



# HEADLINES

DECEMBER	
13 <sup>th</sup>	Special Babinelli (Baby Jesus figures) to be blessed at 6pm Mass. This is the Christmas Special friends Mass supported by Mini-Vinnes/Gift and Caritas teams. Please join us.
15 <sup>th</sup>	Y2 singing at Little Aston Care Home @ 1:30pm
16 <sup>th</sup>	Celebration assembly parents invited @ 9am
17 <sup>th</sup>	Whole School Mass @ Church @ 10am (excluding Nursery). <b>Christmas Jumper Day Donation of £1 for St. Chad's MUFTI</b> Christmas Dinner Day (order by 5 <sup>th</sup> December) KS2 Concert @ 6pm @ St. Anne's Church
18 <sup>th</sup>	MUFTI TO SAY THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY 9:15am I Rock Concert 1:15pm Virtual Santa
19 <sup>th</sup>	INSET SCHOOL CLOSED
24 <sup>th</sup>	Family Parish Mass for Christmas @ 4pm
JANUARY	
5 <sup>th</sup>	Return to School Recycle your Christmas Cards
6 <sup>th</sup>	Whole School Mass @ 9am Epiphany end of Jubilee year - Pilgrims of Hope - Legacy
9 <sup>th</sup>	MUFTI Unwanted Christmas Gifts
10 <sup>th</sup>	Family Parish Mass @ 6pm
12 <sup>th</sup>	PTA Zoom Meeting @ 7:00pm
13 <sup>th</sup>	Y6 Mass @ Church arrive @ 8:45am Mass @ 9am
14 <sup>th</sup>	Times Tables Zoom Meeting Y4 and Y6 SATS meeting via zoom
17 <sup>th</sup>	Family Parish Mass @ 6pm
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Rags 2 Riches (if you have a Christmas Clear out save your clothes and bring them in today)
23 <sup>rd</sup>	EYFS Reading sessions parent/child @ 2:30pm <b>children leave with parents (older siblings can leave too)</b>
26 <sup>th</sup>	Year Reception Eye Tests
29 <sup>th</sup>	School Nursing delivering Behaviour workshops to all parents 1:30-3:00pm
FEBRUARY	

Headteacher—Mrs T Johnston  
[tjohnston@st-annes.walsall.sch.uk](mailto:tjohnston@st-annes.walsall.sch.uk)



The word is **Christ**. Let us place **Christ** at the centre of our Advent preparations - let us find that quiet time.

**Whole School Mass Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December @ 10am in Church.**

## Headteacher Message



What a fantastic week we've had in school as we watched EYFS and KS1 help us to understand the true Christmas message. The children were truly inspirational and certainly helped us all to pause and think of the real message of Christmas.

Thank you to all of our parents, grandparents and family members who joined us for these events. Mini Vinnies are in the final push of their Advent appeal, if you are able to support by donating, socks, gloves, hats, scarves or toiletries they would be very grateful. Items being delivered on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December.

Thank you very much for the kind donations that we have received for families in need, if you are able to support this plea, then please use the top up facility on Arbor.

On Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December it is our annual Christmas Jumper Day (MUFTI). Please bring in £1. We will be going to Mass to end the school term, normal drop off arrangements apply as Mass is at 10am. Nursery will not attend Mass. There are no break sales on the 17<sup>th</sup>, they will resume on the 18<sup>th</sup>. The Carol Concert for KS2 will take place on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December at 6pm. Refreshments will be available from 5pm, please come along, this is always a really wonderful event. Finally, we look forward to meeting Bishop Timothy tomorrow (6pm at Church) as we show him some of the wonderful things that the children do, as the school and Parish work together. God Bless

## Issue 274 Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2025

**Nursery** Our classroom has transformed into a magical Christmas grotto! The children have loved exploring the festive decorations. In RE, we have been learning about 'Advent' and the children have noticed that our prayer table is now purple. This colour reminds us we are preparing for the birth of Jesus. Our Christmas crafts have officially begun! This week the children have been creating their very own 2026 calendars- you are all so creative!

**Mr Johnston Mrs Lingwood and the Nursery Team**

**Reception** We've been truly blessed this week by the children's presentation of the Nativity story. I'm sure you'll agree they were fantastic. I am so very proud of how brilliant each and every one of the children were and can't quite believe how confident and clearly spoken they've become - thank you for supporting your child at home. The nativity play has certainly helped the children's knowledge and understanding of the joy that the Christmas story brings and I hope it spread the joy with you - there's nothing like an EYFS Nativity Play to do that! Don't forget the Special Friend's Mass on Saturday where our Baminelli will be blessed.

**Mrs Turley and the early years team.**

**Year 1** What a fantastic week we have had! The KS1 Nativity has definitely prepared us during this Advent season. We had fantastic performers and singers in Year 1. You are all superstars and we couldn't be prouder of you all! Thank you to all the parents for supporting us during the preparation of our Nativity. We hope you enjoyed it as much as we did. Please can you send your child's library card into school before Tuesday. Have a wonderful weekend!

**Mrs McCabe**

**Year 2** What a festive week in Year 2! I am so proud of you all for your efforts with our nativity. It has been a joy to rehearse and watch you perform and that is because you all embraced the songs, worked hard to practise your roles and had fun- well done everyone! In English, we have enjoyed using adjectives to describe the Big Bad Wolf in Little Red Riding Hood and I look forward to reading your 'WANTED!' posters for him next week. We look forward to all the festivities especially the mini performance of our nativity at Little Aston Care Home on Monday. I know you will all be so kind and gentle to the residents there. Have a nice weekend- I think you deserve a treat!

**Miss Regan**

**Year 3** Well done to year 3 on a respectful and reverent Reconciliation service on Wednesday. We were all proud of you. This week we are preparing for next week's Carol Service on Wednesday evening and children have the words to our hymn in their bags to practise. We will complete our Snowman story next week and it has been lovely to see the children so engaged in the tale. Their own stories show how their writing has developed and improved over the term. We hope to print them and send them home on Wednesday. Enjoy the weekend and we prepare for a busy last week.

**Mrs Robinson**

**Year 4** Year 4 have really enjoyed continuing with their class book, Queen of Darkness in English this week. We have spent the week working hard on our formal letters based on the book. We've imagined we are Rhianna in the story and have written to a friend about the events that unfolded in chapters 1 and 2. Your letters have really impressed me Year 4! In Maths, we have been learning about area and finding out how to measure the area of a shape using squares. Over the weekend, can you calculate the area of one of the rooms in your house? Please see Google Classroom for this half-term's final homework. Have a lovely weekend!

**Miss Jones**

**Year 5** Only one week left now Year 5! We have made the most of every second this week and you have worked very hard. We are 4 chapters in to 'The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe' and you are loving it so far - I am going to be sending you home with some chapters to read next week! In Maths, we are really getting to grips with fractions - ask us how to convert between mixed numbers and improper fractions. One of the highlights of the week was a trip to Forest School to burn materials with Mrs Robinson, with some surprising results. I have loved looking at your Advent posters in RE - well done to the prize winners. Have a great weekend!

**Mr Caddick**

**Year 6** A very busy working week in Year 6 with planning chapter 13 of ROTHMC, calculating and problem solving with co-ordinates, science investigations, volcanoes and lots of Advent work. Thank you so much for your focus and hard work this week. You have also learnt the hymns for our carol concert next week and performed them beautifully during hymn practice. Next week will be just as busy so get ready and then I know that you will enjoy Christmas dinner, Christmas jumpers and the Carol Concert to complete an exceptional final autumn term at St. Anne's.

**Miss Keedwell**

**Headteacher Awards for celebration assembly on  
Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December @ 9am all welcome.**

Nursery	Rosie & Lachlan
Reception	Essie & Dottie
Year 1	Jaxon & Henry
Year 2	Namrita & Albert
Year 3	Evie & Kaylon
Year 4	Henry & George
Year 5	Isaac & Alayah
Year 6	Kaelan and Monaza

**Congratulations everyone**

**After School Clubs**

**ALL AFTER  
SCHOOL  
CLUBS ARE  
FINISHED  
UNTIL W/B  
12<sup>TH</sup>  
JANUARY**

All clubs dismissed  
at main reception.  
If you wish to  
enroll email  
[mmiller@st-](mailto:mmiller@st-)

### **Learn Its Movers**

<b>Year 1</b>	Arthur, Jaxon, Anthonia & Cillian
<b>Year 2</b>	
<b>Year 3</b>	Isla, Conor, Amelie & Nora
<b>Year 4</b>	Matilda, Emilia & Thomas

Well done everyone.

### **Building The Kingdom ADVENT**

We are asking all pupils to support our Advent appeals, as Catholics this is a crucial part in our preparation to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Helping others less fortunate than ourselves is a central aspect of our faith.

**BTK Advent themed weeks**

**Week 3 - Joy**

**Week 4 - love**

In Week 3 we are thinking about the Joy of the season. Please remember this joy as you place your Bambinelli in your family cribs this Christmas.

**Values & Virtues Learned & Wise  
Awards at Celebration Assembly 16<sup>th</sup>  
December @ 9am - all welcome.**

Nursery	Milo W & Kaiya
Reception	Syun & Gabriel
Year 1	Anthonia & Niall
Year 2	Theo Rav & George
Year 3	Charlie & Nora
Year 4	Sophia & Jennifer
Year 5	Maille & Eva
Year 6	Oliver B & Isla

## Holiday Hamper winners

Nursery: Poppy B & Sophia

Reception: Scarlett & Kasper

Year 1 : Emily B & Declan

Year 2: Archie C & Theo Rav

Year 3 : Connor & Jenny S

Year 4: Erin & Lois

Year 5: Emily

Year 6: Charlie R & Keane

Unlock the Dosh  
winner £140  
Jacob from  
Reception

Snowman Number

Winner Oscar R in  
Reception

Thank you for raising £207.25 for the British Legion Poppy Appeal, this is a wonderful amount of money and the British Legion want me to pass on their thanks.





*Roll of Honour*

Sporting Achievements this year.

Don't forget to tell us about your out of school achievements. Email Mrs Baynham-Hughes on

[Sbaynham-hughes@st-annes.walsall.sch.uk](mailto:Sbaynham-hughes@st-annes.walsall.sch.uk)

Year	Pupil
Reception	Oscar achieved his yellow/white belt at Karate this week.
Reception	Reuben achieved his yellow/white belt at Karate this week
Y1	Hudson achieved his yellow stripe in karate
Y2	Theo Ri achieved his yellow/white belt at Karate this week.
Y4	Freddie earned his brown and white belt in karate
Y4	Florence 800m swimming award

**Sportsmanship Award of the week**

Y5 girls football - for such positive attitudes during your time on the MUGA and making sure that everyone enjoys playing!



On Wednesday, a group of very determined year 5/6 children took part in the very competitive Sportshall Athletics Event. One of the loudest events of the school calendar but also one of the most enjoyable! The girls relay team took a 1st place alongside some other memorable efforts and the boys did very well in across all events. They showed some fantastic determination and resilience during the whole evening - well done to all those for your fantastic effort



On Monday we had the year 3/4 dodgeball team head over to Streetly to play in a non-competitive tournament against other local schools. The children grew in confidence throughout the event and took some fantastic catches! Well done team



On Tuesday, some KS1 children tried out a variety of activities at the School Games Multi skills event. They were introduced to some playground games including bowling and golf amongst other challenges. Well done to those children who represented St Anne's for the very first time - Mrs McCombie was very impressed!

Please bring the correct money for the items.

# BREAK SALES



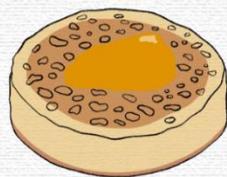
Some children in our school leave home without any breakfast and we're here to change that. As of Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February we are going to be selling...



TOAST 30P



PANCAKE 50P



CRUMPET 50P



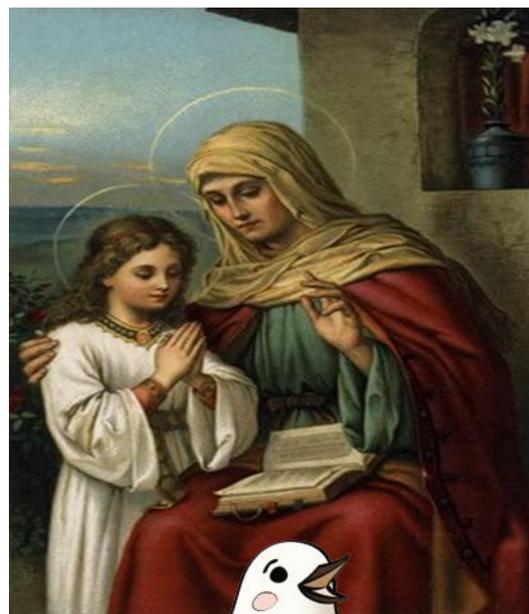
BAGEL 50P



SAUSAGE SANDWICH  
£1  
MONDAY ONLY

Issue 274 Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2025

This half term our Catholic Social Teaching is Option for the Poor



# Putting people most in need first

Preferential option for the poor

Poppy the pōpokotea's story



When Poppy hatched she was all alone and never knew her parents. She remembers having to rely on kind birds caring for her and bringing her worms to eat.

As one of the youngest and most vulnerable, she understands what it was like to have nothing and the need to rely on others.

She is much older now and has started a "Worms-4-U" service for birds in need everywhere.

*Poppy's story tells us that we should think first about the needs of people who need help the most.*

# Sharing fairly

## Distributive Justice

### DJ the dolphin's story



DJ is part of a large family of dolphins (a pod) His family take turns to catch their food (usually fish).

Some of his older brothers and sisters don't share all that they catch on purpose. DJ, being one of the youngest, is often given a small portion while some of the others take a few each.

DJ is not afraid to tell his family that this is not fair.

*Like DJ we should make sure that everyone gets their fair share.*

### Our Advent Appeals

Mini Vinnies have committed to the following fundraising for Advent. As Catholics we are tasked in Advent to undergo a process of preparation. This is to prepare ourselves for the joy of celebrating the birth of Jesus and also to prepare for his second coming. Hence during Advent one of the things we should engage in is some form of sacrifice. The Mini Vinnies have collectively decided on these initiatives. This fundraising should be something that the children actively participate in, by perhaps donating their pocket money to buy the item or sacrificing a Christmas gift to give to someone less fortunate.

Mini Vinnies would like children to bring in (for homeless people) Fireside Charity B'ham. Hats, scarves, gloves and socks - thermal items would be fantastic. Male and female items. We would like new items, so that these can be gifted to the homeless as a Christmas gift.

Secondly, they would like to collect toiletries for St Chads.

Gift sets, soaps, shampoos, toothpaste, tooth brushes, shower gels etc.. These items can be for adults (male and female) and children.

Finally, anyone wishing to donate food (for Christmas) to St. Chads we will also take these items. We will be delivering to St. Chads on the 15<sup>th</sup> December.

Thank you for your generosity.



Based on the gospel for Sunday 14 December, Third Sunday of Advent: Matthew 11:2-11

"The blind receive their sight and the lame walk... and the poor have the good news preached to them."

When John the Baptist asks whether Christ is the one for whom he has been waiting, Jesus replies with these words that echo the prophet Isaiah. He is the one who will help the blind to see and bring good news to the poor.

In short, yes - Jesus is the one John has been expecting.

Jesus spells out his mission here, and it is the message of Jubilee - a time of renewal and freedom. A time when debts will be cancelled, the land can rest and people are freed from oppression. It is a message to which we have been called to pay particular attention in this Jubilee Year 2025. We have all been called to be pilgrims of hope and to consider how we can create a world of justice, peace and love.

Throughout the past year, so many people have answered this call. In parishes, schools and on their own, young and old have taken part in pilgrimages, raised their voices to demand debt cancellation and raised funds for our work alongside the poorest people in our world.

As the Jubilee Year draws to a close, we take this moment to reflect on all that has been achieved. And we commit once more to participating in Christ's mission, which seeks the flourishing of all.

### **Live Simply**

Wanted your old technology. As many people will be receiving new phones, tablets, computers and chrome books for Christmas, we would love to have your old devices (that are good enough to recycle). We will then recycle the devices and all the money raised will go towards replacing our out of date devices. Help us by recycling your devices and live sustainably and simply - much better for our planet.

Devices can be brought into school at any time. Thank you

Are you wondering what to buy someone for Christmas? CAFOD offer some great choices. Follow the link below and give a gift that could make a real difference in someone life.

[view.email.cafod.org.uk/?qs=bde99c2f65f1b56c1e4c8a5ecf5b6af2b22e7b35c266b29ce81871589db6c7cb1b3d90cd3a7c91894c9203a42bf6ccf9ef53b9a915c17ffc4ef0b43e003a40e2c3ddc925d723fefc92b8b7fb72ecdc6a](http://view.email.cafod.org.uk/?qs=bde99c2f65f1b56c1e4c8a5ecf5b6af2b22e7b35c266b29ce81871589db6c7cb1b3d90cd3a7c91894c9203a42bf6ccf9ef53b9a915c17ffc4ef0b43e003a40e2c3ddc925d723fefc92b8b7fb72ecdc6a)



As we continue our Live Simply Journey, promoting these gifts are a real way that we can demonstrate living in solidarity and sustainably with others.

Ask your child about our new Live Simply Pledge Tree, they will help you to understand the importance of Live Simply.

### **This Week's Idea to Live Simply:**

Given to us by Year 1

Don't drop litter, it can hurt animals and it looks horrible.

## Prayer

Christ Jesus,  
bringer of *Good News*,  
liberator of captives and all who are oppressed, restorer of  
sight,  
guide us on our journey through life  
and lead us to be signs of hope  
in our world.  
Amen

