



Year 5 and 6 Carol Concert

Recently, our Year 5 and 6 pupils treated us to a truly memorable carol concert and collective worship at St Basil's church. The evening was memorable. Our young performers filled the church with soulful melodies and uplifting harmonies that touched the hearts of everyone present. Parents, parishioners, governors, and staff gathered to witness this beautiful display of musical talent and festive cheer.

One particular highlight was Toni's remarkable saxophone performance. His live rendition added a unique and captivating dimension to the concert, showcasing the diverse talents our pupils possess. It's moments like these that remind us of the importance of nurturing creativity and confidence in our young learners.

The carefully selected gospel readings, selected and delivered eloquently by our Key Stage 2 pupils, added depth and meaning to the evening. Their clear voices and thoughtful interpretations demonstrated not only their public speaking skills but also their understanding of the season's significance.

We were honoured to have Fr Sabu and Fr Albert in attendance, lending their support and blessings to the event. Fr Sabu's words resonated deeply with all of us. He spoke about the lasting impact of these experiences, emphasising how the memories created during such performances will stay with our children forever. His message to parents was particularly poignant, reminding us all to take immense pride in the achievements of our pupils here at St Teresa's.

Indeed, as I watched our pupils perform with such poise and enthusiasm, I couldn't help but feel a surge of pride. These moments are a testament to the hard work, dedication, and talent that our pupils bring to everything they do. They also reflect the unwavering support of our staff and families, without whom such accomplishments would not be possible. As we move forward into the holiday season, let's carry with us the joy and inspiration from this beautiful carol concert. It serves as a wonderful reminder of the community spirit that makes St Teresa's so special.



Upcoming Dates:

- 6th January: First day back.
- 24th January Y3: Collective Worship 9am (Parents invited)
- 4th February: Y4 School Trip
- 17th February: Half Term
- 7th March: Mid-Year reports to all parents
- 19th March: Y5 School Trip
- 3rd April: Y1 School Trip
- 4th April: Last day of term.
- 23rd April: Children back for summer term.
- 5th May: Bank Holiday (No School)
- 9th May: Y1 Class Collective Worship
- 12th May: Y6 SATS Week

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Our Lady
 & All Saints



Year 3 and 4 Students sing in Christus and De La Salle Nativity

Recently, our Year 3 and 4 pupils participated in a joint musical collective worship event alongside some of the other schools from the Christus Catholic Trust. This remarkable gathering included St Teresa's, St Mary's, St Anne Line Infants, St Peters, St Thomas of Canterbury, and Holy Cross. We were graciously hosted by De La Salle, our local Catholic secondary school, whose students took the lead in planning and preparing for this special occasion.

The day was filled with learning and creativity. Our pupils had the opportunity to learn new hymns and receive expert coaching in acting, public speaking and singing from secondary specialist teachers. This collaborative effort culminated in a beautiful collective worship, to which parents were warmly welcomed.

The event struck a perfect balance between reflection and celebration. There were poignant moments of contemplation on the Gospel and the true meaning of Christmas, interspersed with joyous singing and dancing. The repertoire was diverse and engaging, featuring both traditional hymns and disco and funk-style Christmas carols that had everyone moving to the beat.

One of our very own pupils, Zach, stole the show with his impressive breakdancing skills during one of the musical numbers. His performance was a testament to the varied talents our pupils possess and their confidence in sharing these gifts with others.

What made this event truly special was seeing children from across the trust and Catholic schools in the area coming together, united in worship, song, and joy. It was a vivid demonstration of the strength and vibrancy of our wider Catholic school community.

Our students represented us beautifully with exemplary behaviour and brilliant effort.

Events like these enrich our pupils' educational experience, providing them with opportunities to develop new skills, build confidence, and forge connections with their peers from other schools. They also reinforce the values we hold dear at St Teresa's – faith, community, and the celebration of individual talents.

As we move forward into the Christmas season, let's carry with us the spirit of unity and joy that this event so beautifully exemplified. May it inspire us all to continue fostering a sense of community and shared faith, both within our school and beyond.





Christmas Mass Times across Basildon



5pm **Family Mass** – St Basil’s – 24th December (Some St Teresa’s Students are reading at this mass)

6pm **Family Mass** – Holy Trinity – 24th December

(At the family masses children are encouraged to dress up as shepherds and angels)

10pm Midnight Mass – St Basil’s – 24th December

10pm Midnight Mass – St Therese – 24th December

12 O’clock Midnight Mass – Holy Trinity – 25th December

8.30am Dawn Mass – Holy Trinity – 25th December

9am Dawn Mass – St Therese – 25th December

10.30am Mass – Holy Trinity – 25th December

11am Mass – St Basil’s – 25th December

Chocolate Raffle and “Name The Teddy” Winners

We had multiple winners of smaller prizes for the chocolate raffle, but the main prize (a massive chocolate hamper) was Jemeel! The teddy (an enormous rabbit) was won by Darcey! We can only apologise to her family that has to find somewhere to put it now!!! Either way, she was very happy! Congratulations to the winners and thank you to all who helped raise school funds by entering these competitions!



Christmas Bazaar

The FOST Christmas bazaar was a resounding success, bringing joy and festive cheer to all who attended. From the magical Santa's Grotto to the exciting tombola, from the creative children's arts and crafts to the thrilling archery, there was something for everyone to enjoy.

Events like these don't just happen by themselves, and I'm overwhelmed by the support and dedication shown by so many. Our parents, staff, and parishioners who volunteered their time to run stalls deserve our heartfelt thanks. Your commitment to our school community is truly inspiring.

I must extend a special note of gratitude to our wonderful FOST (Friends of St Teresa's) volunteers for their tireless efforts in organising this fantastic event. Your hard work behind the scenes ensured that everything ran smoothly on the day.



Mrs Pitt's contribution in sourcing so many donations was invaluable to the success of our raffles and tombola. Equally, Mrs Gilbert's organisational prowess was evident in ensuring that all stalls were well-prepared and all had sufficient change throughout the event!



Three local convenience stores donated to the cause (Sandon Road, Clayhill Road and Luncies Road) and The Entertainer toy shop also donated many items for us. Tesco's Pitsea, particularly Steph who works for their community outreach, were extremely helpful in helping us to source donations.

And of course, what would a Christmas Bazaar be without Father Christmas himself? We're incredibly grateful that he managed to take time out of his busy December schedule to support our event. His presence brought an extra sprinkle of magic to the day.

Events like our Christmas Bazaar remind us of the strength of our school community. They provide opportunities for us to come together, to celebrate, and to create lasting memories for our pupils. No only this, but they raise much needed funds for our school. **I can report that the event raised over £1200!**

Thank you all for your continued support of St Teresa's. It's your involvement and enthusiasm that make our school such a special place.

A SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL THE BUSINESSES WHO SUPPORTED THIS EVENT!



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