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Friday 28th November 2025

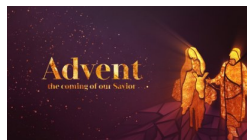
Dear Children, Parents and Carers,

Advent and Christmas Preparations at St Margaret Mary's



A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill made low." Isaiah 40:3-4

As we move towards the First Sunday of Advent this weekend we turn our attentions to this very special and important time of year. During this season of Advent, we encourage our school community to prepare and be ready in our preparations. We are called to be closer to God and have faith and hope in others and ourselves.



Advent Prayer Resources

Children across the school will be bringing home Advent prayer resources to support the special season we begin on Sunday. All pupils will bring home an Advent Wreath Booklet today. In addition to this the Advent Prayer Pack will also travel around each class with a different pupil bringing this home each evening.

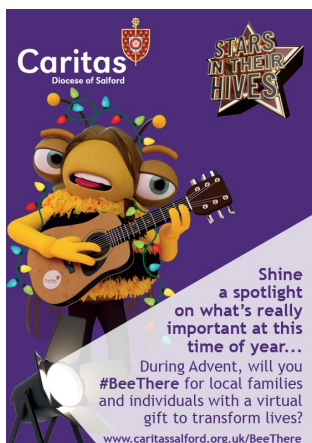
Please support us by finding a quiet space for children to reflect and pray at home, returning the pack the next day, so that it can be shared with the all pupils in the class.



#BeeThere – Caritas Appeal & Own Clothes' Day

During this season of Advent we always think of how we can support and give to others. Again, now more than ever is it important to think of others and let them know that they are not alone, particularly this Christmas.

Our School Council and GIFT Team have met this week to at ways in which we as a school can support the #Bee There This Christmas Caritas Appeal. They will be writing to parents on Monday and speaking to pupils across the school to share ways in which we will try to make a difference. On Friday 5th December we invite our children to come to school in their own clothes for a monetary donation. This will go towards our collection for the Caritas Advent Appeal to help make a difference to those most in need in our community this Christmas. Please see the end of this newsletter for further information.



Road Safety

We are once again asking our parents and families to drive with caution on our surrounding school roads. There was an incident reported earlier this week where a car mounted the pavement and very nearly caused an accident involving one of our children. I am sure you will agree this is highly concerning and is posing a great risk to both our children and families.

We have also been advised of cars blocking and obstructing driveways of homes within our school community, resulting in people not being able to leave their own driveways until vehicles are removed. We ask for both your kindness and consideration with these situations, and above all extreme care when driving in and around our school community.



"Poetry Together and Coffee Afternoon"

On Thursday 4th December, grandparents are invited into school for an afternoon of poetry as part of the "Poetry Together Project". This exciting initiative brings younger and older generations together through the joy of poetry, so come along and support the children as they share their poems on the theme of celebration.



1H Collective Worship : Date and Time Change

Please note there has been a change in the time and date of Class 1H's Collective Worship next week. This will now take place on Thursday 4th December at 9.00 a.m. We warmly welcome our families of the children in class 1H to come along. We look forward to seeing you there.



Christmas Dinner Day

Our Christmas Dinner will be held on Wednesday 17th December this year. For children that are on packed lunches, but would like a Christmas Dinner, this is now available to pay or order on our school app. The cost of the Christmas Dinner is £2.65.

For children in Reception, Years 1 & 2 please just click your consent to order a Christmas Dinner in the school app as children in these year groups are eligible for Universal Free School Meals. However, you will need to order your child a Christmas Dinner so that our School Kitchen have accurate numbers.

Thank you in advance.



Year 3 & 4 Ancient Egypt Project Exhibition

We would like to welcome our parents/carers of Years 3 & 4 to our Ancient Egypt Project Exhibition which will take place on Tuesday 2nd December at 2.50 p.m.

Please come along to see the children's incredible work and truly amazing projects.



Pre-Loved Christmas Jumpers

In preparation for Christmas Jumper Day, we are asking for donations of any pre-loved Christmas jumpers that you no longer need. We understand that children grow out of them very quickly and are only worn for a short period of time. We are hoping that with enough donations we can hold a "Pre-Loved Christmas Jumper Sale." All monies donated will go to "Save The Children" charity.

We ask that any Christmas jumpers are brought to the school office before Wednesday 3rd December. Thank you in advance.



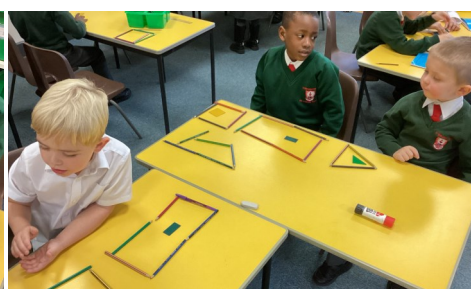
Look at our great work!

wonderful writing

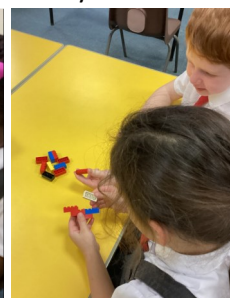
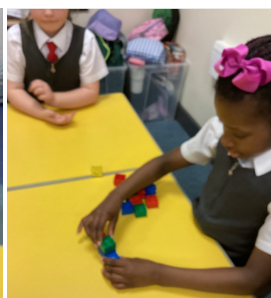
This week, Reception have been learning about odd and even numbers ...



1/2S explored and created different 2D shapes in their Maths learning ...



The children in Year 2 are using blocks to build towers and test their stability. ...



A huge well done to the children in 3/4D for creating a fantastic project about Ancient Egypt ...



6W enjoyed their STEM workshop with Mr Edmondson learning about different jobs ...





Well done to this week's 'Stars of the Week' ...



Prophetic and Intentional



Well done to all of our pupils who demonstrated our school virtues – 'prophetic and intentional' this week ...





Congratulations to our Times Table Rock Stars and Numbots winners this week. Keep up the good work!



Congratulations to our "Rollama" SPAG winners this week! Keep up the excellent work!





3/4D are this week's class attendance winners with a fantastic 97.9% attendance!

Nur W	Nur/RecW	RecW	1H	1/2S	2M
87.9%	96.5%	93.7%	93.4%	92.5%	93.2%
3W	3/4D	4J	5C	5/6G	6W
92.9%	97.9%	93.2%	94.8%	97.3%	92.5%

Dates to remember

Tuesday 2nd December: Year 3 & 4 Ancient Egypt Project Exhibition at 2.50 p.m.

Thursday 4th December: Class 1H Collective 9.00 a.m. in 1H classroom

Thursday 4th December: Grandparents invited for "Poetry Together and Coffee Afternoon" at 2.30 p.m.

Friday 5th December: Own Clothes' Day - CARITAS Collection

Christmas Performances & Events

Tuesday 9th December: 9.30 a.m. - 10.15 a.m. Nursery parents to watch EYFS Christmas Performance

Tuesday 9th December: 2.30 p.m. - 3.15 p.m. Reception parents to watch EYFS Christmas Performance

Thursday 11th December: 9.30 a.m. - 10.15 a.m. Year 1 parents to watch KS1 Christmas Performance

Thursday 11th December: 5.00 p.m. - 5.45 p.m. Year 2 parents to watch KS1 Christmas Performance

Thursday 11th December: 1.30 - 2.30 p.m. School Choir to the Irish Centre

Friday 12th December: Christmas Jumper Day

Saturday 13th December: PTA "Breakfast with Santa"

Monday 15th December: KS2 Carol Concert 1.30 - 2.30 p.m.

Monday 15th December: EYFS & KS1 Christmas Disco 4.00 p.m. finish

Monday 15th December: Years 5 & 6 Christmas Disco 4.15 - 5.30 p.m.

Tuesday 16th December: Years 3 & 4 Christmas Disco 4.15 p.m. finish

Wednesday 17th December: Christmas Dinner Day - now payable on the school app for packed lunch children

Wednesday 17th December: Christmas "Book Flood" at 2.30 p.m.

Thursday 18th December: School closes for Christmas holidays at 1.00 p.m.

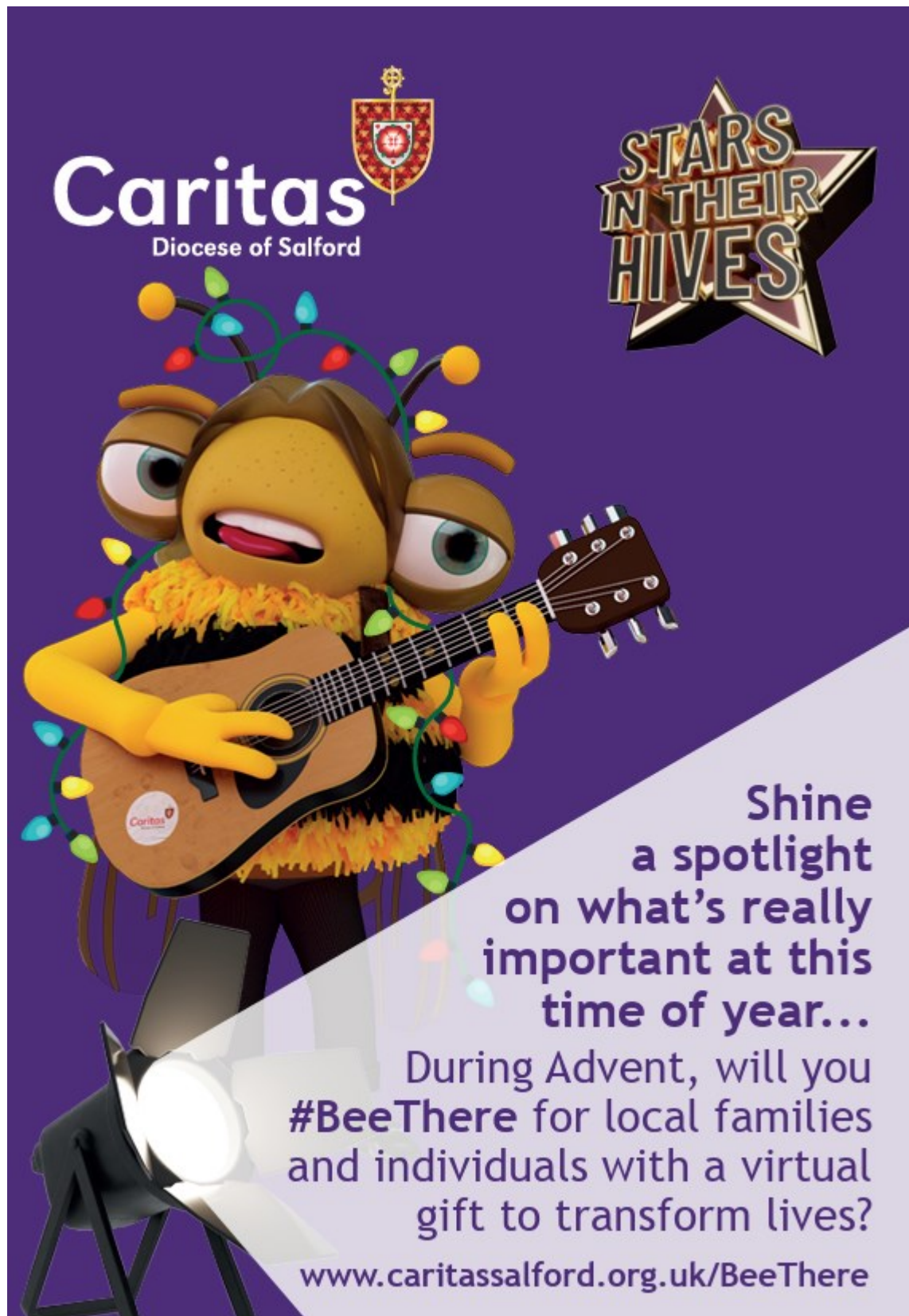
Monday 5th January 2026: School re-opens



Once again, thank you for your on-going support. I hope you have a lovely weekend

Take care and God Bless!

Mr Sutton



The advertisement features a cartoon bee character with large eyes, wearing a yellow and orange fuzzy vest, and playing an acoustic guitar. The bee is decorated with a string of colorful Christmas lights. In the top left corner is the Caritas Diocese of Salford logo, which includes a red shield with a white cross and the text "Caritas Diocese of Salford". In the top right corner is a large, stylized star with the text "STARS IN THEIR HIVES" inside it. In the bottom left corner, a spotlight is shown shining towards the bee. The background is a solid purple color.

Caritas
Diocese of Salford

**STARS
IN THEIR
HIVES**

Shine
a spotlight
on what's really
important at this
time of year...

During Advent, will you
#BeeThere for local families
and individuals with a virtual
gift to transform lives?

www.caritassalford.org.uk/BeeThere

£8 Gift from Santa

Your donation could ensure that every person has a box set of personal toiletries to unwrap when they attend one of our Caritas Christmas sit down meals.

£15 Birth and new parent starter kit

When a new parent has no other family, you could give their newborn baby the best possible practical start.

£20 Grow your own starter kit

With support from our Caritas food pantry, you could help people save money on their shopping with healthy easy-to-grow fruit and vegetable kits.

£35 Professional advice and support

Time to talk with a professional can be an important first step in overcoming whatever difficulties you or your family are facing. Your gift could make this possible, so that individuals can transform their lives with dignity.

£35 Refit a home with energy saving measures

Your gift could help reduce someone's household electricity bills. And when you are having to make difficult choices with your finances, every penny saved on energy bills can make such a difference.

£45 Christmas dinner for 15 people

Over the Christmas period, Caritas hosts lots of sit down meals so that nobody misses out. Your gift could ensure 15 people enjoy a hot, nutritious three-course Christmas meal with all the trimmings.

£50 Providing hot shower facilities for 70 people

Your donation could allow 70 of the most vulnerable people in our local communities to have a wash.

£85 Warm winter pack

For those unable to leave their home or bed due to disability or illness, your gift could ensure they can stay warm and cosy without driving up their energy bills.

£157 Weekly food shop

Feeding your family when you have no money is tough enough. But it's even harder if you're caught up in a crisis such as chronic illness, bereavement or fear of eviction. Your gift could ensure that a family has the food support they need.

£250 Sponsor a programme of activities

Our passions are what make us human... Taking part in a wellbeing afternoon, arts and crafts, drama, cooking, creative writing, music, composing, singing, painting or pottery are important and just because you're struggling at the moment, doesn't mean you should not be able to pursue these lifelong activities. Your donation could pay for craft materials, paper and canvas, pens and paper, basic musical instruments, sports equipment, ingredients and cooking equipment, and time with the experts to learn and hone new skills.

Sponsor a plot / raised bed £350

It's a well-known fact that being outside in nature is good for your health - physically, mentally and spiritually - and the people who access support in this way continue to provide feedback that it's been so helpful for their wellbeing. Your gift could pay for compost, seeds, starter plants ('plugs'), tools, gloves, protective clothing and the right footwear, pots, string, netting, and time with the experts to learn and hone new skills.

Sponsor a room for a year £1,500

Your gift could help provide safe, supported accommodation for a year for someone, and prevent them being homeless.

Provide interpretation and translation services £1,500

Donations could help ensure that Caritas services remain a welcome, safe and inclusive space to all people in crisis. It ensures that anyone who is d/Deaf or has another language which is not English can access the help to move out of poverty, homelessness and disadvantage.



During the season of Advent, it's easy to get lost in the busy hustle and bustle of activities.

Thanks for shining a spotlight on what's *really* important at Christmas and making a donation to help families and individuals in crisis. Your gift will have a huge long-lasting impact.

Thank you.

You can donate in one of the following ways:

🌐 caritassalford.org.uk/donate ☎ 0161 817 2250 (press 1)

Cheques may be made payable to Caritas Salford and posted to:
Caritas House, 11obby Stiles Drive, Manchester M4 4FA.

giftaid it

If you are a UK tax payer wishing to gift aid your donation, please let us know and include your name and postal address, so that we can claim 25% extra.

CARITAS DIOCESE OF SALFORD

🌐 caritassalford.org.uk/donate

☎ 0161-817 2250 and select option 1

✉ fundraising@caritassalford.org.uk

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#BeeThere

Charity number: 1125808