



Guardian Angels Catholic Primary School

Newsletter No. 15

21st 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

Monday 7 th January 2019	Normal time	School OPENS today for pupils
Tuesday 8 th January 2019	9:15am	Mass – Led by the teachers (All invited)

Good Luck Mr Martin

Today we say farewell to Mr Martin who has been working with Year 4 this term. We wish him every success for the future and thank him for his positive contribution to the life of Guardian Angels. Year 4 will continue to work with Miss Foote and Mrs Martin-Westall.

Invitation to Mass

All are welcome to join us on Tuesday 8th January 2019 at 9.15am for our school Mass which will be led by the teachers.

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- This is our LAST paper copy of our newsletter

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.**

EYFS and KS1 Nativity

This years' Nativity Performances were outstanding! The children have been shining stars this week showcasing beautiful dancing, amazing acting and the most angelic singing. Well done to all children and staff for making the Nativity a success, especially Miss Hickey the 'Director' this year. The children worked hard to spread the good news of Jesus' birth to all that came to support.

Christmas Carol Concert

A truly moving and holy Carol Concert was presented by Key Stage 2 on Thursday. The children's singing raised the roof and spread the message of the coming of the new born King, Jesus. Thank you to all staff who helped to make this occasion so special especially Miss Carroll, Miss Foote and Mrs Martin

Mass

Thank you to Mrs Gazey, Miss McCorriston, Mrs Watson, Miss Carr, Ms Edwards and Miss Giblin, Rec and Y1 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!

Christmas Fayre

An outstanding £1568.00 has been raised this year. The funds raised will be donated to the Church, charities and to school fund for our children here at Guardian Angels Catholic Primary School. Thank you for supporting the school, the parish and local charities; your generosity is very much appreciated.

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.

Uniform

We have attached the uniform policy for you as a reminder. Please note that school policy also includes extreme hair styles, coats, bags and PE kits. Please ensure your child has the correct items to avoid class teachers needing to speak to you in January.

Golden stamps

Following a number of queries from parents and children, I wanted to clarify and remind all of the purpose of Golden Stars. Almost two years ago, the school council told us that children who ALWAYS complete homework, behave well, wear the correct uniform, come to school and on time every day are not recognised enough for their achievements. We listened to their concerns and with them developed the golden stamp reward system. Pupils that follow the Golden rules are rewarded with a stamp. At key points, the children who have collected different amounts of stamps receive a prize of recognition. Golden stamps are rewards rather than sanctions.

For any system to work well, there must be rules and unfortunately, those rules cannot be implemented upon discretion by teachers to ensure a sense of fairness to all. If there are any queries regarding why a golden stamp has not been awarded please speak to your child's class teacher in the first instance.

E-SAFETY TIPS OF THE WEEK

Discover the internet together – Be the one to introduce your child to the internet.

SAFEGUARDING TIPS OF THE WEEK

Everybody has the responsibility to keep children safe.

BIRTHDAYS 2018/2019 - Many Happy Returns!

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

Lewis, Laila and Maddison (Y3), Lilly (Y4) and Aidan (Y6)

'Happy birthday' also to the following children, who will be celebrating their birthday during the Christmas holidays:

Sophie (Y3), Elijah and Annabelle (Y4), Aimee and Honey (Y5) and Lucas and Zak (Y6)

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 10-12-2018. WELL DONE YEAR 3G!

Group	Attendance
Reception	94.9%
Y1	97.1%
Y2	95.5%
3H	95.7%
3G	98.2%
Y4	96.2%
Y5	97.6%
Y6	95.3%
Overall total	96.3%

A Message from Mrs Milligan and Mr Spindlow

What a year 2018 has been here at Guardian Angels. Filled with the successes of each and every pupil and of course as a whole school team. We would like to give you a quick reminder of some of the best bits of 2018:

- Good Ofsted in June 2018
- A range of trips and experiences for our children
- Science week and achieving the Science Mark
- Helping the local and wider community through fund raising during Lent
- The choir singing at many different events
- Inspire workshops and opportunities for parents to come into school
- Harvest Assembly and donations which were given to local people in need
- Enabling enterprises challenge days and trips
- Golden Star Stamp awards and Gifts and Talents assemblies
- Amazing 'Friends' volunteers and successful school events

These are only highlighting a few of the best bits, there have been far too many to name them all! Not forgetting the academic achievements of our pupils too.

We would like to take the opportunity to thank all parents, carers and wider families for supporting the school and your children this term. It has been a pleasure to work with you and to see each and every child's wonderful qualities and personalities. We look forward to seeing all students back at school on Monday 7th January 2019.

Wishing all of our school community a happy and holy Christmas and New New Year.



*God of all, fill us with joy at
the coming of your Son, as
Mary and Elizabeth were
filled with joy. Help us to
spread this joy and your love
by caring for all our brothers
and sisters around the world.
Amen.*

Keep safe and God Bless.

Mrs H Milligan

Mr A Spindlow



**This is a Good School
OFSTED 2018**



TO WAKE BEFORE DAWN
Daryl Madden

I think we were meant
To wake before dawn
In the stilling darkness
Our soul to be drawn

Into the quiet
Foundation of peace
All thoughts and worries
Here to release

In hope of the light
A gift of new day
Seeking creator
In turning to pray

Take not for granted
That this day will be
Focus of being
Dependent on thee

And in the sun rising
A grateful heart
Rejoice with creation
To now serve our part

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