



# Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School

*Together we live and learn; we play and pray*

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2025

## Message from Mr Claxton

A happy new year to you all! I hope that you all had a restful Christmas break and a joyful new year. The children have come back into school and have been incredibly settled and already working hard on some excellent learning.

This year, as you know, we will be celebrating a Jubilee Year, with the focus of us each being Pilgrims of Hope. We will officially launch this in school on January 24<sup>th</sup> and will share updates of our work throughout the school year.

With the cold weather, please ensure that children have the appropriate coats, scarves and hats and please take care when walking through the car park.

**Eternal Father, who at the baptism of Jesus revealed Him to be Your Son, anointing Him with the Holy Spirit: grant that we may be faithful to our call as Children of God, listening to you, guided by Your Spirit, to fulfil our unique and definite purpose. Amen.**

## UPCOMING DATES

- 13<sup>th</sup> January – Y4 Swimming starts – see email letter
- 16<sup>th</sup> January – EYFS Vision Screening – see email
- 16<sup>th</sup> January – School Census day theme lunch – see email
- 27<sup>th</sup> January – FOSH AGM – 3.30pm
- 13<sup>th</sup> February – Dance club show at The Cresset – details to follow
- 10<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> February – Y5 & Y6 Bikeability – registered children only
- 17<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> February – HALF TERM

## WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

Reception: 92.2%

Year One: 88.7%

Year Two: 94.7%

Year Three: 95.5%

Year Four: 93.5%

Year Five: 94.7%

Year Six: 94.16%

Holy family: 100%

School: 93.4%

Year to date: 95.4%

**Our school attendance target is 96%. We want every child to reach their full potential at school and maintaining good levels of attendance is vital in this. Thank you for your continued support with this!**

A reminder that our attendance policy is available on our school website and can be found here:

<https://www.sacredheartprimary.org.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=2659&type=pdf>

Next week's gospel:

Luke 3: 15-16, 21-22

Gospel value:

Generosity

## MASS DATES

- 17<sup>th</sup> January – Whole school
- 24<sup>th</sup> January – Mass cancelled
- 31<sup>st</sup> January – Y5/Y3
- 7<sup>th</sup> February – Y6/Y1
- 14<sup>th</sup> February – Y4/Y2



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### The Friday Messenger

#### Our current unit: Galilee to Jerusalem

##### EYFS

In RE this week the children listened to the story of the Wise Men visiting Jesus. They discussed the types of presents they would take for a new baby and how these were very different to the gifts Jesus received. As part of our continuous provision this week, we have had lots of star activities and a tuff tray set up to retell the story.

##### Year One

This week we started our new RE topic 'Galilee to Jerusalem'. We have explored the bible scripture of 'The Presentation of the Lord'. The children looked at various artwork and we discussed how Jesus is the 'Light of the world'. We followed this up by learning how Candlemas is celebrated around the world. The children enjoyed spending time in our Chapel and lighting candles to represent this celebration.

##### Year Two

This week we started the new unit 'Galilee to Jerusalem'. We started with looking at the Magi and their visit to Jesus. After looking at some art work and reading the scripture we talked about how they made a good choice by not listening to Herod and listening to God. We then focussed on John the Baptist and his preaching in the desert. We read the scripture and then sequenced the story as well as linking it to what Isaiah had said.

##### Year Three

In RE Year Three have been investigating the visit of the Magi. They discovered that the things they thought they knew wasn't accurate according to Matthew 2:1-12. They found out that there were not necessarily three Magi and that they didn't visit on the night that Jesus was born. They also thought about the gifts which were given.

##### Year Four

In RE, we looked at the question asked by Jesus to his disciples, *who do you say I am?* The children came up with their own responses to the question and pondered what the disciples responded with. We then looked at the meaning of the word *Messiah*, and how Jesus became known as the Messiah. We looked at the stories of Jesus healing the official's daughter and Jesus healing the two blind men and explored how they linked to and fulfilled prophecies made in the Old Testament about the coming of the Messiah.

##### Year Six

This week we started our new RE branch: 'Galilee to Jerusalem'. We began by looking at John's Gospel, thinking about what it reveals about Jesus before looking at the Wedding at Cana in John 2. The children then looked at artistic representations of the Wedding at Cana and discussed their thoughts and opinions about the difference symbolic representations whilst respecting the differing views of their peers.

**Our Gospel value this month is:**

**Generosity**



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### **EYFS**

The children have had a really positive start to the new term and have come back ready to learn! This week in phonics we have been revising our digraphs – sh, ch, th, ng and nk and continued with our blending practice. In Maths we have been learning about zero, as well as thinking about how numbers can be represented, for example a cow could represent 1 animal, 2 eyes/ears, 4 legs. We have also started our new topic ‘People who help us’ and we were able to write a long list, as a class, of people who help us.

### **Year 1**

Year One have settled back into school really well. They have all started the new year with a positive attitude and they are all working hard. In English, we have started our new book ‘The bear and the piano’. The children have enjoyed exploring this book and they have begun to add the suffix -ed to create past tense verbs. In maths, we have started to count up to 20. We have been exploring the numbers 11,12 and 13 and using different representations to show these.

### **Year 2**

Year two have had a brilliant start to 2025. They have started a new English topic based around ‘The fixer of broken things’ and have been focussing on how we know things are broken. They then used this as inspiration to write a setting description of a broken house. Within Theme, the children were learning about Rosa Parks. They found it really interesting that she was not treated fairly and the actions she took to change the law. Within Science, year two started a new topic ‘Squash, squeeze, bend, twist’. They really enjoyed moving their bodies and then some blu tac so they followed the correct action.

### **Year 3**

The children have begun to learn about leaflets. They have decided they would like to make an information leaflet, about Peterborough, for their parents! In Maths they have been learning how to use known multiplication facts to solve two digit numbers multiplied by a one digit.

### **Year 4**

In English, Year Four have had the opportunity to practice their playscript writing skills and focusing on how the characters are feeling and acting. In Maths, we’ve been looking at factor pairs, using counters to find them. In Theme, we looked at Hadrian’s wall and created fact files to teach others about the topic. In Science, we started our new topic of States of Matter and explored the properties of solids, liquids and gases.

### **Year 6**

Year 6 have started 2025 brilliantly with a fantastic attitude towards their learning. In English, we have begun our new writing unit based on ‘The Lion and the Unicorn’ by Shirley Hughes. We have read extracts during our reading lessons and used our inference skills to think about what we have learnt about the characters. This will help us with our character description writing next week. In history, we continued our focus on WW2. This week we used historical sources to find out about a key event: The Blitz. Year 6 used a range of sources to understand what had happened and think about how people may have felt at the time.



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### ***Holy Family***

We've had a good start to 2025 and are settling back into our routine already. We have started our new Science topic this week – Food and our Bodies. We thought about the things that our bodies need and the things that we want – an interesting discussion!

Our Geography topic is all about Europe, so we started by finding Europe on a map and learning about what a continent is, how many there are and where they are in relation to each other.

We have started our new RE branch 'Galilee to Jerusalem, beginning by reading from John's gospel and considering how people felt when they met Jesus in the Temple.