



**HOLY NAME CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL**



**NEWSLETTER: DECEMBER 2020**

Please be advised that all school documentation is available in different formats, on request.

Christmas is coming! The fairies have been and the decorations are up! Social distancing still has to be observed so this has limited the amount of work the fairies could do and what they could put up. However, they have done a very good job under the circumstances and the school still looks magical.

**RE – ADVENT**

The RE topic is now Advent. Sunday 29 November marked the first Sunday of Advent. Unfortunately, we are not allowed to hold whole school assemblies, Mrs Hughes has kindly put a virtual Family Advent Calendar up on Dojo. Please share this with your children each week. During Advent, we remember that Hope becomes Peace, Peace becomes Joy, Joy becomes Love and Love becomes Christ.

**CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCES**

Once again, the current situation means we still cannot have parents/carers in school so there will unfortunately, be no live performances. However, to compensate for this, the children will be performing virtually in some way. These events will be put on Dojo as long as parents/carers have completed and returned the signed GDPR form sent home recently, giving permission for your child to appear on photographs/videos. If you are still not signed up to Dojo, please contact the main office. If you have not given your permission, your child will not be on the final version.

**COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS APPEAL**

We have been asked by the Archdiocese to support a charity for those in need this Christmas. Teachers are donating to the Fazakerley Community Federation instead of buying Secret Santa gifts. If anyone would like to donate to this charity, I am sure the Federation would be very grateful. Mrs Hughes will send out more information about the Federation and the type of donations they are asking for this year. We understand that more than any other time, families are finding things difficult this year. If anyone in our own school community is struggling this Christmas, please contact Mrs Hughes on Dojo. (This will be treated as highly confidential.)

**CHRISTMAS CARDS**

During this time of year, the children often bring in Christmas cards for their friends. To ensure we observe the correct guidelines, we will have a box in each class where we can leave things in for 72 hours before passing them onto the children. It would be helpful if children brought things in on a Monday or Tuesday and we will give them out on a Friday. Thank you.

**NURSERY/RECEPTION**

Please do not forget to apply for a place in Reception if your child turns 4 by 31 August 2021. The closing date for applications for Reception starters in September 2021 is 15 January 2021.



### READING

Please ensure your child reads for ten minutes each night (AND during the Christmas holidays) and if your child is in the Infants, please complete their reading records. If your child is in the Juniors, please ask them to complete their reading record.

It would also be beneficial to your child if you could spend a bit of time talking about the book they are reading, asking them questions to gauge their understanding of what they have read. Reception pupils are working hard on phonics. Please encourage your child to complete any homework given.

### REMOTE LEARNING

If your child has to isolate for 14 days because of being a close contact of a positive case, please remember that they should be engaging in the online learning that is posted by the class teacher. We are also producing paper copies in case pupils do not have access to the internet. If you have difficulty getting your child to engage, please contact school and we will speak to them. It is vital that children continue to learn when they are self-isolating and we are doing our utmost to facilitate this by providing online/paper resources.

### ACTION FOR CHILDREN CONCERT

Many of you will be aware that our choir usually perform at the Anglican Cathedral in the annual Action for Children Concert. It is usually the highlight of Mrs Perry's year! This year, there will be virtual concert available online on Tuesday 8 December between 6.30 pm and 7.30 pm. Three pupils from each Liverpool school that usually attend the concert each year were invited to perform at the virtual concert. Mrs Perry will send out the link on Dojo nearer the time so you can watch the concert.

### SCHOOL CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY –FRIDAY 11 DECEMBER

Children are invited to come to school in their own clothes which should include a Christmas t-shirt or jumper on Friday 11 December. We ask for a £1 donation towards the Save the Children Charity.

### MESSAGE SYSTEMS

Please remember that the School Dojo system is a way to keep parents/carers informed about what is happening in school. It is also used as a two-way message system between teachers and parents/carers. This is handy for working parents/carers, who do not always have the time to contact school by telephone during the day. We take it for granted that messages are kept private between the school and home and we do not expect teachers' messages to be broadcast on social media for public comment and/or criticism. Staff freely give up their own time to respond to parental concerns in the evening or at the weekend. We ask that all parents treat staff with the same respect they afford you.

### PARKING

We ask that ALL parents/carers park considerately to keep our children safe, especially at this time of year with the inclement weather and dark mornings. It is so unfair that the same people choose to ignore our pleas and continue to park across the zig zags so they do not have to get out of the car. We understand that sometimes people are in rush to get to work or an appointment but it is not fair on the majority of our parents/carers who take the time to park safely. Please park safely, not on the zig zag lines, across people's drive or on the pavement. Thank you.

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

11.12.20 = Christmas Jumper Day - £1 contribution to the Save the Children Charity

18.12.20 = Non uniform day – 50p for school fund

**CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY**

School closes ~Friday 18 December at **1.15 pm (early finish)**

School re-opens Monday 4 January at 8.45 am.

More than ever this year, we need to find Christ’s love in ourselves to share the real message of Christmas with those around us. May the Joy, Peace, Hope and Love of Christmas be shared with each and every one of us. We wish everyone a happy and Holy Christmas. Thank you for your support. Take care and stay safe, everyone.



School closes for the Christmas holidays on **Friday 18 December at 1.15 pm**

School reopens **on Monday 4 January at 8.45 am**