



We put Christ at the Centre of our Lives: Think, Speak, Act.

Newsletter Date:
Friday 29th November, 2024

St. Philip Neri with St. Bede Catholic Voluntary Academy

Catholic Life: Prayer Fayre

To help us prepare for the Season of Advent which starts this Sunday, all pupils took part in our *Prayer Fayre* organised and led by the Chaplaincy Team and Clare Lund, our Chaplain. It's safe to say that our children are ready to begin our preparations for welcoming the gift of Jesus this Christmas.

Throughout Advent, we will end each day with a special Jesse tree liturgy in each class. This reflects on Jesus' ancestry and helps us to understand more about Jesus' family tree. We will also end each day by saying together our whole school Advent prayer (please find a copy of the prayer below so you can join us by saying it together as a family at home), and will count down the weeks using our Advent Wreaths that were made at the Prayer Fayre. All classes in school will also showcase either a Nativity Play or a Carol Concert as part of our Advent preparations. Please do take note of the date/time of these events which can be found in the Key Dates section of this Newsletter.

Attendance this week: 95.6%

FS2KW 98.9%

FS2NM 100%

Y1BS 96.3%

Y1JS 93.7%

Y2RB 90.7%

Y2RT 91%

Y3RB 97.1%

Y3AN 93.8%

Y4AS 93.4%

Y4DK 100%

Y5BF 97.2%

Y5VD 91.6%

Y6LB 97.2%

Y6SC 98.8%

God, our Father,
You are the Light of the World.
Thank You for sending us Your gift of love,
Jesus, and helping us to know You.
We are grateful for our saviour; Lord, Jesus Christ.

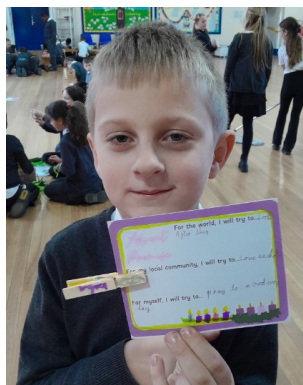
Help us to prepare for Christmas like Mary and Joseph and to say "yes" to your call.
Help us to stay on the right path and be good people.
Help us to be ready for Jesus in our hearts.

Thank You for helping us to be good people who are learning to share our love around the world.

Jesus; help us to have peace this Advent and allow us to help those in need.
Lord, we ask you to help us discover joy and hope this Christmas time and throughout the year.

We will share Your mission in how we THINK (†), SPEAK (†) and ACT (†).

God love us and bless us.
Amen



Catholic Schools Inspection Report

Following our Catholic Schools Inspection (CSI) on 7th and 8th November, I am delighted to share with you the [Report](#) following this. As you'll see, the inspectors recognised the many strengths of our school in terms of outcomes, provision and leadership. The Report is a real celebration of our wonderful school and all with whom we work—Governors, the Parish and Clergy, Staff, Parents and of course, our delightful children who were recognised as displaying “exemplary behaviour”.

The [Report](#) also recognised the areas that we had identified as being our areas for development. I am excited to confirm that work to develop these areas has already begun.

Word of the Week

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



Liturgy of the Word/Mass

Date	Type of Service	Who's Involved?
Tuesday 3 December	Mass	Year 5
Tuesday 10 December	Mass	Year 4
Tuesday 17 December	Liturgy of the Word	Year 3

As ever, families and parishioners are most welcome to join us at 9.30am in Church for each celebration.

Pantomime Visit

The children had a great time at Mansfield Palace Theatre on Tuesday to watch the production of Aladdin (oh yes we did!). The Theatre staff commented on how well behaved our children were, which is always wonderful to hear.

Thanks parents for your cooperation which helped us to ensure the children arrived back at school to be handed over safely. Huge thanks to our PTA for fully funding this event. Not only is it great fun going to the Theatre, but it's inspiring for the children to be immersed in acting, song and dance. It was especially wonderful to see one of our Year 5 children, Sophia, in the cast doing what she does so wonderfully on the stage.



New Fencing Works — Update

As you'll have read in previous Newsletters, we've been given the “green light” for work to begin on improving the security of our school site. This will involve the installation of new perimeter fences in various parts of the school site. Due to works overrunning on a current project, the installation has been delayed; however, we've been given a revised start date of Monday 9th December. I will, of course, keep you updated although we do not anticipate the works to cause too much disruption.

Toddler Tales

Just a reminder that if you (or someone you know) has a child aged 18 months to 3 years old, we'd love you to join us for our Christmas session on **Wednesday 11th December @ 9:15am** where we will be sharing Christmas stories and having some festive fun. There will also be tea/coffee, juice and treats as usual plus a chance to meet and chat to other parents.

For those of you not already aware, Toddler Tales is a fun, interactive way to promote an early love of reading. The sessions also provide us with the opportunity to get to know the children who may be considering joining our Nursery at some point in the future.

If you're able to make it, please arrive at the school office just before 9:15am.



PTA Christmas Fayre

Our PTA are holding their **Christmas Fayre** on next Friday (6th December) **from 2.30pm**. The Fayre will be open to children and their families at the following times:

Year 6 & Year 1 with parents/carers/siblings	From 2.00pm — 2.30pm
Year 5 & Year 2 with parents/carers/siblings	From 2.30pm — 3.00pm
Year 4 & Year 3 with parents/carers/siblings	From 3.00pm — 3.30pm
Foundation & Everyone in our community	From 3.30pm



There are lots of stalls to enjoy at the Christmas Fayre, including bouncy castle, hot drinks, curry & Rice, tombola, sweet stall, face painting, glitter tattoos, hair tinsel and more! Please see the separate Christmas Fayre for more information about the event. Many thanks to the PTA for their continued support. If you're able to volunteer to help on the day in any way, please contact the team by emailing pta@st-philipneri.notts.sch.uk. **When you have enjoyed the Fayre, you are welcome to take your child/children home.**

We're also delighted that Santa Claus has managed to schedule in his diary a visit to our school next Friday too. Any visitors will be able to visit Santa and receive a photo, certificate and a gift for doing so for just £3! If you'd like your child to visit Santa, **please let us know by next Thursday 5th**. See Dojo for more information or ask at our Main Reception.

Applying for a Reception place 24-25

If your child turns 5 between 1st September 2025 and 31 August 2026 and you require a school place for September 2025, you can now apply for their place. The application window will be open until the deadline of Monday 15th January 2025. 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 [web-site](#)** but please do contact the school office if you need any help or advice.

Considering listing only ONE school?

Robin lives in the catchment area of a popular primary school.

- Parent applies on time listing 1 preference for an out of catchment school
- On National Offer Day, the preferred school is oversubscribed (*more applications than places available*) and a place cannot be offered for Robin
- A place cannot be offered at the catchment school as it is also oversubscribed with preferences
- Robin is offered a place at a school over 6 miles away - the next closest with places available



Apply online at:
[nottinghamshire.gov.uk/admissions](https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/admissions)
• Apply on time • Use all 4 preferences
• Check the admission criteria

Lockdown Procedure Notice

Like most establishments, schools are required to have procedures in place to ensure pupils and staff know how to respond in the unlikely event that we need operate our lockdown plan. In the same way we hold fire drills, we also hold lockdown drills. Next week, on Wednesday, we will run a lockdown drill. Children will be given advanced warning of this drill and will be fully reassured that this is only a practice. We will then repeat the drill on Thursday so we can be confident that our staff and children are clear of our procedures should there ever be a requirement for us to lockdown. We wanted to provide you with advanced notice of this so you can prepare your child if you deem it necessary to do so.

The Lime Trees

Wrap around care for our school is provided by the Lime Trees. Places can be booked by contacting them on 0115 9313562. Wrap around care is available each morning from 7.30am and every afternoon from 3.30pm until 6pm. See [our website](#) for more details or visit The Lime Trees' own [website](#).



Have you visited our website recently?
Visit us now:

<https://www.st-philipneri.notts.sch.uk/>

It contains a wealth of information including details of our curriculum, Catholic Life, policies, term dates, admissions, OPAL and much more.

Key Dates

See below for this half term's Key Dates that are already in the School Diary. We strongly advise that you check Class Dojo regularly to see notifications of other events, including specific year group activities and Class Charity Events. Please note that new events may appear each week so please check back each week in case new events appear!

Date	Time	Event	Location	Who's Involved?
Friday 6 Dec	2.30pm—4.30pm	Christmas Fayre	School Hall	Whole School
Tuesday 10 Dec	9.30am—10.15am	KS1 Nativity Play	School Hall	Year 1 & Year 2
Tuesday 10 Dec	2pm—2.45pm	KS1 Nativity Play	School Hall	Year 1 & Year 2
Wednesday 11 Dec	9.15am—10.15am	Toddler Tales	The Hub	Toddlers from 18 months to 3 years
Wednesday 11 Dec	5pm—6pm	Carol Concert	St. Philip's Church	Year 3 & Year 4
Thursday 12 Dec		Christmas Dinner & Christmas Jumper Day		Whole Schol
Wednesday 18 Dec	9.30am—10am	Foundation Nativity Play	School Hall	Nursery & Reception
Wednesday 18 Dec	2pm—2.30pm	Foundation Nativity Play	School Hall	Nursery & Reception
Friday 20 Dec	2pm – 2.45pm	Carol Concert	St. Philips' Church	Year 5 & Year 6

Please note that the Advent Term ends at 3.30pm on Friday 20th December. We return to school on Monday 6th January, 2025 at 8.40am. Term dates, including INSET days, can be found [here on our school website](#).