



**WEEKEND MASSES - Come to the table, everyone is welcome!**

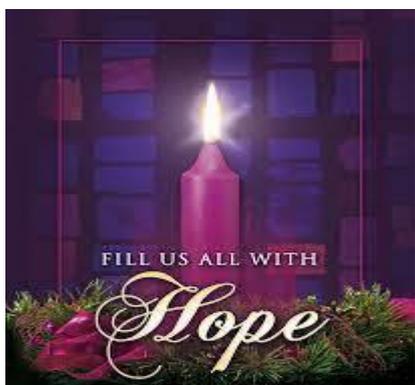
**Saturday:** Vigil Mass -6.30 p.m. at St. Malachy's

**Sunday:** 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. (signed for the deaf) at St. Patrick's

**Sunday:** 11:00 a.m. at St. Malachy's

If there is any parent who wishes their child to be baptised, please contact the Parish Priest of the parish in which you live. If you live within the boundaries of this parish, please see Father Paul after one of the weekend Masses listed above. Alternatively, Father Paul can be contacted on 07764791889 or at [paul.daly@dioceseofsalford.org.uk](mailto:paul.daly@dioceseofsalford.org.uk)

**Our Statement to live by next week is:  
'PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD'**



**DURING ADVENT-LET US BE FILLED WITH HOPE:** Advent is the season of hope, culminating in the celebration of the birth of Jesus, which brings us the good news that we are loved unconditionally by God. This Sunday's Gospel is also filled with hope. John the Baptist points away from himself towards Jesus. John makes it clear that it is Jesus that the people should follow: the hope of the world. This season of hope is a great opportunity to be spiritually refreshed, to get rid of everything negative in life and make it altogether positive: to look forward knowing that God is with us. Let's use this special time to make a fresh start and to be filled with hope.

*"Always know in your heart that God is by your side. Let us never lose hope!" (POPE FRANCIS)*

**ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY MATTER:** What a shame! We missed our whole school attendance target last week with a score of 91.8%. The diary dates at the bottom of this newsletter highlight all of the exciting and memorable activities that the teachers have planned for the children before we break up for Christmas. We would love to see the children in school and enjoying, nativity plays, a party day, a disco, Christmas crafts, Carols around the Crib, to mention just a few! How lucky they are!

Please try to encourage your child to become an attendance HERO (Here, Every day, Ready and On time) so that they don't miss out. Thank you parents/carers for your continued support.



Nursery: 91.7%	Reception: 91.1%	Year 1: 91.9%	Year 2: 88.9%
Year 3: 92.9%	Year 4: 95.4%	Year 5: 90.8%	Year 6: 91%
WHOLE SCHOOL: 91.8%			

**PRAYER AND WORSHIP:** Our next Mass will be a whole school Mass on **Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> December** and the readings to celebrate Christmas will be led by Year 5. As always, all are welcome to join us in church at the usual time of 9:15 a.m. Come and join us!



**READING TOP TIP:** This week's...well actually this **MONTH'S** reading top tip continues to be: 'Watch a video of one the teachers on our Facebook Page!!' Yes parents, relax... the teachers have come to the rescue!! As a special Advent treat, the teachers will be posting an Advent video recording of one of their favourite Christmas stories each and every day during Advent. Why not send the teachers a message to tell them how you enjoyed listening to them read. Perhaps you can give some feedback and tell your teacher what they could do to improve!! Ho ho ho!! Enjoy!

**EYFS STAY AND PLAY:** The next stay and play will be on **Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> December** and the session will be around activities that you can do with your child associated to the Christmas story. Nursery and Reception parents/carers welcome.

**CURRICULUM NEWS:** It's been another really busy week across many areas of our broad and balanced curriculum. During their PSHE lesson, Miss Loughrey and Year 6 had a visit from the Community Police Officers to participate in a special workshop about the dangers of knife crime. Year 3 and Miss McEwan have been doing some practical Maths in the playground all around grouping and sharing. Miss Aulton and Year 5 have been super scientists and have been looking at the movements of the planets in the Solar System around the sun. Why not visit our school Facebook page to see what your child's class has been learning about this week?



**ONLINE-SAFETY TOP TIP:** Our top tip this week is: **STRIVE FOR BALANCE IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD**

- Encourage your child to balance their screen time and green time, and encourage offline interests.
- Be wary of health problems from overusing technology (eyesight, posture, hearing, and so on.).

There are many guidelines floating around but perhaps there isn't really an arbitrary answer when parents or educators ask, "How much time should children spend on screens?" Perhaps it depends on what the child is actually doing. Creating and purposefully connecting online is clearly more beneficial than long stretches of passive viewing. Additionally, using technology collaboratively at suitable times is clearly better than using inappropriate apps or sites alone late at night or when other tasks (or sleep!) are a priority. So a shift in conversation to quality over quantity may be helpful as a family.



**IT'S BEGINNING TO LOOK A LOT LIKE CHRISTMAS!:** Well it certainly has started to look a little bit like Christmas this week as it was time for a pantomime or two! Firstly, the children in EYFS and Key Stage 1 had a special treat on Wednesday. The actors, actresses and theatre came to us and set themselves up in the school hall. The performance was Dick Whittington and there was lots of fun and laughter had by all.

Today, the children in Key Stage 2 travelled to Bolton and visited The Victoria Hall. The performance there was Cinderella and you could hear the 'He's behind you' chants all the way back in Collyhurst! Well done children for demonstrating what it means to have a jolly good time with friends! Thank you to Rose and Tom Usher for their donation of an ice cream treat for all children in the interval! Thank you too to the staff who gave up their time after school hours to ensure the children had some fun!

**CAROL SINGING:** The children in Years 5 and 6 braved the cold weather on Tuesday afternoon and headed to Harpurhey shopping centre to do a spot of carol singing. They brought so much festive cheer to the shoppers and collected over £100 for our school fund! Well done children!



**CHRISTMAS THEMED COFFEE MORNING:** Attention Year 3 and 4 grandparents and great grandparents! Our children would love to invite you into school to have an informal chat with you about what Christmas was like for you when you were 7, 8 and 9 years old! They have loads of questions! Was Christmas just as magical then as it is today? Did you sing Christmas Carols? What traditions did you have in your home when you were young? What kind of toys did you play with on Christmas morning? We'll be holding a Christmas themed coffee morning in the school hall on **Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> December** from 9:00 a.m. so why not come along to reminisce about the 'good old days' and give the children another unforgettable experience in exchange for a hot tea/coffee and a mince pie!!



**CHRISTMAS DISCO:** On **Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> December** there'll be a Christmas Disco for ALL pupils. The disco will start at 4:30 p.m. until 5.30 p.m. and tickets cost £5.00 CASH. These are now on sale and can be purchased either at the school office or from your child's class teacher. Children **MUST** be collected from school at the usual time as staff will be setting up for the discos. There will be no after school provision on this afternoon.

**HERE TO HELP WITH THE COST OF LIVING:** The government have a website with lots of information that can help households with the cost of living crisis. Get support with:

- Energy saving tips
- Energy bills
- Household costs
- Childcare costs
- Income support
- Travel costs

Visit <https://helpforhouseholds.campaign.gov.uk/> to find out more.



**KEEP THOSE WINTER BUGS AT BAY!** As we go into winter, common illnesses can keep children and teenagers away from their classmates and studies. One of the best things we can all do to avoid illness is to practice good hand hygiene. Good hand hygiene helps stop infections from spreading, which means less disrupted learning time. Teach your child to wash hands properly for 20 seconds and stay away from others when sick. The [e-bug resources](#) for all ages can help you to explain and discuss hygiene habits - and why they are important - to your child or teenager. To avoid catching bugs or passing it on to others wash your hands frequently and thoroughly with soap and warm water. This is most important following an episode of

diarrhoea or vomiting, after using the toilet, before eating or preparing food, after changing nappies, as well as cleaning up vomit or diarrhoea. Alcohol-based hand sanitisers are not effective against some infections. Anyone who has diarrhoea and/or vomiting should stay at home. Do not return to work or send children to school until 48 hours after the symptoms have stopped and do not visit your GP or hospital while symptomatic. If you are concerned about your symptoms, talk to your GP by phone, contact NHS 111 or visit the [NHS web pages](#). For useful handwashing tips please have a look at the [following NHS video](#)



**FACEBOOK:** If you aren't doing so already, please 'like' our page on Facebook so you can keep up to date with all of the latest news! Teachers will be posting about what the class are up to during the week and they'll post photos also! Search us as St. Patrick's Manchester and we should pop up.

**SPECIAL PRAYERS:** Please remember the following people in your prayers this week: Oliver O'Leary, Alice Ritchie, Miss Byrne and baby Louie, all involved with caring for the sick of our community, those families seeking asylum from war torn countries, CAFOD, the Lalley Centre, Father Paul & Father Moses, the Presentation Sisters, our children and staff, all those working with environment agencies, and all other private intentions at this time.



**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:**



Wednesday, 13 <sup>th</sup> December	2:00 p.m. KS1 Nativity in the hall - Parents welcome
Thursday, 14 <sup>th</sup> December	9:10-10:10 a.m EYFS Stay and Play-Christmas story activities
Friday, 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 3 & 4 invite grandparents for a Christmas themed coffee morning to discuss <b>Christmas past and present</b>
Tuesday, 19 <sup>th</sup> December	 Christmas jumper and Christmas dinner day
Wednesday, 20 <sup>th</sup> December	9:15 a.m. Whole school Advent Mass led by Year 5 - Parents welcome
Wednesday, 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Party Day! Children come into school in their party clothes
Wednesday, 20 <sup>th</sup> December	4:30 p.m-5:30 p.m Christmas Disco after school for ALL pupils £5.00 a ticket. <b>No after school sports club this day.</b>
Thursday, 21 <sup>st</sup> December	11:00 a.m. Carols around the Crib in the hall - Parents welcome
Thursday, 21 <sup>st</sup> December	School closes at 1:00 p.m. for the Christmas holiday
Tuesday, 9 <sup>th</sup> January	School re-opens for the Spring term



A PRAYER FOR THE  
Second Sunday of Advent

Jesus, you came among us  
with the irresistible power of a baby,  
requiring both our hands  
and captivating our whole hearts.  
Help us to cast aside the sin  
and brokenness that we cling to,  
so we might be ready to hold you  
when you come again.  
Amen.

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*Stay with us, Lord... on our journey.*