



**St. John the Baptist**  
**Catholic Primary School**

*We will prepare the way by loving, living and learning with the Lord*



*"The word became a human being and, full of grace and truth, lived among us"*  
John 1:14

# Newsletter

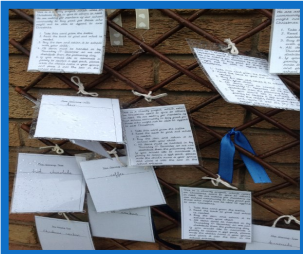
This half term's virtues are:

Friday 04.12.20

*Intentional*

*and*

*Prophetic*



## The Gift of Giving

As you may be aware, last year we collected donations for those less fortunate by way of the 'Giving Tree'. With the current situation we face, we felt this is still a very important thing to try and do on the run up to Christmas. Therefore, we will be placing 'giving cards' on our trellis outside of school. If you are in a position whereby you can buy something extra for someone else who might be struggling, please take a card, buy the item and return it to school with your child.



We are also keen to offer our families the opportunity to receive a gift pack made up of these items, before offering them out to the wider community. If you would like to nominate a family to receive a pack, please write the child's name and year group on paper and place it into the box located in the entrance of school. Although we cannot guarantee everyone nominated will receive a pack, we will do our best to help anyone in need.

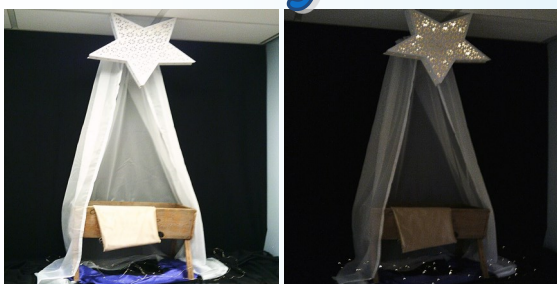
## Season of Advent

As we cannot come together collectively to celebrate the season of Advent, our wonderful staff team have created an advent calendar for our children, to be shared in each classroom. We will be focusing on the real meaning of Christmas as the Nativity story is shared over 12 days.

As a chance to celebrate all of the hard work completed over this term, a nominated child from each class will be awarded the chocolate treat found behind each door!



## Nativity Scene



This week we have created our new and very beautiful nativity scene to celebrate the Season of Advent and the birth of Jesus Christ. This will build over the next few weeks as we learn about this very special time of year.

## Dates for your Diary

### Friday 11th December

All day - non-uniform day (school fund donations 50p per family)

### Friday 18th December

All day - non-uniform day (Christmas Jumper day - no donation required)

2.00pm - Break up for Christmas Holiday

### Monday 4th January

All day - Inset Day (school closed to children)

### Tuesday 5th January

8.55am - Children return to school

### Friday 12th February

2.00pm - Break up for half term

### Monday 22nd February

All day - Inset Day (school closed to children)

### Tuesday 23rd February

8.55am - Children return to school

### Thursday 1st April

15.15pm - Break up for Easter Holiday

### Monday 19th April

8.55am - Children return to school

## Online Safety - tip of the week!

*Online safety hero says...*



*If you have never met an online friend, how do you know they are who they say they are?*

*Always tell a trusted adult if you are not sure.*

(Taken from eCadet assembly about Online Friendships)

*#onlinefriendships*



## Sports Star of the Week



This week's Sports Star of the Week is Destiny S in Year 2 for brilliant effort in circuit training.

## STARS OF THE WEEK!

Congratulations to Jax R in

Reception ,

and

Zachary H in

Year 4.

We're all really proud of you.

This week's virtues awards were given to

Jack L	NN
Marley-Rae R	Reception
Summer B-R	Year 1
Eloise M-S	Year 2
Mason N	Year 4
Laikyn R	Year 6

For being intentional and prophetic.



### Attendance

Our school strives for 100% attendance. This week the class with the highest attendance was Year 4 with 98.6%



*Well done!*

### Ready to learn Award



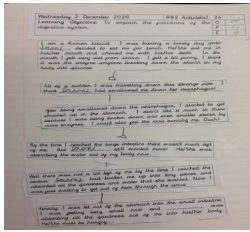
Congratulations, our most punctual classes this week were Year 4, 5 & 6

### Birthdays

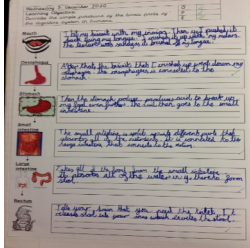
Happy birthday this week to: Isaac A, Cassidy G, Tyler A and Ellie B.

Happy  
Birthday!

# Science Superstars



Over the last few weeks, in Year 4 we have been learning all about our digestive systems. This week we made some Roman biscuits and ate them, thinking about the journey they will take before leaving our bodies as waste. Sadly, the Roman's did not use any sugar in their biscuits which most of us agreed, was not what our taste buds wanted.



## Excellent Work

This week's excellent work comes from Brogan W in Year 5.

*(Carla wipes her eyes with the corner of her mouth trembling)*

*Bradley: Are you crying?*

*Carla: (Cried) Bradley I have something to tell you!*

*Carla: (Staring at Bradley) I hope you can listen to what I have to say without getting scared or upset.*

*Carla: (Looking down at Bradley's work) Tomorrow will be my last day here at Red Hill school.*

*Bradley: (Fiddling with his fingers) Huh?*

*Carla: (Calmly and feeling shocked) That's why I'm so glad you've written such a wonderful book report. I know you can continue to do good work without me. I'm very proud of you.*

*Bradley: (confused and surprised) Your leaving?*

*Carla: (while touching her book) I've been transferred. I will be teaching Kindergarten at Willow Bend school. But I want to thank you Bradley. You've made my short time here special. I'm so glad we got to know each other.*

*Bradley: (Wide eyes) You're leaving?*

*Carla: (Calmly) We can still see each other, Saturday I'm...*

*Bradley: (Shaking his head with drops of tears falling down from his eyes) No! you can't go it's not fair!!*

*Carla: (Crying) I have to.*

*Bradley: (Shouting) What if I don't do my homework? Then you will have to stay to make me do it again.!*

*Carla: (Tears dripping down her face) You're on your own now Bradley I know you will do wonderfully.*

*Bradley (Standing) No! It's not fair you tricked me!*

*Brogan*

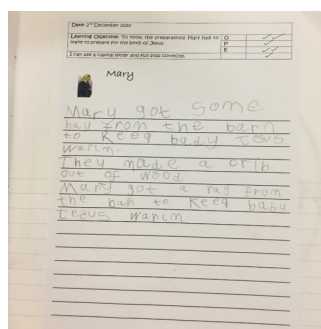
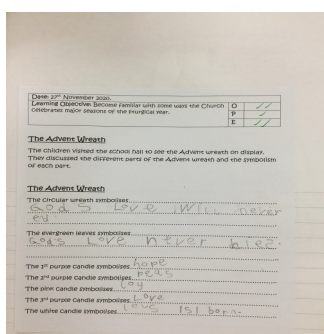
# Christmas Chocolate & Sweet Hamper Raffle



Here is an example of some of the fantastic chocolate and sweet class hampers that will be offered as 1st prize in our Christmas raffle, followed by 5 smaller prizes per class. Children in Nursery to Year 6 will be able to purchase raffle tickets from their class teacher from Monday, 50p per strip.

## Class Activity

As part of their Advent topic Year 1 have been discussing how we prepare for Jesus' birth and other occasions. The children have produced some beautiful writing and have learnt what each candle symbolises on the advent wreath.



## 'TIS THE SEASON



The Christmas spirit has certainly been sprinkled all over St John's this week! Mrs Righton has adorned our school with some fabulously festive decorations! We've also welcomed the Christmas Gonks who will be joining us for the Christmas period. Children have been asked to correctly guess the name of each Gonk and there will be a small prize for the correct guess.



If you live in a different country than your parents do you have the right to be together in the same place.

18<sup>th</sup> December – National Migrants Day

International Migrants Day was established to highlight the positives of migration and to ensure that the rights of all migrants are being protected. The United Nations works hard to ensure that migrants are not being exploited.

Did you know Steve Jobs was the son of a migrant from Syria?

## Second Sunday of Advent

*God of truth, help us to prepare for the coming of your Son and to share the message of your love with others.*

In this Sunday's gospel we hear about how our school patron, John the Baptist, prepared people for the coming of Jesus by baptising them. How do we prepare for the coming of Jesus at Christmas?

**Gospel:** Mark 1:1-8

*This is the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It began as the prophet Isaiah had written:*

*"God said, 'I will send my messenger ahead of you  
to clear the way for you.'  
Someone is shouting in the desert,  
'Get the road ready for the Lord;  
make a straight path for him to travel!'"*

*So John appeared in the desert, baptizing and preaching. "Turn away from your sins and be baptized," he told the people, "and God will forgive your sins." Many people from the province of Judea and the city of Jerusalem went out to hear John. They confessed their sins, and he baptized them in the River Jordan.*

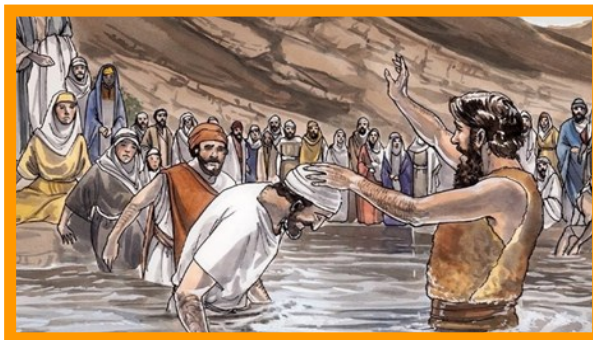
*John wore clothes made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. He announced to the people, "The man who will come after me is much greater than I am. I am not good enough even to bend down and untie his sandals. I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."*

In this reading we hear about John the Baptist and how he was a messenger for God, preparing people for the coming of Jesus. When John began to prepare the way for Jesus, it wasn't just for his friends and family. His message was for everyone who would listen.

We still follow his message today through our school mission statement:

***'We will prepare the way by loving, living and learning with the Lord.'***

Everything we do at St John's is to ensure we all use our faith, skills and talents to prepare the way for the second coming and to prepare for the successful life that God intends for us.



*Generous God, as we prepare for the coming of your Son Jesus, help us to remember all our brothers and sisters in our global family and to share your love with them. Amen*

*Have a lovely weekend.*

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