



HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

LIVE, LOVE, LEARN. TOGETHER WE WILL SOAR TO NEW HEIGHTS

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Headteacher: Miss Sinéad Walsh



3.01.23

Dear Parents,

I hope that you have all enjoyed the Christmas break. Happy new year to you all – I wish you every blessing for a happy and healthy 2023.

What an action packed December we had in Holy Spirit! The season of Advent is always an interesting time to work in a primary school. It was really special for our choir to sing at the switching on of the Parr Christmas tree. They also sang at Madison Court Care home and brought so much happiness to all of the staff and residents there. Our Christmas fayre raised over £1000 for our school fund. Christmas dinner was a lovely occasion for us all as a school, a special thank you to Mrs Darlington and Mrs Potter for cooking such a beautiful dinner for us all to enjoy. It was also wonderful to see all of our children enjoy the Santa dash and receive a selection box from Santa at the end. EYFS and Key Stage One also loved their breakfast with Santa who was really impressed at all of our children.

Last month we had the joy of hearing and seeing our youngest children prepare for Christmas and the coming of Jesus through our nativity plays. I am sure you will agree that Nursery and Reception excelled with their production of the 'The Christmas Star', as did our Year 1 and 2 children in their production of 'The Fireside Nativity'. Thank you for coming along to see the nativities – it was lovely to welcome you all and your families for these wonderful occasions. Thanks also for buying your tickets – the money raised will be used to continue to update our school library with lots of exciting books for our children to enjoy.

Thanks also for your lovely comments about the nativities which I shared with the EYFS and Key Stage One Team. Your lovely feedback means so much to us all at Holy Spirit.

Some comments about **The Christmas Star**...

"The performance was absolutely amazing it was beautiful to watch and all the kids worked so hard and sang so beautifully well don't to the teachers for all your hard work."

"Fantastic! It was put together so well and the children all looked so happy. Well done everyone, children and staff for your hard work."

"It was amazing. So much work and preparation was put into. Loved it every second of it."

Some comments about **The Fireside Nativity**...

"It was beautiful and the kids had so much fun ,and thankyou for doing it."



Leading Parent
Partnership Award

2019-2022



"Brilliant! Lovely service for parents also."

"Amazing singing and dancing throughout – I loved it!"

"All the children did amazingly well, well led and fantastic guidance from the teachers, I enjoyed every minute of it."

On the last Friday of the term we went to St Vincent de Paul Church for our Key Stage Two Advent service. It was wonderful to be back in Church after missing out on this during the pandemic and being able to share it with you all. I am sure you will agree that all of the children sang their hearts out throughout the service. All of the dancers, actors, readers, singers were excellent as they shared the Christmas story with us all. My favourite song was definitely, 'Christmas isn't Christmas, til it happens in your heart.' The children sang this beautifully and the words echoed the true Christmas message for us all. I hope you have been able to watch our imovie which shows how we lived out Hope, Peace, Joy and Love throughout December in Holy Spirit. It can be found on the iMovies page of our website.

I can only tell you how incredibly proud I was of each of our children in their performances and I can only imagine how special these moments were for each of you too as their parents.

The autumn term was a real joy and one that I will never forget, my very first one leading Holy Spirit as your headteacher. I hope that you can all look back on last term and think of something or someone who has brought you joy in our school. Perhaps it was a friend who gave you a compliment or a reassuring smile. Perhaps it was someone that spent time with you listening or talking you through a problem. Perhaps it was a lesson that you were taught and something new that you have accomplished – like receiving your pen license or learning how to ride a bike. Perhaps it was racing Santa in the Santa dash or Year 6 laughing with Peter Pan at the panto. Perhaps it was a quiet moment you had thanking God for all the joys in your life. For me being your headteacher is a joy I love living out each and every day.

I am sure you would join me in thanking the Staff at Holy Spirit for all their achievements over the past year. In addition to the normal working day, you can appreciate the many extra hours spent behind the scenes planning, assessing, preparing and organising to ensure your child receives the very best quality education at Holy Spirit. This is only possible through the hard work and commitment of a very dedicated team whom I have the pleasure to work with. Our caretaker Mr Haury and his amazing team, our talented cook Mrs Darlington and her assistants, Mrs Gilmore and Mrs Hughes in the office who are always there to help, our teachers, teaching assistants, governors, volunteers and trainee students. A very big thank you to them all for what they contribute to Holy Spirit. Thank you also to Father Jean Paul and all of the parishioners of St Vincent de Paul and thank you to all of our parents who support us all in everything we do to make sure your child has the very best education at Holy Spirit.

I am looking forward to seeing you all on **Wednesday 4th January** when we return to school. Please try and make sure that your child is in school on time – our gates open promptly at 8:45am and close at 8:55am. We will continue to use the front entrance each morning for Years 1-6 and then at hometime we will go back to Year 1 and 2 from the small playground by the carpark and Years 3-6 from the main playground.

I will send out a separate overview for PE days for this term.

Kindest regards

Miss Sinead Walsh
Headteacher

