



ST. MARK'S R.C. PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Headteacher's Message



Dear parents and carers,

What a fabulous week we have had in school, filled with the joy and excitement of Christmas celebrations!

On Monday, a group of our older children visited The Waterside for our annual singing afternoon. Waterside is an Autism Accredited specialist support centre in Clifton, providing day opportunities for people with Autism Spectrum Disorder, complex disabilities, or other health needs. Our children sang beautifully, and both the staff and the people who attend the centre were delighted and so grateful for the visit. It was a truly heartwarming experience.

On Tuesday, it was wonderful to welcome our Nursery parents into school to join their children for Christmas crafts and songs. Thank you to all the parents and carers who were able to come along, and to our staff for arranging such a lovely day for everyone.

Reception then led us in a superb Nativity on Wednesday morning. The children sang so confidently and told the story beautifully through actions. Thank you to the parents who attended and to the staff who prepared the children so well.

Yesterday, Reception also visited the Post Office and purchased stamps to send their letters to Santa. The children were so well behaved and got so much out of the experience, busily chatting away to the staff. Thank you to Miss McHenry for organising such a lovely trip for the children.

Yesterday, it was the turn of our Year 1 and Year 2 children to perform the Nativity. Although many of our Year 2 children were unwell and unable to attend, the show went on brilliantly thanks to those children who stepped into roles so quickly and performed so confidently. Our Year 1 readers were incredible—they read loudly and clearly, and some had even learnt their lines! A huge thank you to the staff for their flexibility in preparing the children and making last-minute changes, and to our parents for being such a wonderful audience.

This morning, Year 3 and Year 5 attended Mass at St. Mark's. They were an absolute credit to the school and their families, participating reverently and joyfully in all aspects of the Mass. Over the past couple of weeks, the children have been busy making Christmas cards for members of our Parish, which were handed out this morning and warmly received. Thank you to Miss Sowerby for organising this thoughtful activity.

Looking ahead, on Monday, our Christmas post box will be on the playground for children to post cards to their friends. We will have a dedicated post team from Year 6 delivering these around the school—something the children always enjoy!

This week we have also seen a lot of illness in school. Thank you for your kindness and consideration in keeping your children at home when they are unwell, and for following the 48-hour guidance after sickness or diarrhoea. Your support really helps limit the spread of bugs in school.

We wish all our families a happy and restful weekend as we prepare for what promises to be a very busy last week in school before the Christmas break.

Best Wishes,

Mrs Woodruff

Class	Attendance
N	77.2%
R	85%
Y1	95%
Y2	73.7%
Y3	79.4%
Y4	89.3%
Y5	95%
Y6	90%
WHOLE SCHOOL	85.6%



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Important Dates for next week

Monday 15th December

- Own clothes day for Year 1 and Year 5 for having the highest attendance.

Tuesday 16th December – OWN CLOTHES DAY WITH THE OPTION OF A CHRISTMAS JUMPER!

Christmas Dinner Day & Christmas Jumper Day.

- Children who usually have school dinners: No additional cost.
- Packed lunch children may opt in at the usual price:
 - Years 3 & 4 – £2.45
 - Years 5 & 6 – £2.50

Wednesday 17th December – PARTY CLOTHES DAY

Christmas Party Day and Christmas Treat Day for Nursery and Reception

A special visitor will be arriving with gifts, and children will enjoy party food (provided by school) and celebrations.

- £3.20 voluntary donation for all children in school to help cover costs. This is available on Scopay.
- Nursery & Reception will also receive a visit from Louby-Lou – fully funded by school

Thursday 18th December

School Christmas Treat Trips for Years 1 – 6:

- Years 1, 2 & 3: Legoland, Trafford Centre– Please consent for your child to attend on the Scopay app. Uniform for all children in these year groups.
- Years 4, 5 & 6: Archie's Rollerskating – Please consent for your child to attend on the Scopay app and complete the waiver using the link included in this email. Your child will not be able to participate unless you have completed the waiver. PE kit for all children in these year groups.

These trips are **fully funded by school** – no cost to families.

Friday 19th December – OWN CLOTHES DAY

- School closes for Christmas at 1:00pm.
- Please note: There will be no after school club on this day. All children must be collected at 1:00pm.



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