



**“We put Christ at the Centre of our Lives.”**



**Newsletter Date:  
Friday 15th December, 2023**

# St. Philip Neri with St. Bede Catholic Voluntary Academy

## Our school Advent Prayer

This week, we lit the second candle of our Advent Wreaths throughout school—a candle to represent 'Peace'. Throughout the week, we've been reflecting on Peace — peace within our own hearts and lives, peace for our community and for the wider world.



Please find below our school prayer for Advent:

God our Father,

We come to you at Advent to help us prepare for the birth of Jesus. As we celebrate this wonderful time, help us to remember the reason you sent your son.

We want to be like Jesus: to live virtuously and follow in his footsteps.

Help us be what You want us to be as your children.

We want to help those in need at Christmas time.

We want to tell people about Jesus being born.

We will share your mission in the ways we think, speak and act.

God love us and bless us. Amen.

Attendance this week: 95.4%	
FS2KW	96.3%
FS2NM	98.7%
Y1GV	96%
Y1JS	95.5%
Y2JY	98.3%
Y2RT	92.3%
Y3RB	92.7%
Y3AN	93%
Y4BF	88.7%
Y4DK	96%
Y5SC	97.2%
Y5VD	96.7%
Y6LB	97.3%
Y6HG	96.7%

## Christmas Events

We've had a fabulously busy week staging various events as we continue our Christmas preparations. Very well done to our Year 3 & Year 4 children who performed superbly in their Carol Concert. Huge congratulations to our Year 1 & Year 2 children for their outstanding Nativity play, 'It's a Baby!'. And well done to our Foundation Stage children for their brilliant 'Wriggly Nativity' production. All of these events have really helped us all to remember that very first Christmas more than 2000 years ago.

We look forward to our Year 5 & Year 6 Carol Concert, which is taking place on Thursday at 2pm in St. Philip Neri Church. You are all very welcome to join us.



## Christmas Fayre

Many thanks to our PTA for organising this year's Christmas Fayre. It was lovely to see the community come together to support our school. A special word of thanks to Santa too for taking time out of his very busy schedule to visit us in his Grotto for the day. Once we have a total of funds raised, we'll share this with you. On behalf of the PTA, thank you for your generosity and support—and for your donations of bottles, sweets and cakes. It's greatly appreciated.

## OPAL: Outdoor Play and Learning

A further reminder that we are looking forward to becoming an OPAL school after the February half term. This means our lunchtimes will become much more exciting. To help us prepare and get ready for launching this initiative, we need your help with donations. Thanks to those of you who have already donated items.

If you have anything from these categories (or similar), please can you donate it for our new play project:

- small world (cars, dinosaurs, farm animals)
- construction (Lego or similar building toys)
- role play (dressing up/ fancy dress clothes, hats, handbags)
- dolls (and accessories)
- crafting, colouring books, puzzle books etc
- umbrellas
- playmats or small carpet offcuts
- pushchairs (full size ones)

We also want to collect larger items but will not be introducing these for a while so would ask you not to throw away drainpipes, tubing, piping, pallets, tyres (car, motorbike, tractor), planks, decking, small crates).



## Vacancies



Currently we have two vacancies within school. To access these adverts, please visit the following links. Please note that the closing date for each role is **Monday 18th December**.

[Full Time Class Teacher \(Fixed Term Contract\)](#)

[Midday Supervisor \(Fixed Term Contract\)](#)

## Word of the Week

Next week our Word of the Week is **Joy** which will form the basis of our acts of collective worship throughout the week.



## Liturgy of the Word/Mass

Please note that there will be no Mass or Liturgy of the Word service next week. Our first three celebrations are as below:

Date	Type of Service	Who's Involved?
Tuesday 16 January	Mass	Year 2
Tuesday 23 January	Mass	Year 1
Tuesday 30 January	Liturgy of the Word	Year 6

## Applying for a Reception place 2024-25

If your child turns 5 between 1st September 2024 and 31 August 2025 and you require a school place for September 2024, you can now apply for their place. The application window will be open until the deadline of **Monday 15th January 2024**. Applications can be made quickly and easily through the [Nottinghamshire County Council Admissions Hub](#). Please also remember to submit a Supplementary Information Form if you wish for a school place to be considered under a faith criterion. Please note that you **MUST** include the supporting evidence with this form. If you are unable to locate the required faith evidence, please contact the parish where your child was baptised in good time for a 'copy' certificate to be supplied. **All the details and relevant forms can be found on the Admissions section of our [website](#).**

## After School Clubs: Lent Term

Many thanks to Miss Nicholls, our PE Leader, for organising After School Clubs for next half term. The clubs below will commence from Friday 5th January until we break up for February half term from 3.30pm —4.30pm.

Day of Week	Club/Activity	Who For?
Monday	Dodgeball	Year 3 & 4
Tuesday	Badminton	Year 3, 4, 5 & 6
Wednesday	Yoga	Year 1 & 2
Thursday	Indoor Athletics	Year 1 & 2
Friday	Dodgeball	Year 5 & 6

If you would like your child to have a place, please email [office24@st-philipneri.notts.sch.uk](mailto:office24@st-philipneri.notts.sch.uk) stating your child's name, class and which club you'd like them to attend. Please note that places are on a first come, first served basis. The cost is £10 per child, per activity for the half term.

Once allocated a place, you will be informed. Following this, you will be able to make your payment via the Arbor App.

## Key Dates

See below for this term's Key Dates. We strongly advise that you check Class Dojo regularly to see notifications of other events, including specific year group activities and Class Charity Events.

Date	Time	Event	Location	Who's Involved?
Monday 18 Dec	2pm—5.15pm	Visit to Pantomime Beauty & The Beast	Mansfield Palace Theatre	Year 1—Year 6
Thursday 21 Dec	2pm	Carol Concert	St. Philip's Church	Year 5 & Year 6
Friday 22 Dec	All Day	Christmas Jumper OPAL Fundraiser Day	School	Whole School

Please remember that school closes for the Christmas break at 3.30pm on **Friday 22nd December**. We return on **Thursday 4th January, 2024** for the Lent Term.

## Mass Times

I know that Canon John would be delighted to welcome you to St. Philip's Church this Christmas time. Mass times for Christmas are as follows:

<p><b>Christmas Eve:</b></p> <p>5:00pm St. Philip Neri, Mansfield*</p> <p>5:00pm St. Joseph's, Shirebrook*</p> <p>7.30pm St. Teresa's, Warsop</p> <p>11:00pm St. Philip Neri, Mansfield (Carols &amp; Readings from 10.30pm)</p> <p><b>St. Stephen's Day/Boxing Day</b></p> <p>10:00am St. Philip Neri, Mansfield</p>	<p><b>Christmas Day:</b></p> <p>10:00am St. Philip Neri, Mansfield</p> <p>10:00am St. Patrick's, Forest Town</p> <p><b>New Year's Day Mass</b></p> <p>12:10pm St. Philip Neri, Mansfield</p> <p><i>*Please note that the 5pm services on Christmas Eve are Children's Masses.</i></p>
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Please also note that there is a Service of Reconciliation taking place on Tuesday 19th December at 7pm at St. Philip Neri Church, Mansfield.