



ST. TERESA'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NOVEMBER 2023




St Teresa's School Mission Statement

We see the light of Jesus in the eyes of those we work, play and pray with every day. We give thanks to God for our wonderful family. Like St Teresa, we always try to do the little things well.

Dear Parents,
Welcome back to the beginning of a very busy half term.

Attendance

Our attendance for this academic year so far is **97.2%**. Thank you for all your support in getting the children to school on time ready for the day ahead. It is important for your child to be on time and prepared for their school day. Please see individual class attendance below.

Class FMM	93.2%	Class FMA	97.3%
Class 1RC	96.4%	Class 1KG	96.5%
Class 2HB	97.6%	Class 2IJ	98.4%
Class 3SB	98.2%	Class 3EB	96.7%
Class 4YU	97.9%	Class 4KM	98.8% 
Class 5HK	98.4%	Class 5SM	97.6%
Class 6KL	97.7%	Class 6SD	96.9%

Catholic Life of the School

As November is the month of the Holy Souls, we are praying for people we know that have died. Please send into school the names of any family members or friends who you would like us to pray for during November. These names will be added to the class prayer table to pray for during this time.

Remembrance and Peace Day

This term, we look forward to our whole school Remembrance and Peace Day event on the Tuesday 14th November and remember those who have lost their lives in historical and current conflicts around the world. We will reflect on peace makers who are role models for us and how we can follow their example in our lives.



As we look forward to Advent, we are reminded to wait patiently for things in our lives. We will share our Advent Retreat Day on Thursday 7th December, with a focus on the Bishop's theme of 'Encounter'. We will start this day with our Advent Mass in school at 9.30am. All welcome.

The next First Holy Communion course will be starting shortly at St Teresa's Church. If your child is Year 3 or above and you wish them to receive this sacrament, please complete a registration form which can be found on the parish website or at the back of the church. This needs returning to the church, with a copy of your child's Baptism certificate, by 20th November. Any queries please contact Breege at the church on a Monday or a Friday between 9am-2pm.



Other Faiths Week

This will start on Monday 20th November, we will be exploring and sharing Other Faiths in school. All classes will be learning about Judaism and have the opportunity to explore traditions and celebrations within this religion. On Thursday 23rd November, Year 4, 5 and 6 will participate in the workshop, 'Sacred Spaces', led by the Jewish Museum, London. This will explore the importance and significance of the Synagogue, and routines and traditions of prayer in Judaism.

Class liturgical prayer workshop

As part of our Collective Worship provision at St Teresa's, pupil leadership of liturgical prayer is of high importance. We come together as a whole school, key stages and year groups throughout each week. All classes have the opportunity to plan and lead their class liturgical prayer to provide some reflective time during the busy school week to gather together and bring the message of scripture into focus.

We would like to invite parents and carers into school for a liturgical prayer open afternoon for each class. This will provide you with a good understanding of how we plan, prepare and lead liturgical prayer and the importance of scripture at the heart of all we do. Details of all class liturgies can be found below.

EYFS	Wednesday 24 th April	2.30pm
Year 1	Wednesday 13 th March	2.30pm
Year 2	Wednesday 19 th June	2.30pm
Year 3	Wednesday 15 th May	2.30pm
Year 5	Wednesday 31 st January	2.30pm
Year 6	Wednesday 29 th November	2.30pm

Reverse Advent Calendar

Tuesday 28th November is the start of our reverse advent calendar, this will kick-off with a 'Cereal Box Domino Rally'. Please could the children bring an unopened box of cereal that we will use in our domino rally and then donate to the local food bank. During advent instead of taking something from a calendar each day, we would like the children to bring a packaged food item to add to their class advent calendar. This needs to be non-perishable food (not fresh), items like pasta, jars, tins, rice, tea and coffee. This will then be donated to the food bank at St Margaret's Church in Aspley. This has always been a very successful event for our school and greatly appreciated by the food bank. Please encourage the children to think about how we are giving to others during this special time of year.

Sponsor a Lantern

Our 'sponsor a lantern' event was so well received in our community in previous years that we would like to share this opportunity again to remember those who have passed away or for your own prayer intention. We will set up a focus tree outside the school and add lanterns to this to share the light of Jesus in our school community. If you would like to sponsor a lantern and pray for someone in particular, please return the sponsorship form, attached to this letter, with your chosen donation in an envelope. Alternatively, you can donate through the Arbor Parent App. All money raised will be donated to Mission Together.

Cake Sale

A big thank you to our school community who donated lots of lovely cakes for our cake sales that took place last term. I am pleased to confirm that we raised £444.32 in September for Emmanuel House and £363.28 in October for Caritas Internationalis, to support their Israeli-Palestine Crisis appeal. Thank you as always for your ongoing support.



Anti-Bullying Week



This year's Anti-Bullying Week has the theme 'Make A Noise' and will take place from Monday 13th November - Friday 17th November 2023. On Monday 13th November, we will hold an 'Odd Socks Day' in which children can wear odd socks (with their school uniform) to celebrate what makes us all unique.

Throughout the week, children will be looking at; what bullying is, how it affects people and what we can do to help. They will be taking part in assemblies, looking at e-safety and how to stay safe online.

TT Rockstars

We're celebrating Maths Week England by taking part in a friendly times-tables (and division) competition. The competition runs from 07:30 GMT Tuesday 14th November to 19:30 GMT Thursday 16th November. It's all done online via play.ttrockstars.com.



Children can play in any game mode with every correct answer to a multiplication or division question, earning themselves, their class and the school a point. The Times Tables Rock Stars platform will calculate the class average - the number of correct answers per pupil in the class who play during the competition hours, subject to a daily 60-minute limit. Winning classes in the school and in the competition as a whole will be the ones with the highest average.

BBC Children in Need

To support Children in Need on Friday 17th November, we are asking children to pay £1 to come to school in something bright or spotty. We have also been filling our 'Pudsey Coin Fills' with coins. Thank you for your support with this fundraising event. Why not wear your Pudsey merchandise too!



Grandparent's Day

We would like to invite all of our Year 2 Grandparents into school on Wednesday 22nd November at 9.00am to 10.30am, this will be an opportunity for Grandparents to take part in lessons and activities throughout the morning and to experience a morning at St. Teresa's School.



Christmas Assemblies

Year 1	Tuesday 19 th December
Year 2	Thursday 14 th December
Year 3	Tuesday 12 th December
Year 4	Friday 15 th December
Year 5	Wednesday 20 th December
Foundation	Wednesday 13 th December

All of the Christmas assemblies will start at 9.15am and take place in the school hall. Refreshments will be served beforehand and the PTA will be selling Christmas crafts – so please remember to bring some cash to purchase these gifts. All parents welcome.



Pantomime Visit

To thank the children for all their hard work and success we are treating them to a visit to the Pantomime. EYFS and Year 1 will be visiting Lakeside on Wednesday 20th December to see 'The Boy Who Cried Wolf'. Pupils in Years 2 to 6 will be visiting Derby Live on Friday 8th December to watch 'Mother Goose'.

The school will be covering the cost of the pantomime tickets and we are extremely grateful to the PTA who will be covering the cost of the transport, which is £2,000.

Flu Vaccinations 28th November 2023

The School Nursing team have confirmed they will be visiting St Teresa's school on Wednesday 28th November to administer flu vaccinations for all pupils in Foundation up to Year 6. Please fill in one online consent form for each child who attends the school <https://nhs.uk/immisations/consent-forms/75973cd2>. This link has also been sent through Arbor.

Whole School Christmas Dinner

We invite all our children to join the staff in our whole school Christmas Dinner celebration on Thursday 21st December. You will soon receive details of how to order your child's Christmas Dinner. The children can wear their Christmas Jumpers with their school uniform on this day.



After-School Clubs

Our extra-curricular clubs will finish w/e Friday 8th December 2023. Please can we remind parents that children need to be collected on time. If children are collected late on two occasions they will not be able to attend their Club for the remainder of the term.

Eco Team

Our school eco-team will be holding a 'Reuse and Recycle' Christmas jumper shop. Please bring any old or unwanted Christmas jumpers to school on Monday 4th and Tuesday 5th December for the Eco-Team to sell after school on Thursday 7th December.

Admission to Infant/Primary Education

The admissions process for entry into Foundation Year September 2023 will begin in November. If your child will be 5 during the academic year September 2024 to August 2025 you will need to be making an application at this time. Please ensure you also complete a Supplementary Form with details of your faith and provide a copy of your child's Baptism Certificate. The closing date for all applications is **15th January 2024**. Any applications submitted after this date will be classed as late. This could mean your child may not get a place.

St Teresa's will be open for prospective families to visit and have a look around the school before they submit their application. This will be on Thursday 9th November between 9.30am until 11.00am by appointment only. Please call the school office on 0115 9155762 to book your place.

Winter Weather

As the weather gets colder please ensure your child has a suitable winter coat, scarf, gloves, etc as learning takes place inside and outside. All children should now be wearing their winter uniforms. May I remind you that all uniform should be clearly marked with your child's name. If your child wears boots to walk to school they must bring school shoes to change into.



Should we need to close the school in the event of bad weather, please listen to local radio where timely updates will be given. www.bbc.co.uk/radionottingham

Messages will also be sent through the Arbor app.

Early Closure on Friday 22nd December

Due to the last day of term being so late this year, school will close at 12.30pm on Friday 22nd December, after lunch. All children will need to be collected promptly at this time following the usual end of day dismissal procedures.

Thank you for your on-going support.

Yours sincerely,

A. Glynne-Jones (Mrs)
Headteacher