



## The Good Shepherd Catholic Primary Academy

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Diary Dates

Headteacher Newsletter 6, 18<sup>th</sup> December 2023

### December 2022

18 <sup>th</sup>	Y6 Choir to Valley Court Care Home
19 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Dinner Day – please ensure account topped up by at least £3.25
20 <sup>th</sup>	Christingle Service – 9.30am led by Year 2. All welcome in school.
20 <sup>th</sup>	Reception trip to the theatre
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Carol service – 10am in Church

### January 2023

4 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Back to school
11 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Young Voices Concert in Birmingham (tickets given to individuals)
26 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 SAT's meeting - 5pm

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 2024!

With God's blessings,

Mrs 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 as we hope to donate food parcels later this week. **Please drop all donations in at the office or via your child's class by 9.30am on Thursday 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 'Twinkly Nativity' and 'Baarmy Bethlehem'. It was just wonderful to be able to gather together in the hall and enjoy this precious gift! 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 – Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December 9.30am**

Year 2 are excited to share their Christingle service with you on Wednesday morning. 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. Tea, coffee and mince pies will be available in the hall from 9am. We hope to see you there.

I am also delighted to share the Year 2 link to their Christmas song, 'Waiting Here for You' which they have recorded as a Christmas gift to all of you. Please [click here](#) to view and please share with others in your family to spread some Christmas joy.

### **Carol Service & Christmas Jumper Day – Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December**

We are excited to finish the Advent term with our Carol Service on Friday morning. As usual, the whole school will be walking to church and the service will begin at 10am. If you are able to support us with walking the children down, please [complete this online form](#).

If you are able to help, please meet in the main office after drop off and Mrs Murphy will let you know which class you are supporting. We aim to leave school at around 9.10am 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 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 some parish catechists will be there to support. Thank you.

### **Book-vent**

I hope that the children have been enjoying the daily Christmas story videos this Advent. If you haven't already, check them out on our [YouTube account](#). 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.

### **Main School Applications**

For those of you who have a child due to start main school in September 2024, please note that the closing date for applications via Notts County Council is Monday 15th January. All supplementary forms and baptismal certificates must also be emailed or handed into the school office by this date

### **Office update – absence reporting and collection arrangements**

**Collection arrangements:** If notifying the office about collection arrangements after 2.30pm – please call rather than email or Arbor to ensure the message is received in time.

**Reporting absence:** A reminder to contact us by 9am on the first morning of your child's illness and every morning thereafter as per the attendance policy. Thanks for your support with this.