



Together, We Learn and Grow in God's Love

**Sacred Heart**  
**Catholic Primary School**  
A Voluntary Academy

**NEWSLETTER:** 18.12.25

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we approach Christmas, I would like to celebrate all the successes and achievements our school community have had during this term. Our whole school community have demonstrated excellence, resilience and faith throughout and our school mission statement, 'Together, We Learn and Grow in God's Love' has been lived out by everybody.

I would like to thank all our children who have worked so hard this first term. They have been excellent role models for one another and have lived out the virtues throughout their daily lives. I would also like to thank all our parents/carers for everything you have done to support your children and the school over this last term.

I would also like to thank all the staff who have worked tirelessly over this last term. They go above and beyond and really are an amazing team of people!

Thank you also to the Governors for their support, their time and their dedication to Sacred Heart; for always putting the needs of the children at the forefront when considering important school matters.

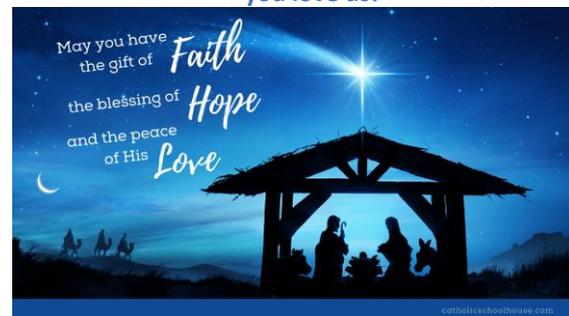
May I take this opportunity to wish everyone in our school community a very happy, healthy, and holy Christmas.

I would also like to thank you all for your continued support and generosity as headteacher of Sacred Heart. It is both a privilege and an honour to lead such a wonderful school community. The children and families here are

truly remarkable, and it's a joy to be part of their lives. Here's to continuing our journey together in the new year! Thank you for making this journey so rewarding!

I hope you all have a wonderful and well-deserved Christmas with your families. I wish you all a happy and healthy New Year, and I look forward to seeing you all back in school again, on January 6th 2026. I look forward to the successes that 2026 will bring for us all. May God gift us all good health, determination, resilience and a renewed energy to move into 2026, where exciting times await us all.

Dear Jesus,  
Thank you that you were born as a baby in Bethlehem.  
Thank you that you help us not to be afraid of anything.  
Help us to be joyful at Christmas time, because you love us!



### CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCES

I have been overwhelmed to see our children performing the most important story of Jesus' birth for you all this Christmas. It was also wonderful to welcome so many parents and carers into school to watch the different performances. The children were absolutely fantastic and shone like the real stars they are. I became quite teary at one point due to the pride I felt for our wonderful children, so I can only imagine the pride you must have felt too. We were also delighted to share the beautiful Christingle celebration led by Year 2, which was



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both meaningful and reflective, reminding us of the light of Christ and the message of hope at this special time of year. In addition, the Worship Choir's performance added a very special atmosphere to our celebrations.

Thank you for supporting your children at home by helping them to learn the songs and their lines. Your support makes such a difference and helps to make these moments so memorable for everyone.



### CAROL SERVICE

One of the most poignant parts of our Christmas celebrations, the school Carol Service, will take place at 2.30pm on Friday 19th December in the school hall. We would love as many of our families as possible to join us as it will be a lovely occasion. Refreshments will be available in the top hall from 2.00pm.

### RETURN TO SCHOOL

**Children return to school on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January. Please note, Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January is a training day so school is closed.**

### WHOLE SCHOOL ADVENT MASS

Last week, the school came together to celebrate Advent Mass led by Fr Butler.

The atmosphere was filled with joy and anticipation, as everyone came together to reflect on this meaningful season. Such moments remind us of the importance of community and faith. It was a wonderful way to join together as a school community.

We also gathered together this week for our Advent Reconciliation Service. The children were so respectful and reflective, taking time to think carefully about their actions, choices and how they can show forgiveness and kindness to others. It was a calm and prayerful opportunity to pause during this busy season and prepare our hearts for Christmas, reminding us of the importance of reconciliation, compassion and making things right with one another.

### MASS AT CHRISTMAS

**Please check the parish bulletin for details of Mass times over the Christmas period.** The bulletin can be accessed online via the St Jeanne Jugan Parish website:

[www.jeannejuganleeds.org.uk](http://www.jeannejuganleeds.org.uk)

### SAFEGUARDING

As we approach the Christmas period, many children may spend more time online or using new devices. We kindly remind parents and carers to talk to their children about staying safe online, including being kind to others, not sharing personal information and telling a trusted adult if something worries them. Thank you for your continued support in helping us keep all children safe.

### CHRISTMAS BAUBLE COMPETITION

Thank you to all the children who took part in our Christmas Bauble Competition. We were so impressed by the creativity, effort and care that went into each design, making it a very difficult decision for our judges. Congratulations to our winners: R/Y1 – Issaac, Y2 – Jon-Jon, Y3 – Rosie, Y4 – Alhasan, Y5 – Estelle, Y6 - Fabiana and well done to everyone who entered. The finished baubles look wonderful and have helped to bring a real sense of festive joy to our school. Thank you to our Pupil Parliament who also helped with the judging.



## **NATIVITY SCENES**

At the beginning of Advent, I set all our families an Advent challenge to work together as a family to create a homemade Nativity scene to bring into school where we will display it proudly. I cannot believe the fantastic response we had to the challenge and the wonderful Nativity scenes that children have brought into school. They have brought us so much joy to look at the hard work that has gone into making them and the children are so proud of them. Thank you so much for working together to create a Nativity scene. They are beautiful.



## **BREAKFAST CELEBRATIONS**

This Friday, Mrs Nichol will be hosting a special breakfast with four children from each class. Two children will be chosen for earning the most Dojos, and two for making exceptional effort and consistently following our school rules. The children are very excited to take part, and it will be a lovely opportunity to celebrate positive behaviour, good choices and a commitment to learning.

## **KS2 SINGING PERFORMANCE**

A lovely part of our end-of-term celebrations was our Y3 and 4 Choir Performance with our Choral Director Miss Leather, where the children showed all they've learned in their singing lessons. It was a brilliant performance and showcased the hard work of the children and Miss Leather this term. Well done all.

## **PRIMARY SCHOOL APPLICATIONS**

Admissions to Reception class for September 2026: Applications are now welcome from any prospective parents whose children are eligible to

join our school in September 2026. Applications need to be made in two forms: completing the online form on the Leeds City Council website, and additionally completing the school's SIF (Supplementary Information Form) and handing this to Miss Hill or alternatively you can email it or complete it online on the school website. The closing date is January 15th 2026.

Please pass on this information to any parents who may have pupils who wish to attend next school year.

## **EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

Please note that After School Clubs for Spring 1 will go live the first week we come back after the Christmas holidays. Clubs are offered on a first come, first served basis. Thank you to our staff who provide these clubs for our children.

## **FOSH**

We are so grateful to our parent teacher association, Friends of Sacred Heart, for the fundraising and fun activities they have provided for the children this term.

I hope you enjoyed the Christmas Fayre. I want to thank Tasha and the FOSH team who have worked tirelessly to create the fayre that the children enjoy so much. Also, a big thank you to the staff in school who have given their own time to helping with the fayre, demonstrating their commitment to the ethos and values of Sacred Heart. The Christmas Fayre raised over £1,400.

Last week's pantomime production of Jack and the Beanstalk was also generously funded by FOSH.

Thank you to Natasha Harvey, Rebecca Bott, and all parents, relatives and friends who have voluntarily given up huge amounts of time to plan and set up these activities. Thank you to our parents for attending and giving to FOSH events. Every penny raised will support projects that will create a richer, better environment for the children's learning, and which we could not otherwise afford from the school budget.

## REC/Y1 TRIP

Reception and Year 1 had a great time at the Abbey House museum. The children were fascinated as they explored and compared a range of toys, the oldest of which was 200 years old! They were able to compare what toys looked like, what they were made of and how children used them to play. Taking a stroll through the Victorian streets helped them to imagine what it was like to live over 100 years ago.



## FESTIVE FAMILY CIRCUITS

A little reminder that our Festive Family Circuits session is tomorrow morning at 8:15am. It's a fun, Christmas-themed workout that's perfect for families!

Please come through the Top Hall entrance. We can't wait to see you there!

## ATTENDANCE SINCE 3<sup>rd</sup> NOV

**Reception:** 94%

**Year 1:** 83%

**Year 2:** 93%

**Year 3:** 95%

**Year 4:** 95%

**Year 5:** 97%

**Year 6:** 97%

**Overall:** 94%

Government Target: 95%

School Target 97%

**Congratulations to YEAR 5 and YEAR 6 who are our ATTENDANCE CHAMPIONS this half term.**

## GOD BLESS YOU ALL AT CHRISTMAS

On behalf of myself, Mrs Duffy and the Academy Council, I finally wish you all a wonderful, happy, healthy and safe Christmas.

Many thanks for your continued support throughout this first term. See you all on the 6<sup>th</sup> January.



God bless  
Mrs Nichol