



St Luke's Catholic Academy Newsletter

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We began the week with a special Advent assembly, where our year 6 took on the important role of decorating the tree. This begins with the story of creation and goes on to describe the significance of each of the colours of the decorations on the Christmas tree. The green decorations signify the hope of new life with God. This links beautifully with the first candle we lit on our advent wreath which also symbolises HOPE. The hope of Jesus coming this Christmas, the hope of new life, the hope that should always remain in our hearts as we travel our life journey. I hope that you, despite the challenges in our current world, remain a people of HOPE for a new life in God. - **Mrs A M Kendal, Head of School**

"Advent is a journey towards Bethlehem. May we let ourselves be drawn by the light of God made man." **Pope Francis**

Pupil of the Week: Pupils who gained a certificate this week are:

Reception – James
Year 1 – Bontay
Year 2 – Alexandra
Year 3 – Owen
Year 4 – Chase
Year 5 – Reuben
Year 6 – Owen



House Points: Well done to St Theresa this week's winners with 197 points!

St Bernadette – 189
St Francis – 132
St Paul – 166
St Theresa – 197
St Thomas More – 152
St Anne Line – 145

New Reception: Applications are now open for Reception Class September 2022. You will need to apply via: [Primary school places - Essex County Council](#) by the 15th January 2022. **All applications to St Luke's will additionally require a SIF to be completed which can be found [here](#) on our website or requested from the school office.**

Twice weekly LFT: With the rise in COVID-19 infections in primary school age children, we encourage you to help limit the spread of the infection by testing your child twice-weekly. You can collect Lateral Flow Test kits from your local pharmacy using one of the codes provided [Here](#).

Poetry Week: This week has been poetry week and the children have been amazing at learning a class poem as well as reading and writing lots of their own. Take a look at this [Sway](#) where you will find voice recordings of each year group reciting a poem. You can also use this [website](#) to listen to some more fantastic children's poetry.

PTA Christmas Raffle: Our PTA are organising a Christmas Hamper raffle and would really like your contributions. Do leave your donations with Mr Hampson on the gate. Details of raffle tickets will follow shortly.

Christmas Dinner: Next week we are looking forwards to a fantastic Christmas Dinner on Wednesday. Children are invited to wear a Christmas themed jumper on this day as well. Christmas Dinner will be charged at the normal school meal price of £2.20, please could your payment be made by Wednesday 8th December.

CAFOD World Gifts: Can't think of what to buy someone this Christmas? CAFOD has a wonderful range of gifts from only £10 to teach someone to read, to providing water for a family for £33. You will be doing a wonderful service to others and sharing it with a friend. Follow the [link](#) to find out more.

Travelling Crib: Our travelling Crib has already been making its way around many homes in our community. If you would like to borrow it for an evening to share a prayer do email Mrs Walsh in the office.

Prayers Service: Last week Fr Bernard joined year 2 for a beautiful prayer service based on theme of preparation. The children thought about the preparations we have as we await the birth of Christ. In year 1 this week their theme was waiting as part of their RE Curriculum. We wait in hope for the arrival of Jesus and this waiting is important. We must be ready for his message to be true followers of Christ. Thank you to Fr Bernard who comes to school every Tuesday to talk and work with the children.

Parking: Please be respectful of our neighbours and the children when parking your car. Please park and drive with consideration for others around you. Please be reminded that parking at the Harlow Wellbeing Hub is **not** allowed. Do not park on corners, double yellow lines or in private property.

Aladdin: The children enjoyed a fantastic performance of Aladdin this morning by

Hurricane Productions... Oh no they didn't, Oh yes they did!
It was amazing to see the children enjoying the show so much.
What a great way to get us all in the festive spirit.

Covid-19: Please be reminded that any child presenting one of the stated symptoms will be sent home for you to arrange a PCR test. The government documentation states the following - "If anyone in your school develops COVID-19 symptoms, however mild, you should send them home and they should follow public health advice." Please also note: If you or any member of your family test positive for Covid, there is not a need for your child to isolate. Children only isolate once they test positive. However, NHS Track and Trace could direct a class or school closure, if the numbers of positive cases rise – please be aware that you may still need to collect your children at short notice. Please do let the school know if you or a family member contract Covid 19, then we can be extra vigilant around the school.

New Dinner Menu: Our new school dinner menu can be located [here](#) on our website.

Attending larger school events: As you will see in the list below, we are allowing parents to join us at some communal events. We would like to see proof of a negative Lateral Flow Test when you attend.

Upcoming Dates:

Wednesday 8th December: Christmas Dinner and Jumper Day

Thursday 9th December: Reconciliation Service for KS2 children.

Monday 13th December: 9.30am Key Stage 2 Candlelight Service

Tuesday 14th December: 2.15pm Year's 1&2 Christmas Production

Thursday 16th December: 9.15 Nursery and Reception Nativity

Friday 17th December: Children break up for Christmas -finish at 1pm

Tuesday 4th January: Non-Pupil Day

Thursday 13th January: Year 4 Swimming lessons start



Through God's love we learn together, grow together and achieve together.

