



Our Lady of Grace RC Primary School

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NEWSLETTER – NO 4 *4th December 2023*

Dear Parent/Guardian,

HAPPY ADVENT!

It was lovely to see so many parents and grandparents at our Early Years Christmas Card Making session on Friday. I look forward to seeing you at the Nativity.

Our Year Six children led a beautiful Advent Assembly to the whole school and their families today. It was wonderful to see so many family members in attendance.

PARISH CHRISTMAS FAIR CONTRIBUTIONS

Thank you so much for your generosity of donations for the Parish Christmas Fair which was hugely appreciated.

ADVENT DONATIONS - RED DOOR, BURY CARITAS PROJECT

Red Door is a Diocese of Salford Caritas project in central Bury. We are collecting donations for them on **Wednesday 6th December** – details of donations are towards the end of this newsletter and are on your Autumn Term Calendar of Events. The website statement below describes their aims.

“Our overarching aim is to ensure that people in Bury have the support they need to prevent them from becoming homeless, that people who do become homeless are helped to secure safe accommodation with the support they need to make a new home and that no one has to sleep rough. In parallel with delivering direct housing outcomes, we aim to enable people to improve their wellbeing through providing services which meet immediate basic needs, promote mental health and wellbeing, enable people to access health and other support services and to take up education, training, volunteering opportunities and employment, as a means of sustaining positive housing outcomes.”

You can find out more about their good works at <https://www.caritassalford.org.uk/service-view/red-door/>

INTER SCHOOL CHESS TOURNAMENT

We hosted the Inter-School Chess Tournament. It was a great atmosphere of community spirit with several local schools taking part. We reached the final with Our Lady of Grace pupils doing very well but were pipped at the post by pupils of King David who won overall! Congratulations to King David and all involved in this super event. Special thanks to Mr Cihlar for co-ordinating the tournament.

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES

There are many events happening during the final weeks of term. The events have been detailed separately. However, the following information will serve as an aide-memoire during this busy time! All dates are also on the school website and in your Autumn Calendar of Events.

PLEASE DO NOT FILM OR TAKE PHOTOGRAPHS AT SCHOOL EVENTS UNLESS GIVEN PERMISSION TO DO SO.

MONDAY 4TH DECEMBER

OUR LADY OF GRACE CHRISTMAS CARD POSTAL SERVICE IS OPEN

The post box is open for the children to post their cards in. Please encourage your child/ren to put the initial letter of their friends' surnames on to avoid confusion (ie John C, John E etc) *and* the class name.

TUESDAY 5TH DECEMBER

9:30AM FOUNDATION PHASE NATIVITY FOR PARENTS

WEDNESDAY 6TH DECEMBER

Children wear uniform today.

CHRISTMAS DINNER DAY

Deadline for orders has already passed, a separate letter was sent with details for this.

ADVENT CHARITY DONATIONS – RED DOOR, CARITAS, BURY

Please send in a donation if you can for this worthy cause.

Pupils in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 & 2 – Please send in tooth brushes and/or tooth paste

Pupils in Year Three to Year Six – Please send in any of the following items - Shower gel, shaving foam, packaged razors, and/or deodorant

THURSDAY 7TH DECEMBER

PARTY DAY FOR NURSERY TO YEAR THREE

Nursery to Y3 children will have their party day today. They can come into school in their **own clothes or wear a Christmas jumper** if you wish.

PANTO FOR Y4 TO Y6 (OH NO IT ISN'T!)

Christmas Treat – “Jack and the Beanstalk” at Middleton Arena, help keep our children safe they will need to wear their **school uniform** on the trip. Please ensure you have completed the permission slip for your child to attend.

FRIDAY 8TH DECEMBER – WHOLE SCHOOL MASS

9:30AM HOLY MASS FOR THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY All warmly welcomed. The children have made special gifts (“Mary’s Gifts”) which will be part of the Offertory Procession. I hope you enjoy seeing these displayed in Our Lady of Grace Church.

B49A3 CHRISTMAS PARTY

Party in the school hall from 2pm onwards – children stay in **uniform**.

TUESDAY 12TH DECEMBER at 2:30pm

“GRANDPARENTS” PARTY

Y6 children can invite up to a maximum of four grandparents or family members such as Aunt, Uncle or close family friend. A separate letter has been sent out with a reply slip.

THURSDAY 14TH DECEMBER

9:30AM RECEPTION VISION TEST

CHRISTMAS CHOIR SERVICE

6PM School Christmas Choir Service at Our Lady of Grace RC Church – All warmly welcomed.

FRIDAY 15TH DECEMBER

LAST DAY OF TERM

We finish at 2pm today.

ICE & SNOW

To help keep everyone safe in the event of ice/snow we may sometimes have to close the gates around school. If this happens entrance will only be through the main pedestrian gate next to the car park barrier. B49A3 club would also use this gate (next to the barrier) and children will enter via the main office reception.

In the event that we ever have to close the school we would always try our best to send a text message and/or place a message on the school website. Hopefully all will be well.

HAPPY CHRISTMAS

Thank you to all the parents and guardians for your help during the Autumn Term. Your huge support of our school is always appreciated.

With the hustle and bustle of family life in this busy period it is sometimes hard to find peace of our own. I hope that our school events remind us of the *real* reason for Christmas – the birth of Our Lord Jesus Christ. We are part of a wonderful parish community and I am sure many of you feel a great sense of that already. Should you require more information - The church website <https://www.ourladyofgrace.co.uk/> provides you with a useful resource.

Christmas can of course be a difficult time for some – I hope our special events bring you some comfort if you are struggling at this time of year.

May I take this opportunity to wish you and your families all a very Happy Christmas when it arrives. May God bless you and your families with peace and joy.

JANUARY 2024!

After the Christmas holidays our new term begins on **Thursday 4th January 2024.**

Yours sincerely,

Mrs A K Casey



“Our Lady of Grace is an outstanding Catholic Primary School” - RE Inspection - June 2017

“Pupils enjoy belonging to this school community” - Ofsted Inspection - March 2023