



# HEADLINES

DECEMBER	
19 <sup>th</sup>	INSET SCHOOL CLOSED
24 <sup>th</sup>	Family Parish Mass for Christmas @ 4pm Christmas Mass 8pm
25 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Day Mass @ 8:30am Christmas Day Mass @ 11am
JANUARY	
5 <sup>th</sup>	Return to School Recycle your Christmas Cards
6 <sup>th</sup>	Whole School Mass @ 9am in school 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 Special Friends for the New Year
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 Y5 & Nursery
20 <sup>th</sup>	Y5 Mass @ Church arrive @ 8:45am Mass @ 9am
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>
24 <sup>th</sup>	Family Parish Mass @ 6pm Y3/Y2
26 <sup>th</sup>	Year Reception Eye Tests
27 <sup>th</sup>	Y4 Mass @ Church arrive @ 8:45am Mass @ 9am
29 <sup>th</sup>	School Nursing delivering Behaviour workshops to all parents 1:30-3:00pm
31 <sup>st</sup>	Family Parish Mass @6pm Y4/Y1
FEBRUARY	
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Y3 Mass @ Church arrive @ 8:45am Mass @ 9am
7 <sup>th</sup>	Family Parish Mass @6pm Mini Vinnies/GIFT/Caritas
10 <sup>th</sup>	Y2 Mass @ Church arrive @ 8:45am Mass @ 9am
16 <sup>th</sup>	School closed for half term

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The word is **Mary**. Mary is a wonderful example to us all, she said YES to God's plan for her, despite feeling inadequate. Let us learn from her.

**Christmas Eve Family Parish Mass  
 24<sup>th</sup> December @ 4pm. Christmas  
 Eve Mass 8pm. Christmas Day Mass  
 8:30am and 11am.**

## Headteacher Message



Today draws the autumn term to a close and what a fabulous term it has been. As I reflect on it and see the growth and development of all of the children I am truly inspired. From our youngest pupils in Nursery (many who are still only 3 years old), to our oldest pupils (11years), their personal development and growth has been fantastic.

Congratulations to our Year 2 pupils who represented our school at Little Aston Care home, the residents and staff were truly moved by your performance. Yesterday, our whole school Mass was a blessed, spiritual occasion - thank you everyone for this. Last night KS2 came together to present a joy-filled Carol Service. Anyone who was in the church last night, will have felt privileged to hear you sing and read. Thank you for reminding us of the central message of Christmas.

On behalf of all of the staff at St. Anne's school, I wish you and your families a Blessed and Holy Christmas filled with the light and joy of Jesus. Thank you for your generosity of spirit this year and we look forward to working with you all in 2026. We have some exciting plans.

## Issue 275 Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2025

**Nursery** We can't believe we've already completed our first term in Nursery! What a wonderful term it has been. We had so much fun celebrating at our class party – musical chairs was a real hit! Thank you all so much for all our beautiful, thoughtful gifts and cards. We are truly blown away by your kindness and generosity. We hope you have a lovely Christmas filled with joy and special moments with your families.

**Merry Christmas, Nursery!**

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

**Reception** What a fantastic week we've had in Reception. The children have been busy making Christmas crafts, retelling the Christmas story, finishing Level 2 of Phonics, going to Mass, having a party and playing with Special Friends. The children have had an excellent first term in Reception. They have settled well, made some good friends, tried their best and made excellent progress. I am so very proud of each and every one of the children and can't wait to see them in the new year for the next phase of learning. Thank you from Mrs Long, Mrs D'Arcy and myself for your generous gifts - we really appreciate your kindness. Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

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

**Year 1** Thank you to all of our wonderful parents who have spoiled the Year 1 teaching staff this Christmas. We are truly blessed to be working with your children and we wish you all a wonderful, blessed and happy Christmas! You will be pleased to see there is no homework over Christmas but your child does have two reading books to keep them going! Your child will also be bringing home their handwritten letter to Santa, please check their reading packets for these! We look forward to seeing you all in the New Year.

**Mrs McCabe**

**Year 2** We have had a lovely, festive week to end our Autumn term in Year 2. The highlight was our trip to Little Aston care home on Monday. You were all so well behaved and filled the room with Christmas cheer- we are all very proud of you! Mrs Matchett and I want to say a big thank you to you all for your generosity, kind gifts and support this year. We wish everyone a merry Christmas and a happy and healthy new year. We look forward to welcoming Year 2 back to school in January 2026!

**Miss Regan**

**Year 3** Well done to Year 3 on a fantastic term. You have worked so hard in all areas. It has been wonderful to see your progress and we were all so proud of you at the Carol Concert. The Year 3 team want to say thank you for the gifts and cards. We wish you a happy and holy Christmas and a great start to the new year. Thank you for all your support.

**Mrs Robinson and Mr Johnston**

**Year 4** Well done everyone for working so hard this term. We have enjoyed a lovely week with our carol concert on Wednesday evening and a fun day of Christmas activities on Thursday. You really impressed me with your research into your family trees to support our work on the Jesse tree this week. Thank you parents for your help with this. Please note there won't be any homework set over the Christmas holidays. Spend time with your families and friends and have a well-deserved break! Mrs Flower and I would like to say thank you very much for all your cards and gifts- it is very kind of you. Have a wonderful Christmas!

**Miss Jones**

**Year 5** Well done Year 5 for an amazing first term! We have worked hard, achieved so much and had so much fun along the way. This week has been great - the highlight has to be the Christmas Carol Concert when you sang your hearts out. I hugely appreciate your kind gifts and your support throughout the term. The Year 5 team and I hope you have a happy Christmas with your families and we look forward to seeing you in 2026!

**Mr Caddick**

**Year 6** Year 6 - I am so proud of you all. The Christmas Carol Concert last night was epic and full of joy! Thank you for your singing, reading and the prayerful atmosphere - you truly embodied the joy of Christmas. Thank you for your hard work this term and I know you will be ready for your final 2 terms at St. Anne's. May I wish you and your families a very happy, holy and peace-filled Christmas and may the joy of Jesus fill you with hope for the New Year.

**Miss Keedwell**



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)

An excellent term in our school for sporting events and a huge well done to all those children who have participated in a sporting activity this term. We have had nearly 80% of KS2 children, and just over 55% of KS1 children participating in physical activity outside of PE lessons. This is absolutely awesome.

We have entered 25 different events, either held within school, activities held by the School Games Partnership, friendlies against other schools and other organised events run by various external companies.

Highlights of the term being the boys 5-a-side team coming 2nd in the Catholic School Sports and the Y5/Y6 boys reaching the final of the Walsall Kids Cup. Lots of fantastic individual performances in cross country, WOW championships and Y5/Y6 netball.

We've had the introduction of the Sports Council who have not only helped to run our intra-house football tournament but they also give up their own break time to referee matches on the MUGA. Thank you!

A final thank you to the parents. Without you transporting your children to and from these events, it would not be possible for them to have so many wonderful experiences.

Please keep a look out on the newsletter for next terms sporting events. We have Boccia, dance competitions, swimming galas and football tournaments already in the diary.

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.

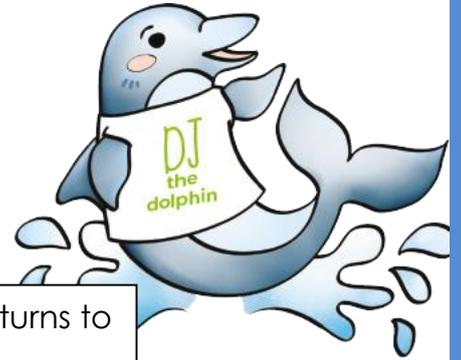
She is much older now and has started a "Worms-4-U" service for birds in need everywhere.

*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 would like to thank everyone who donated to their Advent Appeals, your generosity will make a real difference to some of the most vulnerable in our society. Our MUFTI day raised £120 a cheque for this amount was taken to St. Chad's Sanctuary on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December by Michael Flower, our Chair of Governors.

Thank you for your generosity.

### 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 6

Don't leave devices on standby - switch them off to save energy.

## Prayer

Maranatha!

Open our eyes to the dignity of all people  
And our ears to the cries of the earth.

Maranatha!

Let us walk in solidarity with the poor  
And cleanse our world from oppression.

Maranatha!

Let us shout out for justice for all  
And renew our hope for change.

Maranatha!

The Lord is coming  
Let us share the Good News!  
Amen.



**Issue 275 Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2025**