



Guardian Angels Catholic Primary School

Newsletter No. 14

14th December 2018

Guided by the teachings of the Church we pray, work, celebrate, and care for each other and other people using the gifts we have been given by God the Father, Son and Spirit.

This half term's virtues are:

Faith-filled	and	Hopeful
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Dates for your diary		
Tuesday 18 th December 2018	9:15am	Mass – Led by Rec and Year 1 (All invited)
Tuesday 18 th December 2018	2:30pm	EYFS and KS1 Nativity – Ticket only event (Raffle tickets will be sold)
Wednesday 19 th December 2018	9:30am	EYFS and KS1 Nativity – Ticket only event (Raffle tickets will be sold)
Thursday 20 th December 2018	1:30pm	KS2 Carol Concert in the church (all invited)
Friday 21 st December 2018		Last day of autumn term – Non-uniform (Christmas party wear with sensible shoes) Children can bring a sensible toy today (no consoles/phones)

Invitation to Mass

All are welcome to join us on Tuesday 18th December at 9.15am for our school Mass which will be led by Rec and Year Y1.

All families are invited to family Mass on the first Sunday of each month at The Mother of God and Guardian Angels Church:

Sunday 6th January 2019 at 9.45am.

Please join the FIA (Faith In Action) for tea, coffee, cakes and biscuits which will be served in the porch following Mass. We hope to see you there!



IMPORTANT INFORMATION- ONLINE NEWSLETTER- 2019

As you may already be aware, our Eco Council are working towards achieving the Earth Mark. This award focuses upon how we can become more sustainable as a planet and reduce the schools carbon footprint. Our aim is to Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. With this and diminishing school budgets in mind, **we will be moving to an e-newsletter from January 2019 in an attempt to reduce the amount of paper we are using as a school.** There will be a small number of paper copies that are available upon request from the school office. Our weekly newsletter is and will continue to be available on our school website and can be emailed to you weekly by adding your email to the 'subscribe' section on our website.

Website Update

Please take time to have a look at our school website <http://www.grdangel.bham.sch.uk/> where you can see all our latest updates, Twitter feed, information to support the curriculum and our newly created 'Our Faith' section that has key information and snippets of the Catholic Life of Guardian Angels.

Admission for Reception Class September 2019

If you have a child due to start school in a Reception class in September 2019, please apply online on www.birmingham.gov.uk and also complete the Supplementary Information Form, which is available from the school office. Please return this form as soon as possible. The closing date for a Reception place for September 2019 is **Tuesday 15th January 2019.**

Christmas Lunch

The children and staff enjoyed a delicious Christmas lunch whilst wearing their Christmas jumpers on Wednesday afternoon. As always our pupils were fantastic and we all got into the spirit of Christmas by singing carols and reflecting upon the true meaning of Christmas.

Mass

Thank you to Miss Hickey, Miss Evans, Mrs Cullinan and Y2 children for the celebration of Mass this week. As always, the behaviour of all children during this whole school collective worship was respectful and reverent. Thank you to the fantastic readers who read so clearly and to the altar servers for doing such a fantastic job!

Year 3 Trip

An excellent day was had by all at the Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery on Tuesday. Year 3's behaviour was exemplary and they returned to school full of energy and enthusiasm. The visit enhanced Year 3's recent work on Ancient Egypt and Tutankhamun which they have been investigating through English and the creative curriculum. Thank you to the parent volunteers who supported Year 3 and to the staff for ensuring our pupils have a varied and exciting curriculum.

Year 5 Trip

Year 5 enjoyed the Birmingham Science Museum 'Think Tank' on Thursday this week. Pupils explored the different levels of the museum including industry, the human body but most importantly, Earth and Space as part of their recent science topic. Well done to all in Year 5, your behaviour was excellent and showed the public how fantastic pupils at Guardian Angels are! Thank you to Miss Carroll, Mrs Elliot and Miss Pugh for organising and supporting our pupils to ensure they have practical experiences to support their learning.

Christmas Hat Competition and Christmas in a Box

Wow! I am overwhelmed at the creations that have been displayed in school today. All have worked so hard to create Christmas Hats and Christmas in a Box entries for our annual competition. Please do go onto our twitter page to see how truly fantastic they are. The children in Key Stage One paraded around school proudly this morning and Key Stage 2 visited each other's classrooms. Well done to all for taking part!

Christmas Fayre

Thank you for the donations towards the Christmas fayre over the last 5 weeks. Each and every donation is truly appreciated and those who have contributed to the success of the fayre today! As well as parent donations, we have been very lucky to have received donations from companies such as Morrisons, Wilkinsons and Aspire People to name but a few. May I take this opportunity on behalf of the staff, children and parents to thank our 'Friends' volunteers group, without whom, the fayre would not be able to run and raise much needed funds for both the school and charities.

Parishioners Afternoon Christmas Lunch

What a success our annual Christmas Lunch was this year. Parishioners and other members of our local community enjoyed an afternoon of music and food. Each received a Christmas lunch with all the trimmings, delicious mince pies and beautiful Carol Singing by our wonderful Year 2 pupils. There was even a visit from Father Christmas himself who made an appearance to deliver a gift for each of our visitors. Many thanks to all staff and 'Friends' of Guardian Angels who organised and supported this event.

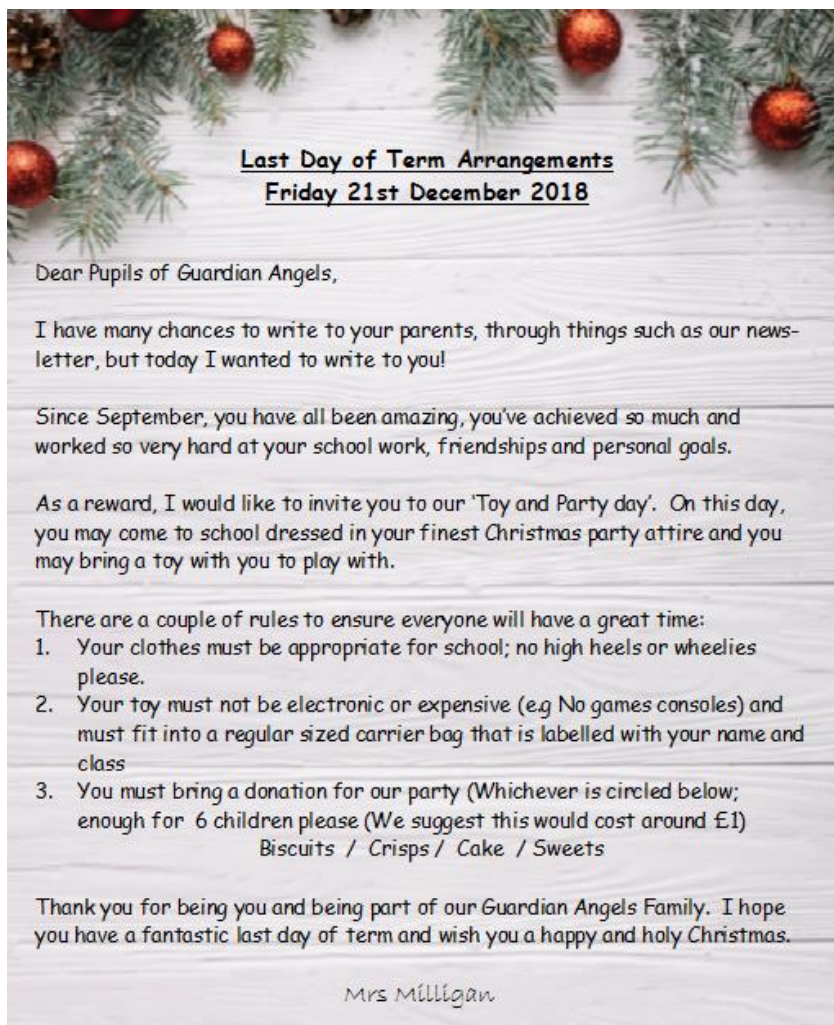
Reminder: Confirmation 30th January 2019

Due to health & safety considerations, we must stress that only one row of seating will be available for each family. We actively encourage extended family and friends to celebrate with you at family gatherings and parties, independently of the service.

Term Time Leave and Holidays

Following an unusually high number of requests for term time leave, please take the following into consideration:

From 1st September 2013, amendments to the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006 made clear that **Head Teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances.** Term time holidays continue to cause significant concern and debate. While there are many different views, the direct correlation between attendance and attainment is undeniable. Absence from school interrupts teaching and learning and compromises progress. Therefore, we strongly discourage pupil leave of absence during term time. The expectation is that such leave would only be authorised in the most exceptional circumstances.



Last Day of Term Arrangements
Friday 21st December 2018

Dear Pupils of Guardian Angels,

I have many chances to write to your parents, through things such as our newsletter, but today I wanted to write to you!

Since September, you have all been amazing, you've achieved so much and worked so very hard at your school work, friendships and personal goals.

As a reward, I would like to invite you to our 'Toy and Party day'. On this day, you may come to school dressed in your finest Christmas party attire and you may bring a toy with you to play with.

There are a couple of rules to ensure everyone will have a great time:

1. Your clothes must be appropriate for school; no high heels or wheelies please.
2. Your toy must not be electronic or expensive (e.g. No games consoles) and must fit into a regular sized carrier bag that is labelled with your name and class
3. You must bring a donation for our party (Whichever is circled below; enough for 6 children please (We suggest this would cost around £1)
Biscuits / Crisps / Cake / Sweets

Thank you for being you and being part of our Guardian Angels Family. I hope you have a fantastic last day of term and wish you a happy and holy Christmas.

Mrs Milligan

E-SAFETY TIPS OF THE WEEK

Remember that not everyone online is who they say they are.

SAFEGUARDING TIPS OF THE WEEK

Live My Digital is a series of 6 films for parents and 6 films for children on the following topics: Cyberbullying; the digital footprint; Identity and self-esteem; Relationships and grooming; Security and privacy; and Sexting. Click on the link below to view these.

<http://www.gdst.net/parents/live-my-digital>

BIRTHDAYS 2018/2019

This week, we wish a 'happy birthday' to:

Amelia (Y1), Alfie (Y4) and Kyza (Y6)

Many Happy Returns!

STAR AND VIRTUES ASSEMBLY

Our next Star/Virtues assembly will commence on Monday 14th January 2019 at 2:40pm. Parents will be informed once pupils have been selected.

ATTENDANCE FOR W/C 03-12-2018. WELL DONE YEAR 6!

Group	Attendance
Reception	94%
Y 1	92.3%
Y 2	96.6%
3 H	97.1%
3 G	97.9%
Y 4	95.9%
Y 5	93.8%
Y 6	98.3%
Overall total	95.9%



Christ Jesus, as Christmas approaches, we look forward joyfully to your coming. Help us to prepare, to change our lives to be ready when you come, and to share what we have so all people may have what they need. Amen.



**This is a Good School
OFSTED 2018**

Have a great Christmas and Happy New year!
Keep safe and God Bless.

Mrs H Milligan

Mr A Spindlow