



Friday 6th December 2019

Term	Start	Half Term	Reopens	Term Ends
Autumn 2019				Fri 20 th Dec – 2pm
Spring 2020	Mon 6 th Jan Training Day – School Closed. School Opens Tues 7 th Jan	Mon 17 th Feb	Mon 24 th Feb	Fri 3 rd April – 2pm
Summer 2019	Mon 20 th April Training day – School Closed. School opens Tues 21 st April	Mon 25 th May	Mon 1 st June	Fri 17 th July – 2pm Mon 20 th July Training Day – School Closed.

Class Masses

The next school Mass will be celebrated on **Thursday 12th December - Year 2 (Second Sunday of Advent 13th Dec) and Thursday 19th December – Year 6 (Third Sunday of Advent) at 9.00am.** Parents, friends and parishioners are most welcome to attend. Please Note if no Priest is available there will be a Service of the Word.

Maths Parent's Open Week

Thank you for positive evaluations following our Maths Parent's Open Week. The week was a great success and we look to repeat it again next year. Please continue to support your child/ren with any maths homework.

Times Tables Rock stars

As a school we have purchased a license for Times Tables Rock Star. This is a carefully sequenced programme of daily times tables practice. Each week concentrates on a different times table, with a recommended consolidation week for rehearsing the tables that have recently been practised every third week or so. This format has very successfully boosted times tables recall speed. Your child/ren will be sent home with log-in details so that they can access this exciting programme from home



Appointments to see the Class Teacher

We have a very positive relationship with parents and aim to get to the bottom of concerns and issues as soon as possible. If you have something you would like to discuss with your child's class teacher, then speak to them either after school for short messages or book an appointment if you require a longer meeting. Please do not ask the school office staff to pass on messages second-hand about any concerns you may have. These should be related directly to the class teacher.



Christmas Performances

We would like to invite all parents to attend this year's Christmas performances on the following dates:

- **KS1 Nativity: Wednesday 18th December at 9:30am (Doors open at 9.00am)**
- **KS2 Carol Concert: Tuesday 17th December at 2:00pm (Doors open at 1:30pm)**

Raffle tickets, tea/coffee/cake/biscuits will be available on the day (£1.00). Programmes will also be available on the day (donation of 50p). All proceeds to go to school fund.

SS John and Martin's Parish Church and Christmas Fair - Cancelled

Unfortunately, the SS John and Marin's Parish Fair has had to be postponed due to unforeseen circumstances. For this reason, we are no longer asking our children to bake cakes for the event. Parish organisers hope to reschedule the event for the new year. We will keep you informed.

Christmas Theatre Trips

Each Key Stage will be visiting the theatre again this year to enjoy a Christmas production. This is a fantastic opportunity for children to experience real live theatre! Rec/KS1 will be walking to the Midlands Arts Centre as we did last year and KS2 went by coach to the Crescent Theatre in Birmingham. Details of the Rec/KS1 trip is as follows:

REC/KS1: 'Kippers Snowy Day' on Tuesday 10th December (Cost: £10.00) Please collect children normal time – 3.15pm

NB: Consent must be given via <https://login.eduspot.co.uk> for children to be allowed to attend the trip.

Christmas Fundraising - Monday 16th - Friday 20th December – OPEN TO ALL YEARS

During this week, all of the classes will be holding events to allow them to raise money for CAFOD (Catholic International Development Charity) and other local and national charities. Each class will be aiming to raise as much money as possible. Children should bring money into school on Monday 16th December and can enter all events: Please ensure money is placed in a sealed envelope labelled with your child's name and class and pass to the Class Teacher. Thank you

YEAR GROUP	EVENT	COST/DATE	CHOSEN CHARITY
REC	Film Afternoon	£1 Tues 17 th Dec	Children Hospital
Y1 (open to all years)	Design a Religious Christmas Card	Deadline Wed 18 th Dec (50p)	African Children Empowerment
Y2 (open to all years)	Colouring Competition	Deadline Wed 18 th Dec (50p)	Age UK
Y3 (open to all years)	Wear Purple for Advent	£1 Monday 16 th Dec	Acorns Children's Hospice
Y4 (open to all years)	Name the Teddy	(All Week) 50p	Birmingham Dog's Home
Y5 (open to all years)	Guess the number of Sweets in the Jar	(All Week) 50p	World Wildlife Fund
Y6 (open to all years)	Christmas Jumper	£1 Thur 19 th Dec	Green Peace

This Advent we are collecting children's clothes for the charity African Children Empowerment. This charity is founded by Solomon Akaka, a member of our parish. The clothes are given to the orphans who live on the streets in Africa. If you feel that you can help in any way, please drop off any washed clothes to the school office. Thank you.

Christmas Parties

Each class will be holding a Christmas Party on **Thursday 19th December**.

Children and staff are also invited to wear Christmas Jumpers on this day for £1.00 (proceeds to go to school fund). Children may also wear their own clothes. Children will be advised by their class teachers as to what food/drink they are required to bring in for the afternoon party.



Punctuality

We have noticed that recently, a growing number of children are entering the school building after 8.55am and are, therefore, late to school. Persistent lateness, like absence, is classed as a Safeguarding issue and lateness records are kept. Please ensure that your child/ren enter the school building before 8.55am. Thank you

Attendance for Week 25th to 29th Nov – Well done to Year 3 – 99.3%

Week 2nd to 6th Dec – Well done to Year 3 – 96.7%

Average Attendance for the last 2 weeks:

Class	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
% Attendance	90.2%	93.5%	91.5%	98%	92.5%	92.7%	94.6%
Lates	13	13	10	12	14	18	9
Whole School Attendance so far this year				97%	School Target	97%	

The Golden Book – The following children have been chosen for exceptional work and behaviour. Well done to everyone!

Reception: Mrs. Riches & Mrs Hodges	Zakariyya & Machair
Year 1: Miss Millar & Miss McKeown	Samuel & Safaa
Year 2: Miss Geoghegan & Miss McKeown	Sarah & Areeba
Year 3: Mrs. Flaherty & Mrs Ali	Imarni & Yunis
Year 4: Miss McEvoy & Mrs Ali	Hessa & Khio
Year 5: Mrs Litchfield, Mrs Catling & Miss Hill	Ali & Shaniya
Year 6: Mr. Ullah, Mrs Gray & Miss Hill	Aibak & Sara
Mrs. Elliott: Head Teacher	Kai & Curtis

Dates for your Diary

Date	Event	Time
Tues 10 th Dec	Rec/KS1 Theatre Visit	pm
Thurs 12 th Dec	Christmas Dinner	pm
Fri 13 th Dec	School Christmas Fair	3.30-5.15pm
Tues 17 th Dec	KS2 Carol Concert	2.00pm
Wed 18 th Dec	KS1 Nativity Performance	9.30am
Thurs 19 th Dec	Christmas Parties	pm

Christmas Dinner

Christmas dinner will be taking place next **Thursday 12th December**. If your child usually has a packed lunch and you would like the to have a Christmas Dinner, please contact the school office via phone, email or popping into the school office.

Violin Performance

There will be a performance from our **Violinists on Wednesday 11th December at 9.15am**. Parents/carers of the above children are welcome to attend.



Christmas Raffle

Thank you to everyone who has been hard at work selling Christmas Raffle tickets over Half Term. If you have sold all your tickets - don't forget you can pick up extra books from the School Office. **The three children who sell the most tickets will get a special prize and everyone who sells their initial 20 tickets will get a little Christmas Reward from the School Office when they hand in their ticket stubs and money.** Please do encourage friends, family, work colleagues, neighbours etc., to support our School's fundraising efforts. Some wonderful new prizes have been donated by generous local businesses and there are over 30 prizes currently.

Cakes for School Christmas Fair

Our Fundraising Committee are holding their first SS John and Monica **School Christmas Fair on Friday 13th Dec 2019 3.30-5.15pm**. There will be a cake stall and we would be very grateful for any **cake donations** to be sent into school on that day. We look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible!



SS John & Monica Catholic Primary School

Fundraising Christmas Fair
Friday 13th December
3:15-5:15pm

Raffle Prizes will be drawn in the morning and be ready for collection at the fair

Christmas Pentathlon £3

Sticker & Book Stall

Tombola

Raffle Prize Claim

Tric a Brac Stall

Face Painting £3

Non-Uniform £1

Tea, Coffee & Mince Pies £1

Food Stalls from 50p

Xmas Grotto £2

Christmas Pentathlon Try Your Luck at 5 Christmassy Games PRIZE EVERY TIME

Tombola Prize Donations Welcome at School Office

Henna Stall

Guest Sweets In Jar 50p

Photo Booth £1-£2

Candle Stall

Donations of food and cakes welcome on the day

PLEASE NOTE:

- SCHOOL WILL CLOSE ON **FRIDAY 20TH DECEMBER AT 2.00PM**
- SCHOOL WILL REOPEN ON **TUESDAY 7TH JANUARY** (Training Day 6th Jan)