is open between 8.45 and 8.55am and only parents of children in Nursery, Reception and Year 1 are permitted to walk children into school. Children who arrive after 8.55am will be given a late mark and must enter school via the office. Any child who arrives to school after 9.15am will be given an absence mark.

For more information about attendance and punctuality, please access our 'Attendance and Punctuality Policy' which is available to view on our school website.

Prayers Please

You may have heard the sad news about one of our parents, James Collins, who sadly passed away over half term after a long illness. I know you will join with me in offering up our thoughts and prayers to the whole family at this time. Rest in Peace James.

