



St Walburga's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter



Friday, 10th January 2025

Number 16

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year! I hope that you had a lovely Christmas with your children, and that you were able to enjoy the break. It has been lovely having the children back in school this week, thank you for sending them back in looking so smart and ready to learn. We had a very busy start to the term with the news on Monday morning that OFSTED were coming to visit! Thank you so much for your support during the inspection, I look forward to sharing the report with you as soon as we are able to do so.

On Thursday, Father Anthony joined us to celebrate Mass for the Feast of the Epiphany and the start of the new year. We thought about the Kings, and their courage in travelling to find the baby Jesus, and we prayed that we may have the courage to seek Jesus in everyone we meet. We also remembered that the visit of the Kings is a reminder that Jesus came for everyone in the world, regardless of race and background, and we prayed that we may show the same acceptance and respect. Many thanks to the Chaplaincy Team for preparing the Mass and reading so well.

RE learning

This week the children have completed their learning about Christmas, with particular focus on the Feast of the Epiphany and the message that Jesus came for everyone in the world. Next week we will start our new topic of Revelation. This unit considers the recognition of God's revelation of himself in Jesus. The children will learn about the role of a priest, as well as the role of the Church in getting to know God. Pupils will begin to explore stories from scripture that show how special Jesus is, for example, miracle stories that show that the Kingdom of God is present within Jesus. The children will know about God's revelation as recognised by Simeon and Anna in the presentation at the temple, the baptism of Jesus, the transfiguration, where Jesus revealed his glory and in St. Paul's conversion on the road to Damascus.

Clubs/Instrument Tuition

Just a reminder that all after school clubs start up again next week. Guitar & violin lessons also commence next week. Year 6 guitar will now be on a Monday and Year 5 guitar will now be on a Tuesday. Please make your Spring Term payments on WisePay, thank you.

Year 6 Residential

Just a reminder that the deadline for payments for the Year 6 residential is 30th April 2025, and you must have paid in full by that date.

Phones and Devices

I expect some of the children may have received new devices for Christmas – and I am attaching the information sheet we sent out in September with some advice about setting parental controls. Your child should only bring a phone to school if they need it for walking to or from school – if this is the case the phone must be handed in to the class teacher on arrival, and you and your child will need to complete a phone agreement form. If your child has a smartwatch, you should modify the settings so they cannot access calls, messages, the internet or camera during the school day – otherwise it should stay at home! If you have received a new phone for Christmas – please ensure that we have your up to date contact details!

Admissions FINAL reminder – especially siblings!

Don't forget, if your child is due to start school in September 2025, the deadline for applications is NEXT WEEK on 15th January 2025. You must have submitted your application online at BCP council by this date.

<https://www.bcpCouncil.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/school-admissions/apply-for-a-school-place/apply-for-a-primary-infant-or-first-school-place>. You must also ensure that we have received any paperwork that you wish to submit to us to enable us to put your child in the correct category – this may be a baptism certificate, SIF form or proof of address (or all three!) – we must receive this by the 15th January too.

Attendance – End of Autumn Term

At the end of the Autumn Term our whole school attendance was 95.73% which is lower than our 96 % target. We did have a lot of illness over the last 2 weeks of term but we noticed that there were a lot of unauthorised absences due to day trips and holidays. It is vital that such events should take place at weekends and school holidays. We are sure that as a whole school, we will be able to reach our target over the Spring Term. Here is the attendance breakdown for each year group;

Year Group	Attendance
Reception	94.77%
Year 1	96.18%
Year 2	95.67%
Year 3	96.19%
Year 4	95.78%
Year 5	95.81%
Year 6	95.66%

Well done to Year 3 and Year 1 reaching the target. Also, well done to the 74 children who were able to attend school every day and had 100% attendance for the Autumn Term! Thanks for all your support with pupil attendance.

Mission Statement hero and Stars of the Week

Our Mission Statement heroes this week are the three Kings, we learn from their example to seek Jesus in others and to persevere in our commitment to follow him.



Super Role Model:

RJ: Ted; RP:George; 1JC: Izzabelle; 1WH: Rafi; 2NW: Taonga; 2MS: Rafa; 3NL: Luna; 3DB: Jasmine; 4DC: Ella; 4PM: Tadi; 5RH: Oty; 5JC: Mia; 6KB: Olivia K; 6HT: Oliver.

Learning Champion:

RJ: Annabel; RP: Lidia; 1JC: Chloe; 1WH: Amelija; 2NW: Jakub; 2MS: Layla; 3NL: Asher; 3DB: Thierry; 4DC: Sophia; 4PM: Esme; 5RH: Joel; 5JC: Blake; 6KB: Esme; 6HT: Ciara.

Dates for your diary:

Wb 13 th Jan		Afterschool clubs start again
Mon 13 th Jan	pm	Year 5 swimming starts
Wed 15 th Jan	6.00pm	Year 1 Phonics information evening
Tues 11 th Feb	3.30-7.00pm	Parents' Evening – more info to follow
Wed 12 th Feb	3.30 – 7.00pm	Parents' Evening – more info to follow
Fri 14 th Feb	2.50pm	Break up for half term
Mon 24 th Feb	8.50am	School starts after half term break

Wishing you a lovely weekend with your family,

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