



St. Catherine's
RC Primary School

2020-2021
Edition 5
Wednesday 9th
December 2020



News from St. Catherine's R.C. Primary School

'Be who God wants you to be and so set the world on fire.'

Amazing!

Did you see Teagan-Rose and our Year 4 School Counsellors on the news last week? They were interviewed by Channel 5



News and ITN about Teagan-Rose's target to collect as many Christmas presents as possible for children who wouldn't have any this year. As a result, over 400 of the 750 presents she collected came from St. Catherine's.

She has shown every one of our core values: Her love for others is without question; we have seen her faith in action; she puts others first, showing compassion; she sets herself some challenging goals and perseveres until she achieves them; her respect shines out and; she is a true inspiration to us all!

Please see the school Facebook page for links to the news items.



We are in the 2nd week of Advent and the Gospel on Sunday told us to 'Prepare the way for the coming of God! Make a straight path for our God!' The GIFT Team are continuing to lead worship on Fridays during Advent. Their prayer for this week: Lord, for the coming of Jesus: **Make our hearts ready, Lord.**



Stay Awake! Be Ready!



For the love that Jesus brings: **Make our hearts ready, Lord.**

For the forgiveness Jesus gives: **Make our hearts ready, Lord.**

For the great gift of Jesus: **Make our hearts ready, Lord.**

Love

Faith

Respect

Perseverance

Compassion

Inspiration

myHappyMind

We have now launched myHappyMind in school and the children have started to explore how their brain works.

myHappyMind is aimed at developing emotional resilience and well-being for all children. This is all based around helping children to understand how their brain works and to support them in developing positive skills and habits to be their very best selves. The programme complements the spiritual dimension and faith life of our school, helping us to be 'who God wants us to be.'

Ask your child about their Hippocampus, Amygdala and Pre frontal cortex!



Building Work



It was hoped that the building work would have commenced before the end of term but this has been delayed until January. This will provide one new classroom next to Mr Bannister's Class. The second part of the work will move the main entrance to school to what is currently the back entrance. This will mean that visitors will no longer have to cross the playground to gain access when school is in operation. The work will be completed by September 2021.



School Meals

From January, Manchester Fayre will be providing more varied school meals, including a hot choice. There will be a hot choice or sandwich each day as well as the option of a jacket potato or pasta pot on alternate weeks. The menu will be sent home later this week. It is hoped that this will provide greater choice as well as a welcome warm alternative to sandwiches.

Term dates for 2021-2022 are attached to this newsletter. The children will be returning to school on Monday 6th September 2021.



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Advent and Christmas Activities

In the current situation it is more important than ever that we can enjoy as many Christmas celebrations as we can. This is a flavour of the activities you can look forward to before the end of term:

- ⇒ **Reindeer visit and Christmas Jumper Day**
- ⇒ **Year 2 Christmas Worship**
- ⇒ **Virtual panto—Aladdin**
- ⇒ **Reception and Nursery Nativity**
- ⇒ **Year 1 Carols**
- ⇒ **Key Stage 2 Advent Worship**
- ⇒ **PTA Christmas Hamper Draw**
- ⇒ **PTA Family Christmas Trail**
- ⇒ **Festive Non-Uniform Day**
- ⇒ **End of Year Mass**



For events that cannot be attended in person video links will be circulated.

Thank you for your help in keeping everyone safe

There have been many challenges this term but it is wonderful that all year groups have been able to stay in school rather than needing to learn at home due to contact with positive cases. We pray that this will continue!

We are now reviewing our procedures for January and hope to be able to adjust arrival and departure times so parents and carers won't have to wait as long. Details of any changes will be sent out before the end of term.

Please continue to remember:

- Wear a mask
- Keep 2 metres apart
- Only one parent or carer to drop off or pick up children
- Leave the school and parish site promptly
- Keep your child in the line with you.



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PTA



The **Big PTA Raffle** has SOLD OUT! We sold 357 tickets for our school raising a fabulous **£535.50!!!!!!** THANK YOU to everyone who bought tickets and best of luck in the 12 draws to win £5,000 started on Monday 7th December.

Many Thanks for all the wonderful hamper and foodbank donations this week. Raffle tickets for the **Christmas Hampers** are available to purchase on ParentMail until 2pm TOMORROW, Thursday 10th December. The draw will take place in school on Friday 11th December and the lucky winners will be announced.



Our **Festive Face Masks** are nearly sold out! For any last minute orders please email stcatherinesdidsburypta@gmail.com by Wednesday 9th December. £5 for one mask or 2 for £8. Thank you for all your support!



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St. Catherine's PTA Family
Christmas Trivia Trail

Tuesday 1st December - Thursday 24th December

The **Family Christmas Trivia Trail** is now on! Special thanks to all the St Catherine's families who are displaying the trail posters. A leaflet with the trail map will be going home with the children this week. Please like and share our Facebook page 'St.

Catherine's PTA Family Trivia Trail' - it is open to the whole community to enjoy. We have set up a go fund me page if you would like to make a donation, there is a QR code on the trail leaflet and at the end of the trail which will also take you to the page. <https://www.gofundme.com/f/st-catherines-christmas-trivia-trail>



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