



Following in the footsteps of Jesus, we learn, love and laugh together



Friday 12th December 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

This week we've really felt the festive atmosphere around school. On Wednesday morning, there was great excitement as the whole school got ready to visit the Story House Theatre to watch Beauty and the Beast. Everyone returned with smiles on their faces and clearly had a wonderful time. We would like to extend our grateful appreciation to FoSL, as it is with their support we are able to offer these opportunities. Raffle tickets are still available for the Christmas draw, there is an amazing first prize, a family holiday voucher. Tickets will be drawn following the Christmas Carol Service on Monday evening.

Yesterday, our youngest pupils in EYFS and Key Stage One performed Whoops a Daisy Angel. They were accompanied by the Year 3 Choir. We were very proud of each and everyone of the children. They clearly enjoyed performing! More importantly, through their words and actions they retold the Nativity story, reminding us all of the true meaning of Christmas.

This Sunday we mark the third Sunday of Advent. This is also known as Gaudete Sunday. This comes from the Latin word for "rejoice," marking a shift from penitential waiting to joyful anticipation as Christmas nears. It symbolizes the imminent arrival of Jesus, prompting Christians to find joy in God's presence even amidst difficulties. On Sunday we will light the pink candle on the Advent Wreath. This Sunday our school choir will be joining the parish carol service. We would like to extend our grateful appreciation to Veronica Cleaver who has been coming into school each week to help the choir prepare for this special occasion.

Each Friday during Advent the children will take home a candle prayer reflection card, this is a reminder that we are now in a time of preparation.

Wishing you all a very enjoyable weekend.

Eileen Murtagh



Attendance

Overall Attendance this week is **95.69%**

Across the school, **293 minutes** of learning time was lost this week through late arrivals.

Don't underestimate the importance of 100% attendance. Even one day missed can have an effect on learning.

98% attendance means **4** school days missed
95% attendance means **10** school days missed
90% attendance means **19** school days missed
80% attendance means **38** school days missed
5 minutes late each day means **3** school days missed



Lower than 90% attendance

Class 2

90-95% Attendance

Class 1, 3, 4, 5

96-100% Attendance

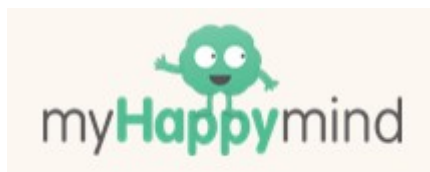
Reception and Class 6

Please be aware that requests for children to take holidays during term time will be classed as an unauthorised absence.

Please be aware that unauthorised absences that exceed 5 school days during term time will receive a fixed penalty notice (FPN).

Reminder - Dental or medical appointments

If you will be taking your child for an appointment please send us an email with the booking/screen shot for our files. Thank you



As we start the new School year, we're excited to inform you of the myHappyMind Parent App. It's a brilliant way to help children keep practising their myHappyMind habits during the School year at home.

You will need the activation code 111379

To find the checklist on the Parent App, they simply:

1. Open the app
2. Click on Kids' Zone
3. Select myHappyMind Checklists
4. Choose the Holiday Checklist

St Nicholas Catholic High School Newsletter

For the latest newsletter [click here](#)

St Luke's Lion Cubs

We are finished for Christmas now but please come and join us in January on Wednesday 7th January



Little Church

We look forward to seeing you after Christmas at Little Church.

Dates for your Diary

15th December: Christmas Carol Service 6pm

17th December: Christmas Dinner and Jumper day

18th December: Whole School Mass—9:30am at School

18th December: Christmas Party

St Luke's Lion Club event

7th January : We are Back!

St Mary's Class

Whoops a Daisy Angel



We are so proud of the children who performed in our Nativity Whoops a Daisy Angel! They have worked hard to remember their lines and be confident enough to stand on stage in front of an audience. Thank you to everyone involved and for supporting us with learning lines, costumes and joining us for the performance.



Pantomime

We thoroughly enjoyed the pantomime at the Story house this week - especially joining in with the songs. The year 6 children looked after their buddies very well and everyone represented our school well.

History

We have been writing about whether we would like to be a child in a school 100 years ago or now. There are some things we enjoyed, like having a fire in the classroom and using the slate boards but we decided we much prefer our school now.

Purple Mash

We have been exploring Christmas using our computing programme Purple Mash. We were creating wreaths, Christmas jumpers and even a hot chocolate with marshmallows for Mrs Jevons! We also recreated the Nativity Tableau using images.



Reading

We have see a sharp decline in the number of children who are reading regularly at home. This is having an impact on learning progress. Please ensure that your child is reading at least 3 times a week and discussing the book, answering questions that include who, what, when, why.

St Elizabeth's Class



This week in St Elizabeth class we have continued our topic of multiplication and division. Year 3 have been looking at the 4s, and year 4s have been exploring the relationship between the 3s, 6s and 9s.

In English, we are nearing the end of our topic. We read to the end of our topic book and finally discovered what was in 'the place between!' We have started our hot task planning and will be writing a diary entry to recount Leon's adventure. On Fluency Friday, we explored the difference between common nouns and proper nouns and did some Christmas writing to solidify our learning.

In the Vine and Branches we explored how Joseph had to trust God when the Angel Gabriel appeared with his message. We also explored from Mary's point of view and considered their thoughts and feelings at the time. We talked about how Joseph's trust can inspire our own faith in God.

In D&T, we reflected on our castle designs from last lesson and discussed which ones would be easy or difficult to make based on their shapes and the available materials. We worked on building castles with basic 3D shapes including cubes, cuboids, cones and pyramids. We then re-designed our castles being mindful of the complexity.

Earlier in the week, we were lucky to watch Beauty and the Beast at the Chester Storyhouse. We were fantastic representatives of our school and enjoyed the performance very much! We have also been busily rehearsing for our Carols by Candlelight concert on Monday, and we can't wait to show all of the parents how hard we've been working.



St Catherine's Class



Another busy and exciting week has flown by as we move closer to the festive season. In Maths, both year groups have shown great determination. Year 5 have been working hard to understand square and cube numbers, while Year 6 have been developing their confidence in adding and subtracting fractions. We explored what to do when denominators are different and how to approach these problems systematically, and it has been wonderful to see everyone striving to master these skills.

Our learning in The Vine and the Branches has also been thoughtful and engaging. This week, we explored the story of King David, making meaningful links to our earlier work on Moses. The class were able to share thoughtful responses about why they think David was chosen by God, showing how their understanding is deepening over time.

In Art, we continued to develop our sketching skills by learning how to use one-point perspective. Although this new technique felt challenging initially, everyone showed great perseverance. Their confidence grew as the week went on, and they were really proud of their work.

Our reading lessons brought an excitement to the classroom as we explored extracts from books by Frank Cottrell Boyce. His writing captured everyone's imagination, and it was lovely to see so many eager to seek out his books in the library after enjoying the samples together.

A highlight of the week was our visit to the Storyhouse in Chester to watch the pantomime Beauty and the Beast. The performance was great and Year 6 particularly enjoyed sharing the experience with their buddies. The whole group joined in the sing-alongs, making it a memorable and enjoyable trip.

As we approach the final week before the Christmas break, our focus is turning to the upcoming Carols by Candlelight service. The children have been rehearsing and preparing for this special retelling of the Christmas story. We hope you will join us on Monday evening as we come together to celebrate the true meaning of Christmas.



Award Winners

Well done to this week's award winners...

Headteachers Awards



Subject Awards

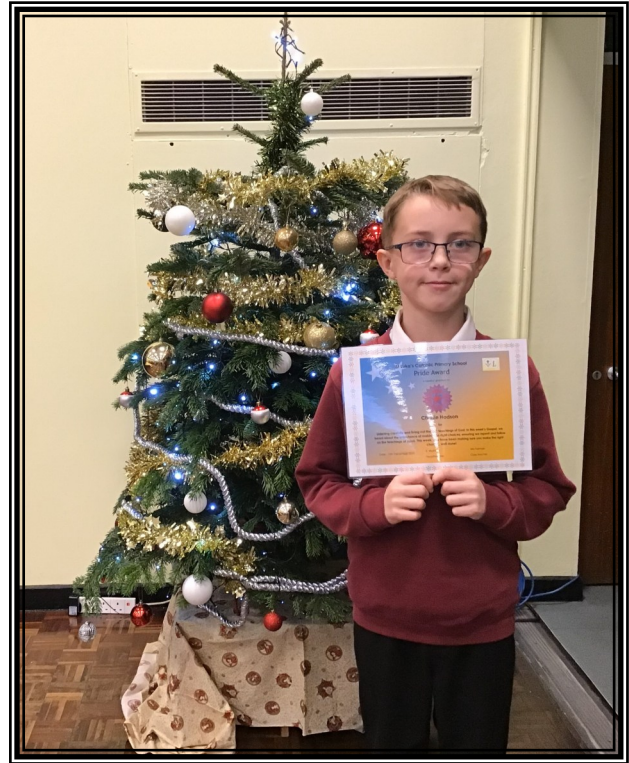


Award Winners

Raise the Praise Champions



Pride Award



Poetry Buzz



Piano Concert

We have some very talented children at St. Luke's! It was a treat to be able to attend the piano concert this week and listen to beautiful Christmas Carols.



Poetry Buzz



Fes-
tive
Mul-

Local News

Next week our Cafod group will be selling raffle tickets! The prize will be a selection box as well as an assortment of sweet treats.

Tickets 20p each, they will be on sale each break time. The money raised will go towards a world gift, to support those less fortunate than ourselves.



**CHRISTMAS
SOCCER SCHOOL**

Join us for a festive football camp featuring skills coaching, small-sided games, tournaments & more! Children will need kit including boots, shin pads, a packed lunch, snack & water bottle.

 AGES: 5-15  KING GEORGE V COMMUNITY SPORTS HUB, CH1 5BD

**MON 22ND & TUES 30TH
OF DECEMBER
09.00 - 15.00**

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PER DAY**
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