

# St. Bernadette's Catholic Primary School

## Newsletter December 2014 Issue No.67

Loving, serving and growing together with Jesus

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Value this month is Friendship.

Can you hold out a friendly hand to others this Advent?



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### Advent

The first Sunday in Advent is 30<sup>th</sup> November. Every Monday from 1<sup>st</sup> December, the chapel will be open to the school community from 8:15 – 8:45 for quiet prayer and reflection.

Do drop in and join us.

Dear Parents and Carers,

We enter into the season of Advent and I trust that we can all find time to reflect upon our own lives; praise God and show friendship to others. We begin our festivities with the Christmas fair tomorrow. It looks to be tremendous fun with ice skating, stalls and lots of activities for the children. Do come along and bring friends and family.

### International Evening

Thank you everyone who came along to our International Evening. This year we had yet more countries represented and the evening was a huge success. It was wonderful to try so many different foods and I really enjoyed talking to as many families as I could get around. Thanks to all those who cooked!

### Book Fair

Although I haven't had an update yet I believe the Book Fair was very well attended and supported. I know just how much our children love reading so it was so good to see enthusiastic children talking about the books that they had bought.

### NSPCC Big Maths Test

Read the Community Matters newsletter for more information and thank you. £3011.00 raised!

### Nativity Plays

I know Mrs Baggaley has sent out a note to Parents regarding videoing of the plays this year. We had a number of very upset children last year with Parents overwhelming the children with ipads and other videoing devices. It really spoils it for others watching and upset the younger children. In the age of mobile technology it is impossible to prevent you from capturing those special moments and nor would I want to, however, If too many people are standing and encroaching upon the pleasure of others I will stop the performance and insist that these devices are put away. This also applies to the Year 1 and 2 performances.

### Carols and Readings Years 5 and 6

The Carols and readings in the evening on the 17<sup>th</sup> December will be in dim light so we ask that no recordings or flash photography takes place. We are also putting on a performance on the 18<sup>th</sup> December at 9.30 for the local community. If you know of anyone who lives locally that may be interested then please do pass on the information to local groups or grandparents who may not have been able to come along to the Wednesday evening performance. **RSVP is required so please email the school.**

### No Smoking

You will notice that a new sign has been put in the car park asking politely that there is no smoking near our school. I trust that those who do smoke will respect this reminder.

### Preparing for Christmas

An ancient prayer called the Angelus is very appropriate when preparing our minds for Christmas. Life is so busy and so often we don't take time to reflect upon the story and what the coming of Jesus means in our modern lives. By saying the Angelus each day it will give you time to prepare and be ready.

V. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.

R. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.

*Hail Mary, full of grace,*

*The Lord is with Thee;*

*Blessed art thou among women,*

*And blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.*

*Holy Mary, Mother of God,*

*Pray for us sinners,*

*Now and at the hour of our death. Amen*

V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord.

R. Be it done unto me according to thy word.

*Hail Mary, etc.*

V. And the Word was made Flesh.

R. And dwelt among us.

*Hail Mary, etc.*

V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

**LET US PRAY**

Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy grace into our hearts, that we to whom the Incarnation of Christ Thy Son was made known by the message of an angel, may by His Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of His Resurrection. Through the same Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Thurs 4 <sup>th</sup> Dec at 2.15	Acorns L/Saplings L Christmas Nativity
Fri 5 <sup>th</sup> Dec at 9.30	Acorns B/Saplings B Christmas Nativity- please note changed time from 9.15 to 9.30 We have found it difficult to get the youngest children ready on time in the past.
Mon 8 <sup>th</sup> Dec 6.30-8.00	Internet and Mobile Devices Safety Talk in the school Hall.
Wed 10 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2 pm	Starfish/Dolphin Christmas Nativity Festive Mufti Day and Christmas Lunch- Raise money for Ebola Crisis.
Thurs 11 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2pm	Seahorse/Turtle Christmas Nativity
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> and Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> Dec- all day	Christmas Shop- Parents Association organise a school shop for your child to buy a present for a family member. They need <b>lots</b> of help wrapping presents!
Wed 17 <sup>th</sup> Dec 6 pm in the School Hall	Year 5 and 6 Carols and Readings
Thurs 18 <sup>th</sup> Dec 9.30	Repeat performance for the community. Please RSVP the school if you or friends would like to come.
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> Dec <u>2.30 pm</u>	Open Classrooms- Last part of the afternoon to collect early and see your child's work before breaking for Christmas.
<b>Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>School Closed- Staff Training</b>
<b><u>Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January</u></b>	<b>CHILDREN START BACK AT SCHOOL</b> <b>START OF SPRING TERM</b>

The diary on the school website also has these dates. [http://www.stbernadettesschool.com/calendar\\_full.htm](http://www.stbernadettesschool.com/calendar_full.htm)

There is an ancient tradition of blessing Christian homes at Epiphany, asking God's blessing on all who live in the home in the coming year. We mark the door in chalk with the date, 2015. We also add the initials of the names given to then three wise people who brought gifts to Jesus in his first home.

- ❖ C for Casper
- ❖ M for Melchior
- ❖ B for Balthazar

The three initials, C-M-B, also stand for three words of a Latin prayer  
-*Christus Mansionem Benedict* which means 'may Christ bless this house'-  
**Get your child to colour, cut out to put up in your house**

20+CMB+15