



# Happy New Year!

## Letter from the Headteacher.

Hello members of the St Teresa's community,

Welcome back after the Christmas break. I hope it was a restful and enjoyable time spent in good company!

This is my first letter to you all in my capacity as headteacher of St Teresa's Catholic Primary school. It is the honour of my career to serve this community in this new role and I know that with the amazing students, dedicated team and supportive families that I have inherited, we will continue to go from strength to strength at this very special school, very close to all our hearts.

In the first few days back, your children have been very settled, working hard and enjoying themselves in school. I have spent time hearing the year two children discuss the Gruffalo, heard amazing facts about the second world war in year five and seen particular hard work and concentration from our year three pupils. In every class the children are meeting our high standards and showing the learning behaviours we expect.

There are some important dates such as school assemblies that have been finalised and recorded in this newsletter for those of you who may wish to book them off of work in order to be present. Further dates will be added as the year progresses, so please keep an eye out for future newsletters and updates on our website.

If any of you, who I have not yet met, wish to introduce yourself to me, please do. The messages of support and encouragement at the school gate and at church have been heartwarming. Likewise, if you have any issue or information that you feel should be brought to my attention I am here to listen and help where I can. Just pop in, and organise a meeting.

God bless and thank you all for your continued support. I look forward to working alongside you all to do the very best for all our children.

Mr J. Bottjer (Headteacher)

## Free Healthy Start Vouchers Available

Check if you qualify for **FREE** Healthy Start Vouchers

With Healthy Start you may be able to get free vouchers every week to spend on milk, fresh and frozen fruit and vegetables, and infant formula milk. You can also get free vitamins for yourself and your child.

If you are pregnant and/or have children under the age of four and are on benefits, you could qualify. For more information on eligibility and how to apply, please visit:

<https://www.healthystart.nhs.uk/>

Further Healthy Start promotional resources including social media assets can be found here:

<https://media.nhs.uk/resources/f/nhs-healthy-start-scheme>.

For a summary of wider support services in Essex that may be able to support people further with the cost of living please visit: <https://www.essex.gov.uk/cost-of-living>.



### Upcoming Dates:

**Friday 27th January:** Y3 Class  
Assembly 9.00am in school hall,  
parents welcome.

**Friday 24th February:** Mid Year  
Reports Out.

**Friday 24th March:** Y2 Class  
Assembly 9.00am in school hall,  
parents welcome.

**Friday 12th May:** Y1 Class  
Assembly 9.00am in school hall,  
parents welcome.

**Monday 5th June:** Non-Pupil Day

**Friday 23rd June:** Reception Class  
Assembly 9.00am in school hall,  
parents welcome.

**Friday 23rd June:** End of year  
reports out.

**SPORTS DAY—To be confirmed.**  
Look out for future newsletters for  
information.

### Parish Bring and Buy Sale!

Saturday 21st January at Holy Trinity Hall, 11am-3pm and Sunday after 10.30am Mass. If you have any unwanted Christmas Presents or other NEW items that are surplus to requirements or unwanted, please place them in the box provided at the church exit. These will be sold to raise money for church funds. Alternatively drop these at the school office with a note and Mr Bottjer will drop them at the church. Only new and non-broken items please. On the day itself, come down and grab yourself a bargain!

## Catholic Primary School Applications

If you are the parent of a baptised Catholic child, applying for a Catholic Primary school space for September 2023, then there is an additional form called a "certificate of Catholic practice" for Fr Sabu or Fr Saji to sign. This form is not available from St Teresa's or any other school. To complete it, please see one of our parish priests at one of the times below.

**Tuesday 10th January, Holy Trinity, 3-5pm**

**Thursday 12th January, St Basil's Presbytery, 3-5pm**

Please have your child's baptism certificate with you.

## Fun in The Snow: Photos from before the Christmas break.



### Uniform and Hair

Please support the school by ensuring that your child has their yellow and blue tie, suitable black footwear and hair that is in line with our policy.

Hair must not be an extreme style (such as a mohawk) and cannot be dyed an unnatural colour. If your child wears hair extensions, please ensure that they match your child's natural hair colour.

We thank you all for your support in ensuring that at St Teresa's our children look smart and ready for their learning every day.

### St Teresa's Catholic Primary School

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Our Lady  
& All Saints

