



St Walburga's Catholic Primary School Newsletter



Friday, 19th December 2025

Number 15

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have made it to the end of term, well done! It has been a super busy week in school.

On Sunday, our choir sang at a carols event organised by the Salvation Army – such a great experience for them to sing with a full band! On Monday evening, the Year 4 children led an Advent service of readings, reflection and singing. They read and sang beautifully, it was a wonderful way for our families to join together in prayer.

On Wednesday, the children had a super party day. Each year group went into the hall for Christmas lunch – crackers and party hats for all! In the evening, the KS2 children came back to school for a disco, which they really enjoyed (especially the tuck shop). That, plus the games and activities the teachers and TAs had planned – and a visit from Santa to every class - ensured the children had a great day. Many thanks to all the staff for their hard work in making this so much fun for the children!

On Thursday, we joined together for our traditional Nativity Assembly, where we shared a simple retelling of the Christmas story, with prayers and reflections, and songs from the children's performances.

This morning, we ended the term with our annual Christmas singalong, and then some Christmas bingo with classes playing together over Teams! The children looked great in their Christmas jumpers too – it was a lovely, festive way to end the term!

Christmas Fundraising

Many thanks for all your support with the Christmas fundraising we have undertaken. The Fun night, Christmas Raffle and Xmas jumpers were all great successes, with all the expenses accounted for, raised £2295.23 – a superb amount which will replenish our PSA funds and really support the work we do in school.

This year, we decided that we wanted to raise money to support the family of one of our ex pupils, Ryan, who has been diagnosed with cancer. Through the collections at the end of the Reception, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 4 performances, we have been able to raise a fantastic £745.19. Thank you all so much.

Well done to our Art Ambassadors, who organised a super Christmas art competition, and to the winners from each year group. The children raised £40.00 for CAFOD through this fundraising effort!

Year 5 swimming

Don't forget, swimming for the Year 5 children starts on the first day back – Monday, 5th January – please ensure your child has their swimming kit with them on that day!

Hot meals

The deadline to order hot meals for the first week back is midnight on Monday, 29th December- if you haven't ordered by then, please send your child in with a packed lunch for the first week back.

Year 1 Phonics evening

The Year 1 team would like to invite parents and carers to a phonics information session at 3.15 on Monday, 12th January. This is a really important session, with information about how we teach phonics and how you can support your child in their learning. You will also hear about the phonics test which is administered in the summer term. The session is for adults only – please try to make alternative arrangements for your child, but if you have no choice but to bring

them we will have a space in a classroom where they can wait for you. One adult per child please.

Admissions reminder – especially siblings!

Don't forget, if your child is due to start school in September 2026, the deadline for applications is 15th January 2026. 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, as late applications have to be considered in a different round.

Pantomime

If you are lucky enough to be watching 'Cinderella' at the Pavilion this holiday, keep your eyes peeled for our very own Elsie, who opens the show as little Cinderella! Well done to her!

Christmas Concert

Please see the attached flier with information about a concert at the Annunciation on 27th December.

Start of term

We are looking forward to seeing all of the children back in school on **Monday, 5th January at 8.40am**. You will remember that we have very strict attendance guidance to follow, and any unauthorised absence may incur a fixed penalty from the Local Authority. This applies not only to consecutive days, but to absences over a period of weeks. Please ensure that you are following our policy and guidelines, and that your child is in school every day that they should be and can be. Learning time in school is invaluable – and we all want to give our children the very best life chances that we can. Our attendance policy is on our school website, along with information regarding penalty notices.

Dates for your diary

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| Mon 5 th Jan | 8.40 am | School reopens for children. |
| Mon 12 th Jan | 3.15pm | Year 1 Parents and carers – information meeting re Phonics – more info to follow |
| Wed 14 th Jan | 1.30pm | 6KB Class Mass-Parents and Carers welcome |
| Thurs 22 nd Jan | 1.30pm | 6HT Class Mass- Parents and Carers welcome |
| Thurs 29 th Jan | 1.30pm | 4CM Class Mass – Parents and Carers welcome |
| Wed 4 th Feb | 3.30 – 7.00 | Parents' evening – more info to follow |
| Thurs 5 th Feb | 1.30pm | 4PM Class Mass – Parents and Carers welcome |
| Thurs 5 th Feb | 3.30 – 7.00 | Parents' evening – more info to follow |

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you, on behalf of myself and all the staff, for your cards, gifts, and good wishes this Christmas – you are very generous and your kind words are very much appreciated. I would also like to thank all the staff at the school for their hard work this term.

Wishing you all a happy and Holy Christmas, and a blessed New Year.

Veronica Woodward

Veronica Woodward
Headteacher



Malvern Road, Bournemouth, BH9 3BY
Tel: 01202 528811

email:office@stwalburgasprimary.co.uk

Website: stwalburgas.bournemouth.sch.uk