

St Anthony's Catholic Primary Academy

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8th December 2023

Dear parents/carers,

I am writing to provide you with an overview of our Advent activities, preparing us both spiritually and festively for Christmas Day.

I will go through the events in chronological order:



Firstly, we welcomed the arrival of Advent with a Mass, celebrated by Fr George. Pupils prepared their weekly class prayers around the first and second advent candles, with the themes of Hope and Peace.

Staff have entered the season with Christmas spirit, decorating the classroom doors for the 'Best Class Door' PTFA competition. They are very competitive!

We shared the **Design the school Christmas Card competition** today, (<u>closing</u> <u>date Monday 18th December</u>). Please encourage your child to get involved – we love seeing the entries and share all of these through assembly:











Competition Time - 1



Design a Christmas card that will be sent to all of the schools in our Multi-Academy Company and our regular visitors.

- Front of the card needed only
- Parents can help Reception and Nursery children ONLY
- Designs can include craft but it must be able to be photocopied (as in this
- Child's name must be ON THE BACK
- The theme MUST BE about the birth of Jesus/Christian message (i.e. not Santa or Christmas trees, etc.)

DEADLINE - Monday 18th December Christmassy treat prizes for each key

Pupils will be able to purchase Christmas gifts for their families when **Elfridges opens** in school next Monday. Please send money in a marked envelope with their name and total amount. Profit from this goes to PTFA funding. This is always very popular and will run each lunchtime from 11-15th December, unless stock runs out.



Come and join your child for the **Christmas Nativity** Family Craft Session for Nursery and Reception (only). Here you will be able to create some take-home Nativity crafts with your child and then enjoy their nativity musical performance. Refreshments will be provided.

Wednesday 13th December - 9:15am St Francis Class and Nursery am pupils; 1:45pm St Joseph's Class and Nursery 30-hour pupils. Please indicate your attendance via the booking link if you have not done so already: https://forms.gle/PtSAwh2MoEdpBCTx7





































(company number 08578428)

On **Friday 15th it is Christmas Jumper day** – no uniform needed on this day. We ask that you send your colourful donations in for the Christmas Raffle hampers, if this is something that you are able to do at this time:











Come to school in your favourite Christmas lumper and bring in a coloured donation for our raffle in your year group colours

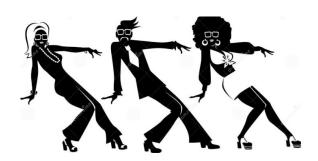


Nursery-Red Reception-Orange Year 1-Yellow Year 2-Green Year 3-Blue Year 4-Purple or Pink Year 5-Black or White Year 6-Gold or Silver Raffle tickets are available up until **FRIDAY 15th December** – one pound each. There are some amazing prizes available:

Monday 18th December – PTFA Raffle grand draw!



On **Tuesday 19th December**, pupils from St Patrick's class are singing carols with other Wolverhampton schools in **St John's Church, Wolverhampton**. We thank them for representing St Anthony's in this joyful event.



On **Wednesday 20th December** it is time to get our **disco** clothes on! All children will come to school in their disco clothes. EYFS and KS1 pupils have their disco in the afternoon; KS2 straight after school. (KS2 - Please complete the linked form if you would like your child to attend.) KS2 collection time is 4:30pm.

https://forms.gle/HbG4WvQauLqZk4cU6

Santa and a couple of his helpers will be visiting school on Thursday 21st December. He will pop in to see all children in their classrooms from Nursery, Reception and KS1. He will then have a parade around the school before setting off to make final preparations for the big day. He may even stay for dinner – as it is also Christmas Dinner Day! Please book your child in via Arbor if you pay for your child's dinners.























Thursday 21st December – 2pm







We close the school year with an **Advent Mass** with Fr George, just as we started, giving us time to reflect upon the true message of Christmas. Please join us – Mass is at **10am on Friday 22nd December**.

Charitable giving – until the end of term, we would love for you to support the **World Gifts Charity**, enabling us to be sustainable (reducing Christmas Card waste), stewards of God's planet whilst at the same time gifting those who are in need in countries where there is true poverty, disease and hunger. The Liturgical Leaders have produced a number of posters to request that you support this cause:



And that's it! A busy couple of weeks ahead. Please remember that we break up on **Friday 22**nd **December ONE HOUR EARLY** (2:15 for Reception to Y6; 2:30pm for Nursery.)









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Other business:

I would like to take the opportunity to formally thank **Gerard Aston** for the years of service that he has given to the school in his role as **Chair of Governors**. Whilst he is not leaving us, he has stepped down from the role. We welcome **Kelly Hard** as the new Chair and wish her well in her new role.

Finally, many thanks to those of you who contributed to the recent survey regarding the **Well-being award** that we are working towards. In the new year I will be writing to you regarding a couple of adaptations that we are making to this provision and we continue to seek your views.

As part of this work, we are inviting pupils to engage in a drawing competition to design a mental-health icon. Please encourage your child to get involved.

Competition Time - 2



Design a mental health logo/emoji that will go on assemblies, learning resources and parental letters to highlight our mission on improving well-being.

Please hand in **NO LATER than 8th January 2024**

Please put your name on the back (NOT THE FRONT) of your design

PRIZE FOR WINNER = A well-being goodie bag

Thank you for taking your time to read this newsletter.

The staff and pupils wish you all a happy and holy Christmas season.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs T Davis (Principal









