



**St. Catherine's**  
RC Primary School

**2021-2022**  
**Edition 3**  
**Friday 3rd**  
**December 2021**



**We are still**  
**waiting to hear**  
**the outcome of our**  
**Rights Respecting**  
**Gold Assessment.**  
**Fingers crossed!**

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

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

## Charity Work

Thank you so much for your food donations to the Caritas Harvest Appeal and more recently to the Didsbury and Chorlton Foodbank.

Teagan-Rose continues to inspire us to do what we can for those who need our help.

She has a message for us:  
Thank you to all the parents and children at St. Catherine's for all the wonderful donations.

We collected 173 Christmas presents and we are overwhelmed by the generosity from our school once again. Well done!



## COVID-19 Update

We continue to review our precautions in light of advice from Manchester Public Health. We ask that parents wear mask when on school site, indoors and outside.

If we have a positive case in school, parents are notified and close contacts are strongly advised to take a PCR test. The new variant is a concern and we need to keep everyone as safe as possible, particularly in the run-up to Christmas.

**Please note: If your child is sick they must remain at home for at least 48 hours after the last bout of sickness.**

Love

Faith

Respect

Perseverance

Compassion

Inspiration

# School Choir Success

St Catherine's School amazed the audience at a special event at the Manchester Central Convention Complex at the end of November. They joined with a number of adult choirs to recognise Sir Richard Leese's remarkable contribution to Manchester in more than 25 years as Leader of the Council. Well done to Mrs Dewsnap and everyone involved.



# Equality and Diversity

Unfortunately, we haven't been able to meet with the Equality and Diversity Working Group this term but plans are in place for a meeting early in the New Year.



At St. Catherine's, we are extremely proud of our caring community which celebrates the uniqueness of each of our children. However, we know that more can always be done. This group was set up to look at how our school can strive to tackle inequality and create a kinder environment for all of our children to develop and thrive in.

If you are interested in joining this group, please email [admin@st-catherines.manchester.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-catherines.manchester.sch.uk) and we will add your to the mailing list.

# Caritas Ambassadors

Our Year 5 Caritas Ambassadors have started to welcome children into school each morning and their next task is to write and deliver Christmas cards to members of our parish community. Thank you to you all for giving up your time to support our community.

Our Caritas Ambassadors are: Joanna, Amy, Amelia, Emily, Rose, Loukia, Benny, William, Michael, Lily, Isaac, Julian, Teagan-Rose, Maurice, Harrison and Eliza.

# Change in Term Dates

*Due to the additional Bank Holiday to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, there is a change to the current term dates. School will be closed on for the children on Friday 24th June 2022.*

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# Christmas at St. Catherine's



Throughout the season of Advent, we have been preparing for the coming of Jesus and learning about the true meaning of Christmas. As we approach the end of term, we have a number of events taking place. Please see below to see what's happening throughout the final fortnight of this term:

## **Taking place throughout the final fortnight of this term:**

Filming for Reception and Year 2 nativity performances

Filming for Nursery and Year 1 Carols

Christmas crafts in all year groups

KS2 Carol Service practice

We have made the decision not to have live audiences this year due to the risks associated with the pandemic. The private links to the EYFS and KS1 performances will be sent home before Christmas for you to enjoy together. This has the added benefit of being able to share this with wider family members.

### **Thursday 9th December**

Year 3 and 4 School Mass

### **Wednesday 15th December:**

\*\*\*Special visitors in school\*\*\*

### **Thursday 16th December:**

Christmas Dinner Day and Christmas Jumper Day

Please see ParentMail giving instructions about booking a school meal on that day. Please note that, due to kitchen capacity, there is a cap on numbers - first come, first served.

Year 5 and 6 School Mass

(this will be a recorded Christmas Mass available on the parish and school websites over Christmas)

### **Friday 17th December:**

KS2 Carol Service (Years 3-6)

Unfortunately, we are unable to invite parents to this, this year. However, we are looking into the possibility of livestreaming this so everyone can join in.



Firstly, we want to extend our most heartfelt thanks to everyone who has supported our Festive Calendar of events. We know what a busy period this is for families and we thoroughly appreciate the response we have had so far.



### Latest Activities:

Last week, our generous school community provided Christmas presents to school for the **Wood Street Mission**, with whom our Year 5 Caritas Ambassador, **Teagan-Rose**, works closely each year. Members of the PTA also braved the weather and held a pre-loved uniform sale in the play-ground.

### Food Bank and Hamper Donations:

This week, year groups have been busy donating to the local food bank and to themed class hampers which will be raffled next week. There is still time to purchase tickets Via ParentMail until next **Thursday 9th December** at 2pm and cost **£1** each. The Draw will take place on **Friday 10th December** and will be filmed. Again, thank you for both supporting our community this Christmas time and yet again, for making the festive hampers a successful event.

### Family Festive Trail:

The popular Festive Trail is back and is a safe, outdoor, fun activity to do with all the family. Running until **31st December**, the 3km Trail includes 15 houses where you will find a Christmas related question, a festive joke or a clue to the number of the next house. To get involved, you can access and download an online version of the trail map by visiting this page- <https://bit.ly/3x9kviQ> or pick up a paper copy from the office. Any donation to the PTA to support our 2022 plans for the school will be most appreciated.



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