



## The Good Shepherd Catholic Primary Academy

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Diary Dates

Headteacher Newsletter 6, 19<sup>th</sup> December 2022

### December 2022

20<sup>th</sup> Christmas Activity Day and Disco – non uniform

21<sup>st</sup> Carol service – 10am in Church

21<sup>st</sup> Last day of term

### January 2023

4<sup>th</sup> Jan Back to school

6<sup>th</sup> Jan Epiphany Mass – 9.30am in school

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of this Advent term, I would like to take the opportunity to thank you for all the support you have given to our school community this year. On behalf of all the staff at The Good Shepherd, we wish you and your families a very peaceful and joyful Christmas.

All the best for 2023!

With God's blessings,

Celine Toner



### Travelling Nativity and Reverse Advent Calendar

Many thanks to those who have sent in contributions of food or toiletries for our Reverse Advent Calendar. All donated food and toiletries will go firstly, to those in need within our own school community and then to the Arnold Foodbank. If you have yet to donate, it is not too late! We have a team of people coming into school tomorrow - Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December - to make up hampers / take food parcels to the foodbank. **Please drop all donations in at the office by 9.30 tomorrow morning.** Thank you.



### Christmas Productions

The children in Reception and Year 1 were fantastic this year as they brought the true Christmas message alive with their performances of 'Bethlehem Bake off' and 'Baarmy Bethlehem'. It was just wonderful to be able to gather together in the hall, without restrictions, to see them perform live! Well done boys and girls, we are so proud of you.

Nursery have also produced a Nativity which is available to view on our YouTube channel or via the QR code below.

Many thanks also to the staff who worked so hard to put the productions together and to you, our parents for supporting with costumes and learning lines.



### **Year 2 Christingle Service – today at 2.15pm**

Year 2 are excited to share their Christingle service with you this afternoon at 2.15pm. This promises to be a joyful celebration that will bring our community together to share the light of Jesus and spread a message of hope. The PTA will be in school serving tea coffee and mince pies for parents from 1.45pm. We hope to see you there. Also, the recording of our Year 2 Christmas song will be ready to be shared with you on Wednesday as a final Christmas gift for all.

### **Activity and Disco Day – Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December**

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December is a busy day! The children will take part in lots of festive activities, including a visit from Santa and a disco. This will also **be a non-uniform day** and we invite children to come to school dressed in their own party clothes – as festive as you like!

Don't forget there will be opportunities for the children to buy some small items at the disco, so please send your child with a small amount of money in a sealed envelope or purse.

### **Carol Service & Christmas Jumper Day – Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> December**

Many thanks to those parents who have offered to walk with us to Church on Wednesday morning to take part in our Carol Service. Please meet in Reception after drop off and Mrs Murphy will let you know which class you are supporting. We aim to leave school at around 9.15pm and be back in time for lunch at 11.30am.

Please remember, this is also our Christmas jumper day (to be worn over school uniform) where we raise money for Save the Children - £1.00 per child.

### **Christmas Services at The Good Shepherd Church**

You have already received a card from Fr Philipp outlining the services taking place in church over Christmas. Can I especially draw your attention to the Christmas Eve family mass at 5pm where Fr Philipp would love for the children to come to church dressed as a nativity character of their choosing. The aim is for them to process down the aisle at the beginning of mass and sit on the sanctuary for the duration so they can be a part of what is going on.

If your child would like to join in with this, please meet in the parish centre 15 minutes before the start of mass where Mrs Kitching along with other parish catechists will be there to support. Thank you.

### **Book-vent**

I hope that the children have been enjoying the daily Christmas stories we have been uploading to twitter / YouTube this Advent. If you haven't, please do check them out. Don't forget – a very special guest will be reading on Christmas eve! Many thanks to the staff for filming and to Mrs Moore for organising it all – such a lovely way to share stories with our whole school community.

### **New Parent Governors**

I am delighted to announce that, following the ballot earlier this term, you have voted for Mrs Helena O'Hara and Mrs Rebecca Lewis to take on the roles of parent governors from next term. I am sure they will be a great asset to our governing body and I welcome them to the team.

### **Main School Applications**

For those of you who have a child due to start main school in September 2023, please note that the closing date for applications via Notts County Council is 15th January. All supplementary forms and baptismal certificates must also be emailed or handed into the school office by this date –

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