

St Margaret Mary's RC Primary, A Voluntary Academy St Margaret's Road New Moston Manchester

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Mr M Sutton, Headteacher

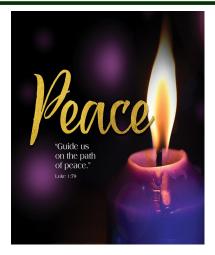
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Friday 12th December 2025

Dear Children, Parents and Carers,



'Prepare the way of the Lord; Make his paths straight." Matthew 3:3

We continue our journey towards the end of our second week of Advent, where we have focused upon the themes of peace and preparation. Today we have reflected upon Sunday's Gospel reading with John the Baptist being central to this. In the reading he is presented as preparing the way for Jesus. His message to all who he meets is simple but powerful. "Repent for the kingdom of heaven has come near."

In this reading we hear of people repenting their sins, turning towards God and being baptised in the waters of the River Jordan. This passage is read during Advent because it is a season of preparation – not just for celebrating Christmas but for welcoming Christ into our lives again. This Advent we are all invited to change direction and prepare for the coming of the Lord.

Christmas Performances

I would like to take this opportunity to both congratulate and celebrate our children from Nursery to Year Two, for their Christmas Performances this week. Their retelling of the Christmas Story was wonderful and everyone involved should feel very proud. A special word of thanks to all of the staff who have helped to prepare the children ahead of this week, and finally to you, parents and family. As always, thank you for your wonderful support. I do hope you enjoyed them as much as we did.



Christmas Discos

A reminder that our Christmas Discos are as follows:

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

All EYFS & KS1 children should come to school wearing their own clothes (party clothes) even if your child is not able to stay for the Christmas Disco

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

All Year 5 & 6 children should come to school wearing their full school uniform for their KS2 Carol Concert performance and will be able to change into their own clothes (party clothes) before returning for their Christmas Disco at 4.15 p.m.

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

All Year 3 & 4 children should come to school wearing their own clothes (party clothes) even if your child is not able to stay for the Christmas Disco

If you wish for your child to stay and attend our Christmas discos then you can make a payment of £3.50 using our School Gateway app. For this, your child will receive a snack, a drink and enjoy a fun and festive disco.

KS2 Carol Concert

Our KS2 Carol Concert will be held outside on Monday 15th December from 1.30-2.15 p.m. located on the KS1 playground. This is due to the church being unavailable and lack of capacity in our school hall to accommodate parents of over 180 children in the hall. The hosting of the event will be outdoors and we are hopeful for a dry clear day. In the event of extreme weather the event would take place in the hall with children only being filmed and the concert being shared with parents/carers via a YouTube link. All children must be in full school uniform. Although not ticketed, we are asking that no more than 2 adults per family attend the concert due to space on the playground. We ask for your understanding that viewing will be limited and sound will be affected, but nevertheless we want to host a festive carol service for our school community.



School Choir Performance

The school choir loved performing on Thursday afternoon at the Irish Centre. Year 6 had the opportunity to sing some lovely solos and performed brilliantly. We are so proud of our school choir!







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. Please order your child's Christmas Dinner before Monday 15th December.

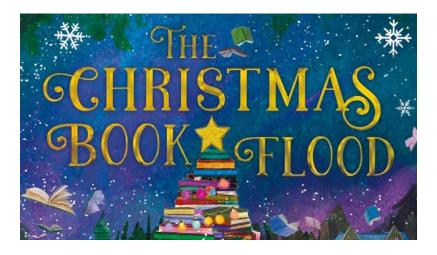
Thank you in advance.

Christmas Book Flood

On Wednesday 17th December we invite parents/carers into school for our "Christmas Book Flood." This is an Icelandic Christmas tradition where books are gifted as presents on Christmas Eve and the new books are read whilst drinking hot chocolate long into the night.

In the spirit of this tradition we are inviting our parents/carers into school from 2.30 p.m. where you will be able to share in the joy of reading with your child in their classroom.

We warmly welcome our parents/carers and hope to see you there.



Christmas Jumper Day ...











Christmas Jumper Day ...









Thank you to all our parents and families who came along to watch our EYFS and KS1 Christmas performances ...



Our Year 5 pupils had an enjoyable and engaging afternoon decorating bird boxes to go up in our community ...











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 97.5% attendance!

Nur W	Nur/RecW	RecW	1H	1/2\$	2M
80%	91%	92.4%	95.2%	96.4%	95.7%
3W	3/4D	4 J	5C	5/6G	6W
91.8%	97.5%	94.3%	96.2%	95.7%	92.5%

Dates to remember

Christmas Performances & Events

Monday 15th December: KS2 Carol Concert 1.30 - 2.15 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

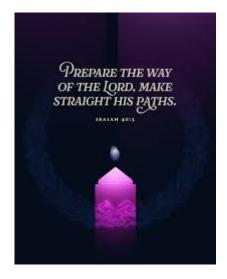
children

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





"I baptise you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry." Matthew 3:12

Hope you have a lovely weekend

Take care and God Bless!

Mr Sutton