

Great Crosby Catholic Primary School

The Northern Road, Crosby L23 2RQ



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15th December 2023

This week

This week, our Nursery and Reception classes have all been fantastic in their Nativities to parents and carers following their dress rehearsals to the school. Year 3 enjoyed their visit to The Atkinson in Southport, visiting the Egyptian Museum and watching Jack and the Beanstalk. Early Years and KS1 have also been entertained by Buddy the Elf.

Foodbank Collection and Opening Times

Thank you for your generous donations to the South Sefton Foodbank on Monday. They were very gratefully received. The foodbanks opening times during the festive period are: Week beginning 18th Dec: all foodbanks open as usual
Mon 25th – Wed 27th Dec: all foodbanks closed
Thu 28th Dec: Only St. Leonard's Youth & Community Centre open 11 – 1 pm
Fri 29th Dec - Mon 1st Jan: all foodbanks closed
Tue 2nd Jan: all foodbanks open as usual for the rest of the week.

Financial Guidance and Support for Families over Christmas

Many families are really struggling to pay bills, or buy toys, food etc for their children, during the Christmas period. Please follow the Sefton Council link below so you may gain access as quickly as possible to the support available. <https://www.sefton.gov.uk/costofliving/> Mrs Solkin, in school, can signpost you to other agencies. Email: solkinc.gcp@schools.sefton.gov.uk

Parent Teachers Association – Christmas Market

As the newsletter is being written, preparations are underway around school for our Christmas Market from 3.15 – 5pm. Thank you for the donations and we hope you have fun. Thank you for the work of our PTA for last Saturday's Breakfast with Santa and for organising today's market. Thanks also to Prospero Teaching for donating raffle prizes and lots of cupcakes. As a way of boosting future fundraising, some parents/carers may work for companies that have match funding schemes. you are able to enquire about it, that would be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Parties

Next Tuesday is Christmas dinner day. Children can wear a Christmas jumper or a jumper decorated with a Christmas accessory. On Wednesday afternoon we will have our Christmas parties. Children can come to school in their party clothes. Food will be provided so we won't need anything.

Advent Masses

We celebrated our second Advent Mass this week. The final one is next Wednesday morning 20th Dec at 8am in the studio for families and parishioners.

Diary Dates

Please see our website diary for more dates.

December

Tue 19th – Christmas Jumper/Dinner Day
Wed 20th – Christmas Party Day
Fri 22nd – School closes 1.30pm

January

Mon 8th – INSET Day
Tue 9th – Children return
Wed 10th - School Nurse Online Drop-in 1pm-4pm

Mass Times

Sunday Mass times for our churches are:
St Helen's:
Sunday 10.00am
Ss Peter & Paul
Sat 5.45pm, Sun 10.30am
St Joseph's
Sat 6.30pm, Sun 11.15am

This week's attendance



91.8%

Wednesday Word

The Wednesday Word for this week is 'Joy'. It is part of a special edition for Advent and Christmas. Please take some time to read it on our Community > Gt Crosby Catholic Life page

<https://greatcrosbycatholicprimary.com/gt-crosby-catholic-life>

Carol Services

The **St Joseph's** carol concert is on Sun 17th Dec at 7pm led by the Crosby Community Choir and special guest, Sophie Clarke. £5 pay on the door. **St Helen's** Carols and Punch concert is on Wed 20th Dec at 7pm also led Crosby Community Choir in the parish centre. £5 pay on the door (incl glass of punch and mince pies). We encourage as many families as possible to attend.

Ss Peter and Paul's Christmas Mass Times

Sat 23rd Dec 5.45pm Vigil for 4th Sunday of Advent

Sun 24th Dec 10.30am 4th Sunday of Advent 7pm Vigil Mass of Christmas

Mon 25th Dec 12am Midnight Mass of Christmas, 8.30am, 10.30am Mass for Christmas Day

We encourage as many families as possible to attend.

CAFOD Advent Calendar

CAFOD's website has an Advent calendar with prayers and reflections for every day up to Christmas Day.

You can find it here: <https://cafod.org.uk/pray/advent-calendar>

School Gateway

As we have mentioned before, we have introduced the School Gateway app for payments for school dinners, school trips and other fees. We will also be using it for communications and adding other content in the near future. Please download the free app by searching 'School Gateway' in your App store.

Currently only about one-third of parents/carers have downloaded the app. In the new year, we shall be sending all communications through the School Gateway app rather than by email from Groupcall, so we need parents and carers to have registered to continue receiving school notifications.

School Nurse Online Drop-in Appointments

Parent drop-ins with Josie Brady, our school nurse, take place termly online via Attend Anywhere. The next virtual School Nurse Drop-in will be on Wed 10th Jan, 1 pm until 4pm. Instructions are attached and can also be found on our Parents/Carers > Letters page. <https://greatcrosbycatholicprimary.com/letters>

September 2024 Reception Tours

We have availability for the next tour on Tue 19th Dec at 9.30am for parents and carers of children applying for September 2024 Reception places. To book a place, please contact the school office.

Waterloo Partnership

St Helen's and St Joseph's churches have maintained the link with the town of Waterloo in Sierra Leone, which in the past has seen teachers from Sierra Leone visiting us and Great Crosby teachers visiting there. The Waterloo Partnership charity has funded lots of projects for the town. There is a Christmas Gift Scheme which you might like to consider to help support projects in Sierra Leone. You can find out more at <https://www.waterloopartnership.co.uk/> or take a form from one of the churches.

Attachments

This week's attachments are Attend Anywhere instructions for the school nurse online drop-in.