



NEWSLETTER

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Dear Parents,

Believe it or not, tomorrow is the 1st December! Next week school will be transformed in preparation for Christmas. This special time of preparation is called Advent.

Advent marks the start of the Christian year. It is the four weeks before Christmas, beginning on November 30 or the nearest Sunday to it. The word Advent comes from the Latin 'adventus' which means 'arrival' or 'coming'. This is the time for Christians to prepare for the celebration of the birth of Jesus.

During Advent we will focus on how we can prepare for the coming of Jesus. We will encourage the children to be thankful for everything they have and to think of others less fortunate than they are. That is why our Advent Charity again this year is Mary's Meals Backpack Project. Please read the letter your child has brought home this week explaining what they can do to help.

During our Friday Assemblies in Advent, we will light a candle on our Advent Wreath. The wreath is made from a circle of evergreen plants such as holly and ivy which symbolise God's love with no beginning or end. The evergreen is a reminder that God does not change. The holly is also a symbol of the crown of thorns that Jesus wore when he was crucified. Four candles are fixed round the circle with another in the middle.

During Advent, the children will be preparing for our Infant Nativity and Junior Carol Service.

We will be performing our Infant Nativity twice and the dates are:

Monday 17th December at 2.00pm and Tuesday 18th December at 6.00pm.

All Infant children, including those in Reception and pre-school are expected to take part in both performances.

The date for the Junior Carol Service is:

Thursday 20th December at 7.00pm

All Junior children are expected to take part.

CAROL SINGING at BOUNDARY MILL

Our choir will be singing carols and Christmas songs at Boundary Mill on Tuesday 4th December at 6.30pm. If your child is in the choir they should have received a letter with a consent slip. Please return this to school a.s.a.p. Many thanks.

APPOINTMENTS

We are having an increasing number of children who are leaving school for routine appointments, sometimes without notification. Please do try to make appointments outside school hours if at all possible. If this is unavoidable then please give us adequate notice. Many thanks.

QUIZ NIGHT

We had great fun at the Quiz Night last week, although it would have been nice to have a few more parents there! Many thanks to the parents who did come and a special thanks to Dr Rourke, Joe's mummy who donated the wine for the raffle and to Mr Juriansz our grand Quiz Master. We raised £232.00.

MARKETING

Our new marketing strategy has got off to an exciting start thanks to the wonderful photographs taken by Andy Ford last week. Over the coming weeks, the results will be seen on banners, on the website and on Facebook. Please visit our Facebook Page and like and share what you see there. This is a quick and easy way to let people know what a great school we are!

COATS

Your child should have a school coat. They do not need their coat AND their blazer unless specifically asked to bring their blazer in. Please label **ALL** uniform.

LIFEBUS

Coram Education are bringing the LIFEBUS to school on Monday 10th and Tuesday 11th December. The children look forward to this annual event with much excitement. The lessons in the Lifebus link very closely to the Personal, Social and Health Curriculum in school and cover a range of age appropriate topics to do with keeping safe and well. Please come along to the Parents session on Tuesday at 8.40am. This only lasts 10 – 15 minutes and tells you exactly what your child will be learning.

PTA MEETING - Monday 10th December, 7pm

We will be having a meeting to finalise details for the children's Christmas Disco on Friday 14th December 6.00pm – 7.30pm (tickets are £5 and will be available from Monday) and to organise an event for the spring term. Please come along to the meeting if you can. It's at 7.00pm here in school.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Please send in your donations for our Christmas Raffle. (We haven't received a single item yet!) Your donations will help us to make up Christmas Hampers so food items, toiletries, treats and small gifts would be much appreciated. The raffle will take place after the Junior Carol Service. Tickets will be sent home next week. Please support us as the money raised will go towards buying new laptops for the children.

SCHOOL LUNCHES

Many thanks for your support with school lunches. Mrs Nuttall has had a family emergency and has been unable to come in. Mrs Duncan will ensure that your accounts are credited accordingly.

EXTRA CURRICULAR CLUBS

Please ensure your child brings their own sports clothes from home if they are doing any of the sports clubs after school. We have noticed that children have missing PE Kits when it comes to their PE lesson.

As a Catholic school we are very proud of our diverse intake and we teach the children to have respect for all beliefs and cultures. As we approach Christmas we remember that Jesus came to teach us all how to love one another. Please talk to your children about how we can show this love for everyone during Advent.