



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

This half term's virtues are:

Friday 10.12.21

*Learned*

and

*Wise*



## Loving Week



We have been spreading the love this week at St John's for Loving Week. Children have been carrying out acts of kindness for their friends, family and the St John's community.



EYFS made sweet treats and Year 2 children baked scones to give to their loved ones.



Year 5 delivered a beautiful performance to the residents of Trinity House and KS2 children spread joy and the Christmas spirit by carol singing for our families.

## Art Day

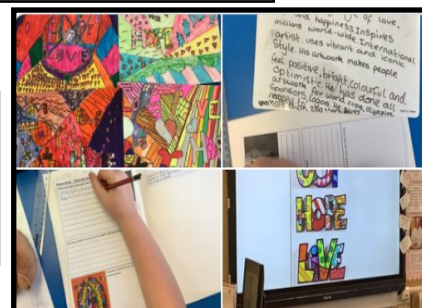
Children have also been getting creative this week as we celebrated Art Day on Thursday. The children absolutely loved the opportunity to show off their creative flair, producing some truly amazing works of art!



Early Years children used fruit stamps to create portraits inspired by Giuseppe Arcimboldo



A beautiful drawing by Eloise in Year 3.



Year 5 created work inspired by Romero Britto.



# Class Activities - KS1

Year 1 have had a wonderful time participating in Loving Week this week, spreading the gift of giving. On Tuesday, the children visited the Christmas Stall - Giving Gifts. They chose a name out of a box of a child in Year 1, then went to the Christmas stall to select a gift for them, giving the gift during circle time.

Our Year 1 Liturgy leaders went around the school to all the adults giving a gift of chocolate money and a Christmas card blessing. Then they spread the love to the kitchen staff to say thank you for cooking our Christmas dinner.

Some Year 1 children spread the act of giving into the community. They visited Mrs Mordey, the Principal of Forest Oak and Merstone School to deliver some tubs of chocolates and Christmas cards for the staff.

In music, the children have been learning to rap as they follow the pulse.

Year 1 have enjoyed role-playing the Nativity as we prepare and wait for the arrival of baby Jesus.

Art Day: The children recreated Wassily Kandinsky's famous art 'Squares with Concentric Circles,' using paints and pastels. They also created some beautiful stained glass windows. What a wonderful week Year 1 have had, well done children!

It's been a super busy week in Year 2 this week.

As part of Loving Week, we baked scones and gave them to our lunchtime staff as a thank you for cooking our lunch and looking after us on the playground. We also visited the Christmas stall to purchase a gift for our friends.

For Art Day we used different skills to create a piece of artwork based on the Nativity scene. We also looked at the work of famous potter, Clarice Cliff and then had a go at making our own pots using clay.





# John Henry Newman Assembly



On Monday staff from John Henry Newman Catholic College came in to deliver an assembly for Advent. Children and staff enjoyed rejoicing through the medium of song. Thank you to the staff of John Henry Newman Catholic College.

## Third Sunday of Advent

This Sunday marks the third Sunday of Advent, also called Gaudete Sunday, which symbolizes the nearness of Christ's coming. This Sunday the Rose candle will be lit as we reflect on the joy that Christ's birth brought to the world.



## CAFOD - Advent Activity

### Third week of Advent

*"I baptise you with water, but someone is coming who is much greater than I am... He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire."*  
Luke 3:16

#### Create your own bauble

The gospel this week reminds us that someone very special is coming. How does that make you feel? Write or draw on your bauble at least one thing that brings you joy, and one thing that you do to share joy with others.

#### Share the joy

The third Sunday of Advent is Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete means joy.

Make some lovely Brazilian biscuits and share them with your friends, family or neighbours to help spread a little joy this Advent.

For a video recipe showing how to make the biscuits go to [cafod.org.uk/kidzone](http://cafod.org.uk/kidzone) and click on "Global recipes".

#### Prayer

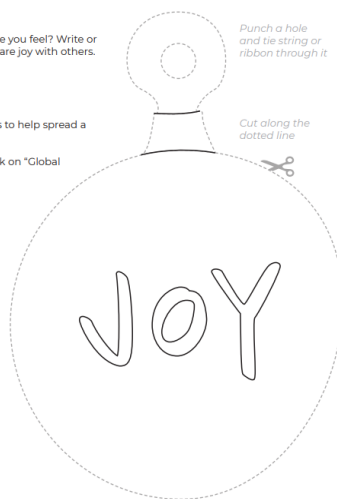
Light two purple candles and the pink candle on your Advent wreath this week.  
Say this prayer together as a family:

God of joy,  
be with all the people in the world who are sad,  
bringing your presence and light.

Hear our prayers of joy:

(share your family's intentions)

Help us to bring joy to others.  
Amen.



Advent activity for you to enjoy with your child. We really hope you've enjoyed these activities and are looking forward to our last one next week!.

**CAFOD** Catholic Agency for Overseas Development

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# Christmas Chocolate & Sweet Hampers



Here are just some of the fantastic chocolate and sweet hampers that we will be raffling off next week! Raffle tickets will be on sale from Monday to Thursday for 50p per strip, with the draw being held on Friday. We would like to say a big 'thank you' to everyone who donated the chocolate and sweets that made these hampers possible, and a big 'thank you' to Miss Thompson who put them all together!.

## Excellent Work



This week's excellent work comes from Ritchie R in Year 6.

## Christmas Dinner

On Wednesday children enjoyed a delicious Christmas dinner with all the trimmings! We would like to thank the catering team for cooking such a lovely meal.



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## Dates for your Diary

### Tuesday 14th December

Whole school pantomime - virtual

### Friday 17th December

All day - Non-uniform day (Christmas jumper day) no donation required

2.00pm - Break up for Christmas

### Wednesday 5th January 2022

8.55am - Children return to school

### Friday 18th February 2022

2.00pm - Break up for February Half term

### Tuesday 1st March 2022

8.55am - Children return to school

### Friday 8th April 2022

2.00pm - Break up for Easter Holiday

### Monday 25th April

8.55am - Children return to school

### Inset Days

#### Tuesday 4th January 2022

All day - Inset Day

#### Monday 28th February 2022

All day - Inset Day

#### Monday 6th June 2022

All day - Inset Day

Online safety hero says...



*Make sure you change your privacy settings on all your social media accounts to private and only accept friend requests from people you already know!*

*#privacysettings*



## Sports Star of the Week



This week's Sports Star of the Week is Tady L in Year 1 for demonstrating great leadership skills in the relay races.



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## STARS OF THE WEEK!

Congratulations to

Lily W

in Year 2

and Kai A

in Year 4

We're all really proud of you

This week's virtues awards were given to

Ruairi T

Nursery

Lizzy-Shay B-H

Reception

Grayson G

Year 1

Archie W

Year 2

Charlie M

Year 3

Jaymee-Lee F

Year 4

For being Learned and Wise.

### Attendance



Our school strives for 100% attendance. This week the class with the highest attendance was Year 5 with 94.5% *Well done!*



### Ready to learn Award

Congratulations, our most punctual class this week was Nursery and Year 5.



### Birthdays

Happy birthday this week to: Shay M-W, Rui Jie Jerry W and Tiahnah B.



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## Third Sunday of Advent

*Generous God, we give you thanks for all the good things that you have given us. Inspire us to share what we have so all people may live a full and happy life.*

In this Sunday's gospel, we hear John the Baptist preparing people for the coming of Jesus. The people were very excited. John told them they had to change their lives for the better and share what they had with others.

**Gospel:** Luke 3:10-18

*The people asked John the Baptist, "What are we to do, then?"*

*He answered, "Whoever has two shirts must give one to the man who has none, and whoever has food must share it."*

*Some tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what are we to do?"*

*"Don't collect more than is legal," he told them.*

*Some soldiers also asked him, "What about us? What are we to do?"*

*He said to them, "Don't take money from anyone by force or accuse anyone falsely. Be content with your pay."*

*People's hopes began to rise, and they began to wonder whether John perhaps might be the Messiah. So John said to all of them, "I baptise you with water, but someone is coming who is much greater than I am. I am not good enough even to untie his sandals. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. He has his winnowing shovel with him, to thresh out all the grain and gather the wheat into his barn; but he will burn the chaff in a fire that never goes out."*

*In many different ways John preached the Good News to the people and urged them to change their ways.*

The people asked John the Baptist what they should be doing to prepare for the coming of Christ. He said that anyone who had two shirts should share with the person who had none. He also said that anyone who had something to eat must do the same. Here John was trying to stress the importance of sharing and how we should be kind and considerate towards each other.

This Sunday is 'Gaudete Sunday'. Gaudete means joy. So let's think today a bit about what makes us happy and joyful.

There are some things in the world that all people need to live happy and healthy lives. We all need food, water, and somewhere safe to live. But some of us in this country and in countries around the world struggle to get enough food, to get clean water to drink, to go to school, to get medicine or to have a safe place to live.

We also all need people to share our worries with, and who are willing to share their time with us to help us. We all need people who love us and care for us.



What could you do this week to share and spread some joy in our world?

*Christ Jesus, as Christmas approaches, we look forward joyfully to your coming. Help us to share what we can so all people may have what they need. Amen.*

Have a lovely weekend.

*I. Gallagher*

Mr I. Gallagher  
Headteacher