



Advent Begins

Dear St Teresa's community,

As we enter the festive season, I find myself reflecting on the wonderful events and achievements that have taken place at our school. The spirit of St Teresa's continues to shine brightly, illuminating our halls with joy, learning, and a sense of togetherness.

We've embarked on our Advent journey, a time of preparation and anticipation. In a special whole school assembly, we reminded our pupils of the true meaning of Christmas – the preparation for the birth of Christ. It's heartening to see our school embracing this spiritual significance. Our prayer tables, now adorned with beautiful purple cloths, serve as a visual reminder of this special time of year. The advent wreath has been brought out and will be lit each week as we approach Christmas day.

These small but meaningful touches help create an atmosphere of reverence and reflection throughout our school and helps us to remember that through all of the fun and joy of this festive season, there is a true meaning of love and hope at its centre.

Mr J Bottjer (Headteacher)

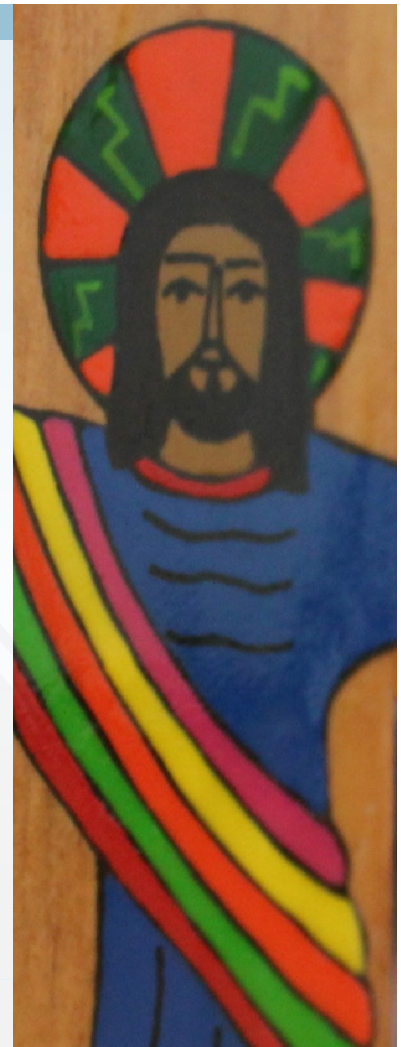
Celebration of "Christ the King".

I'm particularly proud to share the profound impact of our Year 4 class, St Nicholas, who recently delivered a thought-provoking collective worship assembly. Their focus on the "Christ the King" was both inspiring and mature. This built upon collective worship sessions from Mr Bottjer and Mrs Harris around this solemnity and was a chance for the children to share their learning with the school, taking on a position of leadership in crafting and delivering their own collective worship. The pupils spoke eloquently about Christ's model of servant leadership and the importance of putting others before ourselves – values that resonate deeply with our school ethos and indeed resonated deeply with St Therese of Lisieux. It was a joy to see students, governors, teachers, and families all in attendance, united in appreciation of the children's efforts. The maturity and poise demonstrated by St Nicholas class was truly commendable.



St Teresa's Football Team does it again!

Switching gears to our sporting achievements, I'm thrilled to report another fantastic victory for our KS2 boys' football team. In a match against Fairhouse Primary, our "boys in blue" secured an impressive 12-2 win. However, I must stress that the score line doesn't fully reflect the competitiveness of the match. Both teams played exceptionally well, demonstrating skill, teamwork, and sportsmanship. A special mention goes to our goalkeeper, Daniel, whose remarkable saves were crucial in maintaining our lead. His performance was outstanding!



Upcoming Dates:

- 10th December 2pm: KS1 Nativity
- 11th December 9.15am: KS1 Nativity
- 11th December: Christmas Jumper Day
- 11th December: School Christmas Dinners
- 17th December: Singing event at De La Salle (Invite only)
- 17th December: Year 5/6 carol concert at St Basil's.
- 18th December: Christmas Bazaar (Organised by F.O.S.T.)
- 20th December: Last day of term. (School closes early. Please collect at 1.15pm)
- 6th January: First day back.
- 24th January Y3: Collective Worship 9am (Parents invited)

St Teresa's Catholic Primary School

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Our Lady
& All Saints



REMINDER: Upcoming Christmas Events 2024

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School Pantomime!

In the spirit of festive cheer, we welcomed the "Shooting Stars" drama group for their annual visit this week. Their pantomime production of Cinderella was a delightful treat for the whole school. The laughter echoing through our halls was music to my ears as our pupils enjoyed this classic tale. A particular highlight was watching our PE coach, Rhys, being pulled onto the stage by the "Ugly Step-Sisters" to join in the singing – a moment of unexpected hilarity that I'm sure will be remembered for quite some time!



Reminder: Chocolate Hamper Prize Draw

As we approach the festive season, I'm reminded of the importance of community and giving. In this spirit, I'd like to remind everyone about our ongoing chocolate hamper prize draw. This is a wonderful opportunity to potentially win a delightful treat while supporting our school. Entries are priced at £1 each, with a maximum of 10 entries available per child. The lucky winner will be randomly selected from all entrants. If you'd like to participate, payments can be made via ParentMail – simply click on "payments", then "shop", and select the number of tickets (entries) you wish to purchase. Your support in these initiatives is always greatly appreciated and goes a long way in enriching our school community.



Primary Admissions for Reception Class (September 2025)

Just a reminder that if you have a child (siblings/family/friends) that is due to start Reception in September 2025, please ensure that you apply online for your child's school place. All applications are made online through Essex County Council's website.

All online applications must be submitted by **15 January 2025**. Please remember to re-submit after making any changes before the deadline.

All applications received after 15 January will be treated as late and **will only be processed after all on-time applications**.

Please be aware that you are less likely to get a place at one of your preferred schools if you apply later.

The Book Fair Success!

A heartfelt thanks to everyone, both staff and families, who supported our book fair this year. The school sold an astonishing number of books, which as a result, has raised around £400 pounds for the school to purchase further books for our classrooms. What a fantastic result! Thank you to Mrs Pearson and Mrs Cosans in our finance office who made this happen as well as all staff members who volunteered their time to support this event.

St

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