

Wednesday 18th December 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians

As we approach the Christmas holidays, we would like to take a moment to express our gratitude to all of our children and their families for a fantastic term! It has been a busy and exciting time at St Pius and we are so proud of all the hard work, creativity, and enthusiasm shown by the children.

During this season of Advent, it has been wonderful to share so many events with you. From class led liturgies to Christmas fayres; ticket and raffle sales to Christmas Jumper day your support has been invaluable and we would like to say 'thank you.'

Throughout our Christmas productions, the children have shared and celebrated the true meaning of Christmas: the coming of our Lord and saviour Jesus Christ into the world. It was wonderful to see their confidence, pride and enjoyment when they were performing - well done to everyone!

On behalf of the whole school community, we would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a happy and holy Christmas and all the very best for 2025. We look forward to seeing you all again when school reopens to children on Monday 6th January 2025.

With festive cheer and blessings for all

A McClurey & N Bennett

Mrs McClurey & Mr Bennett

Christ Be Our Light

Executive Headteacher: Mrs A McClurey | Head of School: Mr N Bennett
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Part of the Nicholas Postgate Catholic Academy Trust



Dates for your Diary:

6.1.25 - Feast of the Epiphany

14.1.25 SEND Information drop-in session for parents – Mrs Tye will confirm the timings after the Christmas holiday.

22.1.25 Stay and Pray Key stage 2. 8:45 – 9am in the classrooms.

29.1.25 Stay and Pray Key Stage 1. 8:45 – 9am in the classrooms.

3.2.25 Aspirations Week

7.2.25 National Number Day – children are invited to come to school wearing something numerical.

7.2.25 - Maths session with parents. 8:45 – 9am in the classrooms.

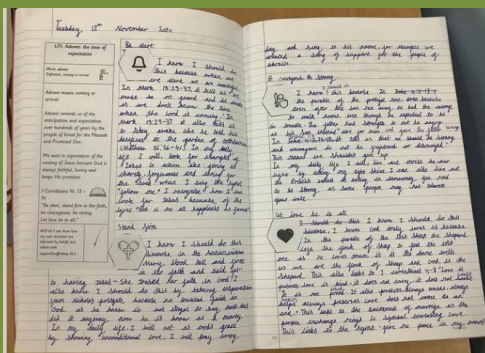
11.2.25 SAFER INTERNET DAY

12.2.25 Valentine's Disco – more details to follow

17.2.25 & 18.2.25 Parent/Teacher consultations – more details to follow

This term in RE the children have been learning about ADVENT & CHRISTMAS.

Through their learning, the children have learnt about how Advent is a time of preparation to celebrate Jesus' first coming on earth. Jesus, given by God as a sign and expression of God's love.



“Children are the World’s most valuable resource and its best hope for the future.” – John F Kennedy

Safeguarding is our absolute priority. At St Pius X, Mr Connelly is our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL). Mr Bennett & Mrs Boyce are the Deputy DSLs. Please act on concerns that you have about any children that you know. If you have a concern about the safety of a child or young person and you want someone to find out what is going on, contact the Middlesbrough MACH on 01642 726004. Please remember anyone can make a referral and safeguarding is everyone's concern!



Advent

During Advent we have come together as a school community to prepare for Christmas and to turn our hearts and minds to Jesus. Each week a different class from key stage 2 has led our school community in prayer and reflection.

Year 5 – Third week of Advent: Joy

Year 4 – Second week of Advent: Peace

Year 3 – First week of Advent: Hope



Community Links

This term we have continued to engage with our local community for a range of different events and performances. The Snappy Christmas singing performance saw our children perform alongside their peers from schools across Middlesbrough; we invited our families to celebrate with us at our Christmas Fayre; we sang Christmas Carols for the visitors at our local supermarket and the residents at a local care home; and we continue to celebrate mass with the parishioners at our parish church: St Alphonsus.



School Attendance Matters at St. Pius!

Our whole school attendance is currently 93.8%. Congratulations to all of our classes who have won an attendance award this half term. Each week we aim for at least 97% attendance in each class. Please support us in this by making sure that your child attends school every day, unless they are not well.

Year Group	Attendance
Year 1	91%
Year 2	95%
Year 3	92%
Year 4	97%
Year 5	92%
Year 6	95%



Stepping Stones

We are proud to share the achievements of our Stepping Stones provision, which enhances our curriculum and supports children with their individual needs. Stepping Stones is designed to allow children to be supported within a smaller, nurturing provision underpinned by PSHE.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank families for their continued support and engagement this term.



Curriculum

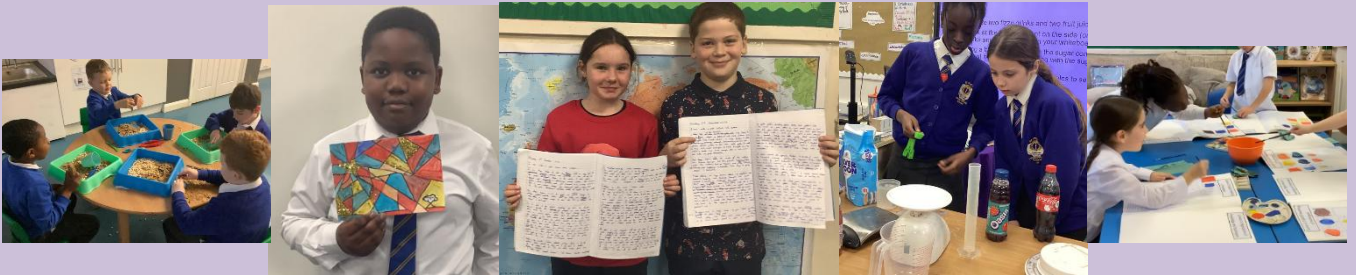
At St Pius X RC we believe that a school curriculum should offer many opportunities for our children to achieve success in a range of subject areas and for the curriculum to be broad and balanced. To that end our curriculum

offer is:

Connected

Cumulative

Coherent



To find out more please visit our website <https://stpiusx.npcat.org.uk/curriculum->

WRAPAROUND CARE

Our 'Wrap Around Care' has continued to be hugely popular this term and we thank all for their co-operation with the booking system. For safeguarding reasons all children arriving at 'Breakfast Club' must be accompanied by an adult. Children must be collected from 'Teatime Club' from the front gate by an adult and we ask that you please use the mobile telephone number provided, to let staff know that you are there.

Please note: If you would like your child to join either of these clubs, we ask that you contact the school office to check for availability and then use the online booking system to book a place for your child – we are unable to take 'walk ins' and we would ask that all bookings for 'Teatime Club' are paid for at the point of making the booking.