Our Lady & St John's Newsletter

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Dear Parents,

We ended the term today with a lovely Advent Mass, which was a fitting and prayerful way to prepare our hearts for Christmas. My sincere thanks go to our readers and servers for the care and reverence they showed, and to Fr Gerard for celebrating Mass with us and for all that he does to support our school community.

I was amazed by Year 3 & 4 and Year 5 & 6's wonderful Carol Services. Through their singing, readings and reflections they reminded us so beautifully of the greatest story ever told. The story of God's love for us in the gift of His Son, Jesus. The children led us prayerfully through the Nativity, helping us to reflect on the true meaning of Christmas and filling our hearts with joy, hope and gratitude. We are extremely proud of the way they shared their faith with such confidence and sincerity. Thank you to Mrs Poterachi and all the staff who helped them prepare.

As I finish my first term at OLSJ's, I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to our dedicated staff and governors, who serve our school community with commitment, professionalism and faith. I am also deeply grateful to you, our parents and carers, for your trust, support and shared commitment to nurturing our children. You have all made me feel so welcome and I feel privileged to lead this amazing school.

I wish each and every one you happy and holy Christmas and I look forward to seeing you all on the 5th January, **Mrs. Kelliher**

Important Dates

Monday 5th January
8:30 Start of Spring term

Tuesday 6th January
9:00 Epiphany– mass in church

Wednesday 7th January
- Yr2 Cake sale

Wednesday 14th January
9:00 Y4 School journey meeting

Friday 16th January
9:00 Y6 SATS meeting

Wednesday 21st January
9:00 Y1 Phonics workshop
- Yr1 Cake sale

Friday 23rd January
- Y6 Class mass

Monday 26th January
6:00 GB meeting

Wednesday 28th Janaury
9:00 Reception phonics workshop

Friday 30th January
2:45 Year 2 Celebration service

Safeguarding

The wellbeing of our children is of paramount importance to all staff. Should any parent have a concern regarding a child's wellbeing, please inform the school's designated safeguarding officer Mrs Kelliher or in her absence the deputy safeguarding officer Mrs Sheehan.

In cases where school staff have concerns, they have a statutory duty to discuss the issue with their line manager Mrs Kelliher to seek further advice.



We are a PEANUT & NUT FREE SCHOOL

Due to severe allergies of some pupils and staff, please ensure no nut or peanut products are brought into school.

Junior Advent Service

A very big congratulations to all of the children in Key Stage Two who performed in their beautiful carol services this week. Each and every child shared the message of the nativity through songs, readings and acting. The singing was beautiful, the readings were so clear and the acting was so reverent- you have really helped us to prepare for Christmas.

A big thank you to all of the adults in key stage 2 who helped prepare the children for the Key Stage Two carol services







Christmas Dinner

On Tuesday the whole school enjoyed a traditional turkey Christmas Dinner. A big thank you to Bonnie, Leeann and Shoba for this amazing lunch! They decorated the hall, there was Christmas music, PTA supplied crackers and Mrs Kelliher provided squash, a fun festive time was had by all!










A message from Elizabeth Horwood the chair of the PTA:

Thank you to everyone who had contributed to our Christmas fair, raffle and Santas grotto. We made a total of **£1,237.88** profit which is amazing!

Without your support, donations and time given these would not be able to happen. Not only does it raise funds for the school, it also gives the children fun events to take part in and brings everyone together within the school. So please keep giving your support in whichever way you can when needed because without it they cannot take place.
Thank you, Elizabeth

Christmas Reflection



Loving Father,
help us remember the birth of Jesus,
That we may share in the song of the angels,
The gladness of the shepherds,
And worship of the wise men.
May the Christmas morning make us
Happy to be thy children
And Christmas evening bring us
To our beds with grateful thoughts
For all our blessings.
Amen.

To all our parents, grandparents and carers.

We really need your help.

With the increasing demands on the curriculum, we are finding it more and more difficult to provide 1-1 reading for our children.

Although this is not an expectation of the curriculum, it is something that we have always valued in the hope that it provides children with a love of reading from an early age.

So, if you can spare an hour or two every week (or more) to hear children read, please let me know, we would be eternally grateful.

This support is invaluable to both the teachers and the children.

Thank you in advance

Mrs Sheehan