



*Faith; We live it, love it and learn it.*

**Friday 20th December**



Our Lady and All Saints  
Catholic Multi Academy Company  
Strong in Faith



## MASS TIMES THIS WEEK AT ST GEORGE AND ST TERESA

**22nd December — Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**Saturday** 5.30pm

**Sunday** 8.45am (Children's Liturgy—please come along as a family)

10.30am

### Christmas Eve Masses

4.00 pm Mass and Children's tableau of the story of the Nativity.

10.00 pm Mass (with the liturgy of Midnight Mass)

### Christmas Day Masses

8.45 am Mass

10.30 am Mass



As we bring the curtain down on 2024, we've had a chance to reflect on all the wonderful things that have been going on at school. You'll find a sample of these in our newsletter today from the past three weeks.

All of the staff at St George and St Teresa wish all of you and your families a happy, holy and 'peaceful' Christmas.

### Christmas Eve Tableau - Message from Mrs O'Gara

Rehearsals for the Christmas Eve Tableau (4pm St George and St Teresa Church) will take place immediately after 8:45 Mass on Sunday 22nd (approx. one hour). All children are welcome to attend. Year 6 will be given first refusal of the main characters. Costumes will be available to try on at this rehearsal.

On the 24th, all children are invited to come to Mass in Nativity fancy dress (angels, stars, shepherds, kings, sheep or other animals) and they can join in as we create a tableau of the Nativity as Mass progresses. We ask all children to meet in the parish centre at 3:30.

Finally there will be a cake sale after church on Sunday 22nd to raise money for the Youth SVP group. Please buy if you can! Christmas donations are also very welcome at church.



Happy Christmas

Mrs Flanagan and Mr Hainie

# Christmas Productions

Our Christmas productions were a huge success with the children performing brilliantly. Both shows told the Christmas story in their own way and it was lovely to see the hall so busy for each performance of them.



# Christmas Fun

Oh yes, they did!

The children had a brilliant morning when they were treated to Aladdin when the pantomime came to school.



## Merry Christmas from the kitchen

Christmas lunch was a real treat. The kitchen team were amazing and a foodtastic time was had by all.





In their most recent 10 studio games, these boys have answered their questions in the quickest time on average. Keep it up!

Keep checking our newsletter to find out which mathematicians we will be celebrating the successes of next time.

#### [How to access TT Rock Stars from home](#)

The Times Table Rock Stars app is available to download on iTunes and android but can also be accessed on a PC or Apple Mac with internet connection. Follow the link below to the website: <https://www.ttrockstars.com> and enter your child's username and password. These login details are given to your child in school. If your child does not have these details, please ask them to speak with their class teacher.



### Sports Update

Mixed fortunes for our girls and boys football teams over the last few weeks with a combination of victories and defeats. Both are still in with a good chance of qualifying from their league groups.



### PTFA Movie Nights

Thanks to our PTFA again for arranging movie nights for all children. They were very successful and the children enjoyed them greatly.

### Healthy Eating Assembly

Anna from Aspens came to school to deliver a healthy eating assembly, explain to children about the role of different food groups in a healthy diet and where some foods actually come from.



### Round the Tree

Many of our talented musicians sang and played to a very appreciative audience for our Round the Tree performance. Thanks to Mrs Evans and Mrs Ansell for organising this.



## Father John in School

Father John joined us for to celebrate an Advent Mass and an end-of-term Mass. He also offered the Sacrament of Reconciliation to Years 4-6.



## Advent Reflections

The children loved leading the Advent Reflections and were so thrilled that so many were able to attend and support. Thank you!



loving hopeful  
attentive faith-filled generous eloquent intentional  
learned prophetic discerning compassionate active  
truthful



Human Community Participation Work  
Call Care Dignity Rights Work  
Creation Family God's Life Option Vulnerable  
Responsible

This half term, the children are focussing on the virtues **intentional** and **prophetic**; **intentional** in the way they live and use the resources of the earth, guided by conscience; and **prophetic** in the example they set to others.

Our Catholic Social Teaching focus this half-term is **dignity of the human person**.

We remember that each person is made in the image and likeness of God. We want every person to grow and flourish in every aspect of their being.

The latest Wednesday Word is at <https://www.paperturn-view.com/wednesday-word/christmas-holiday-special?pid=MTA101634&v=158.3>



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### Christmas Reflection from Father John

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are all looking forward to the coming festivities. It is hard not to be thinking about how we shall celebrate Christmas Day and the happy faces of our children as they open their presents. Christmas is a special time for children, but it is also a time to gather as a family, to chat and to recall our memories of Christ-masses past, to think about the future and give thanks for all the many gifts we have received.

Christmas would not be Christmas without a visit to the church to see the Christmas crib and celebrate Mass as a family. This year at St George and St Teresa Church we welcome all who come to church to give thanks to God for the birth of Jesus. The Children's Tableau is at 4pm. Children are invited to come in costume. The parts of Mary and Joseph have been allocated but one can never have enough angels, shepherds, sheep and animals. Perhaps we should have a prize for the most unusual costume? Our Night mass is at 10 pm and who knows if on our way home we may see Father Christmas busy delivering presents on our way home from church. On Christmas Day morning our family mass is at 8.45 am mass. And finally, the 10.30 am mass completes the morning for those who choose a more leisurely approach to the day.

This year our Crib Collection will be for Mary's meals. When we had an appeal for Mary's meals earlier in the year we heard it costs just £19.15 to feed a child for a whole year. This charity takes the minimum amount for administration and does not pay over inflated salaries to deskbound administrators. They feed the children of the world in areas where poverty and hunger prevent children from attending school. Over 2 million children around the world are fed by Mary's Meals. Of all the charities one could support I feel this one most reflects the most basic cry of a child for food.

What does a priest do at Christmas? I need to rest after so many masses. Sometimes I go and visit my family. I will visit my mother who celebrated her 100th Birthday last June. She is still very alert and active. I have two brothers, a sister-in-law, two nieces and two nephews, plus their partners. Father John becomes Uncle John, with a Christmas jumper. We catch up on their lives as much as they hear about life in Dorridge. I like all the traditions of Christmas. I like to reminisce about family events and traditions, like when my dog ate the chocolate Fr Christmas of my niece.

Our book is full of such pages. At first, we think the story is about us but when we read the pages we see how much we are part of a much bigger picture, small cogs in a big machine. We see how our choices and decisions affect everyone. Our carbon footprint, our clothes, the food we buy, the car we drive. Each page in our book tells us about ourselves, our family, our global family and how God created us for now and if you haven't asked yourself what God would like you to do it is never too late to have a think about it...

When we reflect on what we have received we realise that God, the giver of life is more than generous. At this Christmas 2024, I wonder what God has given to you and what are going to give in return? As we think about our own experiences let us not forget the pages in our children's book. What will be on these pages?

If it is a very busy and noisy time in your household, try to find a place or a time where you can pray: a time to reflect, a time to look back, a time to look forward, a time to give thanks and a time to listen. God asked Mary to be the mother of his son and Joseph to be step-father. As we celebrate everything which makes Christmas special for us let us be thankful for what we have received.

May God Bless you and your family this Christmas.

Fr John Cross

Parish Priest & School Chaplain.





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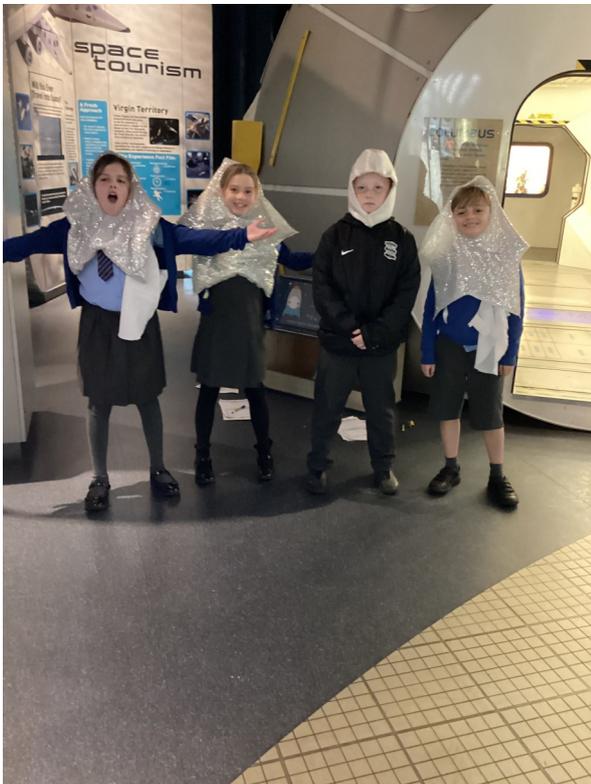


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## Space Centre

Year 5 had a brilliant time visiting the National Space Centre in Leicester as part of their Science topic on space.



GS: \*\*\*\*\*

The Space Centre was amazing! I loved how we go to go into the planetarium and watch the planets.

OH: I learned loads about space travel and astronauts. When we went up the rocket tower, I saw a piece of the moon.

EH: I learned that if you go to the core of Neptune (not that it's possible) it would rain crystals.

SL: I liked how we went up the space rocket and saw a model of Apollo 11.





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### Reverse Advent Calendar

Bethany Foodbank were very grateful when they came to pick up all that we collected for them through our Reverse Advent Calendar. Thank you to our Mini-Vinnies who helped load the goods onto the van.

### St Chad's Sanctuary

The toiletries donated during our Christmas performances went a long way to helping people who really need our help.

A huge thank you to all who supported us.



**Year 4 at Church**  
Well done to Year 4 for leading Mass at Church. They read and sang beautifully.



# St George and St Teresa's time to shine!!!

## Headteacher's award

Nursery: Joni

Reception: Danielle

Year 1: Jonah

Year 2: \*

Year 3: James

Year 4: Georgia

Year 5: John

Year 6: Francesca



## Catholic Social Teaching award

Nursery: Oshi

Reception: Rory

Year 1: Paddy

Year 2: Henry

Year 3: Maeve

Year 4: James

Year 5: Freddie

Year 6: Immi



## St Teresa's Little Way award



Nursery: Ezra

Reception: Luke

Year 1: Spencer

Year 2: Rupert

Year 3: Max

Year 4: Hollie

Year 5: Henry

Year 6: Jamie-Lee

## Science award



Year 1: Patrick

Year 2: Joseph

Year 3: Aviana

Year 4: Ayla

Year 5: Joe

Year 6: Bethan

\* Carried forward to the next assembly - still a surprise!



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## **MOMENTS MATTER, ATTENDANCE COUNTS.**

**Well done to Year 2 who've managed to keep their attendance high despite lots of bugs being around nationwide.**

Year	Attendance
Nursery	91.1%
Reception	92.6%
Year 1	91.9%
Year 2	96.0%
Year 3	95.6%
Year 4	93.0%
Year 5	92.7%
Year 6	93.1%



### Parking around school

We ask you to be considerate to our neighbours when parking.

Thank you for your continued understanding and co-operation.



### Nut free school

Please remember we are a nut free school. Even traces of nuts brought in by one child can have serious implications for other children.



## Dates and Days for next year

### Confirmation

Confirmation January 26<sup>th</sup> 10.30 am

### Communion

Enrolment Mass 9th February 8.45 am

Communion 21<sup>st</sup> June 11.00 am

### Leading Mass at Church

Year 5 23<sup>rd</sup> March 8.45

### PE Days for Next Year

Nursery: Tuesday

Reception: Tuesday, Wednesday

Year 1: Tuesday, Friday

Year 2: Monday, Wednesday

Year 3: Wednesday, Thursday (swimming)

Year 4: Thursday, Friday

Year 5: Wednesday, Thursday

Year 6: Monday, Friday

