



St Pius X Catholic Primary School & Little Lambs Nursery

Newsletter – Friday 10th November 2023

Key Dates 13 Nov-20 Nov – Sponsored Read 14 Nov-17 Nov – Book Fair 14 Nov – Baby & Toddler Group 9-10:20 14 Nov – World Diabetes Day (Wear Blue) 15 Nov – Bags2School Collection 16 Nov – Love Your Library Year 5 8.25am 16 Nov – Year 3 Mass 16 Nov – Year 3 Library Visit 16 Nov – Year 1 Class Assembly 9:15 17 Nov – St Joseph’s/Red Wednesday (Wear Red) 21 Nov – Baby & Toddler Group 9-10:20 22 Nov – Y6 Dock Museum Trip 23 Nov – Y4 Beamish Trip 23 Nov – Love your Library Year 6 8.25am 23 Nov – Year 2 Class Assembly 23 Nov – Reception Hearing Screening 24 Nov – FOSPX Non-Uniform (Raffle & Tombola Prizes) 27 Nov-8 Dec – ASSESSMENT FORTNIGHT 28 Nov – Baby & Toddler Group 9-10:20 30 Nov – Year 3 Class Assembly 30 Nov – Year 6 Mass 3 Dec – Family Mass @ St Mary’s 5 Dec – Baby & Toddler Group 9-10:20 (final one of the term) 6 Dec – Year 3 Ordsall Hall 6 Dec – Advent Family Workshop 3:30pm 7 Dec – Year 4 Class Assembly 7 Dec – Year 6 Enrichment Day Furness College 7 Dec – FOSPX Christmas Fayre 11 Dec – Nativity Dress Rehearsals 12 Dec – Infant Nativity 9:30-10:30 12 Dec – Infant Nativity 5:30-6:30 13 Dec – Whole School Jack and the Beanstalk Panto @ The Forum (am) 13 Dec – Christmas Lunch 14 Dec – Junior Nativity 9:30-10:30 14 Dec – Junior Nativity 5:30-6:30 15 Dec – Top ClassDojo Scorers Treat 15 Dec – End of Term Mass 10:45 18 Dec – Christmas Jumper Day 18 Dec – Infant Christmas Party (am) 18 Dec – Junior Christmas Party (pm) 18 Dec – End of Term (3:25 Finish) 18 Dec – Light Up & Shine Brolly Parade	Extra-Curricular Clubs Mon - Guitar (Y3-6) 3:15-4:15 PAID - Football Club (Y1&2) PAID - Art & Crafts (Rec-Y2) - Laudato Si’ (Y3-6) Tues - Netball Club (Y3-Y6) Wed - Gymnastics (Y1&2) - Gymnastics (Y3&4) - STEM (Y3-Y6) Thurs - Librarians (Y6) 8-8:45 - Choir (Y3-Y6) 12-12:30 - Wellbeing (Y3-Y6) - Radio (Y6) 12:15-12:45 - Football (Y3-Y6) Fri - Homework (Y3-Y6) 12-12:30 Term Dates 2023/24 Autumn – Wed 6 th Sept-Mon 18 th Dec Spring – Thurs 4 th Jan-Thurs 28 th Mar Half-term – Mon 12 th Feb-Fri 16 th Feb Summer – Tues 16 th Apr-Fri 19 th July Half-term – Mon 27 th May-Fri 31 st May Bank Holidays: Good Friday – 29 th March Easter Monday – 1 st April Early May – 6 th May Red = added or altered since previous newsletter Strike out = cancelled Sent home this week: ●	VIPs Rec - Conah Y1 – Noah Y2 – Harry Y3 – Brody Y4 – Quinlen Y5 – Lewis Y6 – Keira Family members are invited to attend Celebration Assembly on a Friday at 9:05am This week’s Marvellous Merit Pippah (Y5) This week’s House Champions St David St P= 2, St A=1, St G=1, St D=3 This Week’s Attendance <table><tr><td>Nursery -1</td><td>93.33%</td></tr><tr><td>Nursery -2</td><td>100%</td></tr><tr><td>Reception</td><td>93.75%</td></tr><tr><td>Year 1</td><td>84.33%</td></tr><tr><td>Year 2</td><td>92.31%</td></tr><tr><td>Year 3</td><td>93.55%</td></tr><tr><td>Year 4</td><td>95.36%</td></tr><tr><td>Year 5</td><td>98.57%</td></tr><tr><td>Year 6</td><td>92.67%</td></tr><tr><td>Whole School</td><td>92.93%</td></tr></table> <table><tr><td>Key:</td><td>Top Class</td><td>Below 95%</td><td>Above 95%</td></tr></table>	Nursery -1	93.33%	Nursery -2	100%	Reception	93.75%	Year 1	84.33%	Year 2	92.31%	Year 3	93.55%	Year 4	95.36%	Year 5	98.57%	Year 6	92.67%	Whole School	92.93%	Key:	Top Class	Below 95%	Above 95%
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Headteacher's Message

We are heading into one of our busiest times of the year as we prepare for Advent and Christmas. I apologise in advance for all the upcoming communication and craziness. However, I am sure you'll agree that Christmas is the most magical time of the year.

I recognise there are a lot of upcoming events that require money (e.g. non-uniform, sponsored read, Christmas events). Remember, there is no expectation to donate. I appreciate we are amidst an economic crisis – don't add any additional financial stress to yourselves.

You will note that we have pushed the evening Nativity performances back until 5:30pm, to allow parents to get children home, fed and returned to school.

Kind regards, Mr McGoldrick, Headteacher

General News:

Health & Safety Audit

Recently, the school had a health and safety audit carried out. The school achieved a score of 88% (the pass rate is 65%). Thank you and well done to Mrs Roberts and Mrs Steele for all their hard work.

Attendance

We must highlight our attendance percentages because each week we are seeing more and more red attendance. We appreciate that some of our attendance is affected by illness, but it is important that your child attends school where possible. Staff will begin to carry out home visits where children are identified to be regular non-attenders.

Red Themed Non-uniform (Wear Red) – 17th November

Next Friday (17th November), we are having a red themed non-uniform day in aid of our St Joseph's Children's Home and Aid to the Church in Need (Red Wednesday - moved to the Friday), which are both very worthwhile charities and projects. The money raised will be split between the two charities. In addition, Our Lady of Furness Craft Group will be running a coffee morning and some stalls (tombola, preserves, sweets, crafts, etc) in St Joseph's Cabin from 9:30am until approx. 10:30am. Family members are welcome to attend. Children may bring a small amount of money in a named and sealed envelope to spend and staff will assist them. All money raised by the Craft Group will go to St Joseph's Children's Home.

Pantomime – 13th December

The whole school will be attending the pantomime, Jack and the Beanstalk, at The Forum on 13th December. School will cover the cost for all pupils – Oh no, they won't! Oh yes, they will! ***We will be back for lunch at a slightly later time (approx. 12:30pm). In addition, please note the school will be closed during this time and the school office will not be manned. IN AN EMERGENCY, please contact The Forum directly.***

Christmas Lunch – 13th December

Our Christmas lunch will take place on Wednesday 13th December. Please ensure you book via School Hub. Lunch will be slightly later than normal, due to attending the Panto in the morning.

House Champions

Friday 8th December will be our last weekly House Champions announcement. The house with the biggest tally will be rewarded with a movie and popcorn in the school hall on the afternoon of Friday 15th December. Good luck!

Top ClassDojo Scorers

This term's top ClassDojo scorers will be announced on Friday 8th December will go out for a treat on the morning of Friday 15th December.

Evening Nativity Performances

Children should be collected at normal time (3:25pm) on the day of their performances and must be returned to school no later than 5pm. Children should come dressed ready (except Nursery & Reception). To make the performances as successful as possible, it is imperative that children return. I'm sure you'll appreciate that staff need a break too. There are limited spaces (18) available at After School Club at the cost of £5.50 which can be booked via School Hub. Children will be provided with tea at the club.

Book Fair and Sponsored Read

We are holding an Usborne Book Fair from Tuesday to Friday in the Year 6 classroom every afternoon straight after school (3:25pm- 4:00pm). This is a lovely opportunity to buy books for Christmas or just for enjoyment. School receive a percentage of the profits to put towards buying new books for our library. In addition to this, we are holding a sponsored read event this week until Sunday 19th November where we are asking your child to read as much as possible and collect sponsors to do so. There will be a prize for each class for the child who has read the most. Please find the sponsor form attached but if you need a hard copy, just call in at the office.

Friends of St Pius X Facebook Page

For anyone that uses social media, the Friends of St Pius X have a page that you might not be aware of. It's the charity page for the school, everything regarding our upcoming events and any help we need at any point is posted there. Please support The Friends of St Pius X by following our page:

<https://www.facebook.com/thefriendsofstpiusx>

Family Mass - Sunday 3rd December 2023 @ 11am

We are reintroducing our termly Family Masses at St Mary's Catholic Church, Duke Street. Families, Catholic and Non-Catholic, are welcome to join us at Mass on Sunday 3rd December at 11am. It would be lovely to have lots of our families attend, so we can sit together to celebrate Mass.

We require pupils to: read, serve (Altar Servers), sing (we will all get involved but choir members would be appreciated), do the Offertory, greet and help with refreshments

We ask that children are accompanied by an adult. If your child would like to read or serve, please contact Mrs Cotgreave. November is the month of remembrance in the church. Therefore, we will offer our remembrance branch during the Offertory. If you would like to send a named leaf in memory of a loved one into school to add to our branch, you still have time.

Christmas Performances – 12th & 14th December

Tickets are now available via School Hub and via the school office! The infants and juniors will each hold two performances (on the same day). This is to accommodate as many audience members as possible – we don't want any disappointed parents. Each sitting will have a limit of 120 tickets. Tickets will initially be limited to 2 per child and will cost £1 each to cover licence fees, costume and any remaining money will go towards to cost of the Panto.

Infant Performances – 12th December – 9:30am & 5:30pm

Junior Performances – 14th December – 9:30am & 5:30pm

If purchasing tickets from the School Office, please send money in an envelope with your child's name, year group, performance and number of tickets, for example:

Joe Bloggs

Year 3

Junior Nativity - Morning Performance

2 tickets

On Tuesday 5th December any remaining tickets will be released on a first come, first serve basis.

Nativity Outfits

Children may come to school dressed in their outfits ready for the Nativity Performances but must bring their uniform in a bag to get changed into. This will save their outfits from being spoiled at lunchtime. This includes the dress rehearsal on Monday 11th December (am).

Performances and the School Bus

We appreciate that getting pupils back to school for 4:30pm may be difficult for parents whose children arrive home on the school bus after 4pm. We ask, where possible, that parents pick their children up as a one off on their child's nativity performance day. However, we have employed an additional member of staff for After School Club for those children who aren't able to be picked up. The session must be booked directly via the school office, and a payment of £2 will be charged to School Hub. Parents/carers must provide children with a packed tea. To confirm, this is only available for pupils who get the school bus and arrive back home after 4pm.

Christmas Jumper Day – 18th December

We are encouraging everyone to get into the festive spirit by wearing a Christmas jumper on Monday 18th December to raise funds for our local Children's Ward (Bay Hospitals Charity).

Reminders:

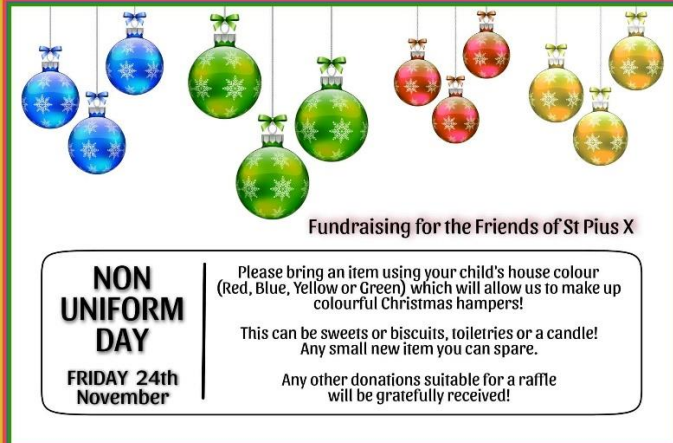
Term Dates - IMPORTANT

Please note that we will finish a day earlier than planned at the end of term to allow for staff training. Term will now end on Monday 18th December at 3:25pm.

World Diabetes Day – Blue for Diabetes Day – 14th November

On Tuesday 14th November children are invited to dress up in Blue for World Diabetes Day. We ask for a small donation. All donations will go to JDRF (Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation). On the day, the children will attend a whole school assembly and complete activities based around Type 1 diabetes. Donations can be made via School Hub or placed in the bucket in the morning.

FOSPX Non-Uniform – 24th November



NON UNIFORM DAY
FRIDAY 24th November

Fundraising for the Friends of St Pius X

Please bring an item using your child's house colour (Red, Blue, Yellow or Green) which will allow us to make up colourful Christmas hampers!

This can be sweets or biscuits, toiletries or a candle!
Any small new item you can spare.

Any other donations suitable for a raffle will be gratefully received!

Children in Need/St Joseph's Children's Home/Red Wednesday – 17th November

We recognise that Children in Need is a national event, and many children and families want to take part in their fundraising activities. However, when giving money to a large body like Children in Need, children do not always see how the funds they raise benefit other people. As a Catholic school, we are encouraged to look for Catholic charities that support similar aims to national charities and provide resources to help children understand charitable giving as part of the Catholic character of our school. As a Catholic school, we teach about charity as a virtue, a habit we want to develop because it makes for rounded individuals. We encourage children to fundraise not just for fun, but because their charitable gifts help to make the world a better place for others. Therefore, instead of raising money for Children in Need, we will raise funds for St Joseph's Children's Home in India. The children's home (church and school) was set up by Fr Ajish (our Assistant Priest). Fr Ajish and parishioners visit St Joseph's on a regular basis and pupils will be able to see the impact their fundraising and charitable gifts have on the children's lives – children who are less fortunate than them. Photographs and videos will be shared with our pupils. Children can come to school in non-uniform and make donations via the bucket or School Hub. Children are asked to wear the colour red as it is often worn to celebrate St Joseph's feast day.