



**We learn together, we play together, we pray together,  
we grow together in the love of God**

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**AUTUMN TERM 2021**

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December

## Dear Parents and Carers,

On Monday evening, 13<sup>th</sup> December, at 7pm the Year 5 pupils will be leading the carol concert in the school hall. We are inviting only parents/carers and younger siblings to come and watch the show. Please do not invite older siblings not on roll at St. Theresa's or any other family members (i.e. grandparents etc.). All adults in the audience will be required to wear a face covering unless exempt.

A reminder to everyone, that on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December, we will be supporting *The Passage* by inviting all the pupils to wear a Christmas (or red) jumper for a donation of £1. The Passage offers a wide range of services, all year round, to meet the needs of homeless and vulnerable people; their aim is to help people to address the issues that have contributed to them becoming homeless, and to enable them to move on to live safe, happy and fulfilling lives. The children are replacing just the top part of their uniform with the festive sweater. This is the same day as the school Christmas lunch and we are sure it is going to be a very festive event!

Could I please remind everyone that no parent should be entering the building or classrooms unless invited to do so by the class teacher or a member of staff. If you would like to speak to the class teacher please make an appointment.

As some of you are already aware, Miss Porcu will be going on maternity leave after the Christmas holidays. Ms Reimus will be teaching the Y1 class from January until the end of the academic year. We are also saying goodbye to Miss Barber who is leaving St. Theresa's this term. Miss Barber joined St. Theresa's in September 2018; she has led the teaching of French in Key Stage 2 and has been committed to raising the awareness of diversity across the curriculum. We wish her the best of luck for the future. In January, Year 3 will continue to be taught by Mrs Katin on Mondays and Tuesdays, and will be taught by Miss Cameron on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. We welcome both Ms Reimus and Miss Cameron to St. Theresa's and hope they will be very happy here.

By the time this newsletter is published, the Y1 and Y2 pupils will have performed their Christmas Story. I watched the dress rehearsal yesterday and was so impressed with how well the children spoke and sang; they told the nativity beautifully. Well done to all the children and staff involved.

Have a lovely weekend.

*Barbara Costa*



### Christmas/Red Jumper Day Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December

The children are invited to come to school on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December replacing just the top part of their uniform with a Christmas, or red, jumper in return for a donation of £1. The money raised will be donated to 'The Passage'. The Passage runs London's largest voluntary sector resource centre for homeless and vulnerable people.

## News from the Friends of St. Theresa's

Thank you so much to everyone who purchased Christmas cards & gifts and supported the November Infants and Juniors Movie Nights. The total raised from these activities was an amazing £845! This is really fantastic and we'd like to mention that this year the Christmas cards & gift order was almost double compared to 2020! Thank you so much for your continued generosity.

The Friends are sorry that the Jingle Mingle Christmas party had to be cancelled due to the uncertainty of COVID-19 at this current time. We are grateful for the generous support given by so many volunteers and members of the St Theresa's community and school staff in getting plans in place, but we think it is better to postpone and organise something next year. All the class donations that you have kindly given will be safely stored away and kept for the next event.

Many thanks for your continued support.

The Friends

## COVID-19 Update

### Face coverings

Following the announcement made by the Prime Minister on 27<sup>th</sup> November, all parents and visitors are required to wear face coverings when they are inside the school building unless exempt; face coverings do not need to be worn outside.

### Year 5 Carol Concert: Monday 13<sup>th</sup> December 7pm (in the school hall)

We are inviting only parents/carers and younger siblings to come and watch the show. Please do not invite older siblings not on roll at St. Theresa's or any other family members (i.e. grandparents etc.).

All adults in the audience will be required to wear a face covering unless exempt.

### Year 1 and Year 2 Nativity Show: Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December 9.30am

We are inviting only parents/carers and younger siblings (not attending school) to come and watch the show. Please do not invite older siblings not on roll at St. Theresa's or any other family members (i.e. grandparents etc.).

All adults in the audience will be required to wear a face covering unless exempt.

### Omicron variant

Please see page 3 of this newsletter for further important COVID-19 updates.

Thank you.



<b>Reception</b>	<b>Helenka</b> for a great “show and tell” session and good sharing of her favourite toys. <b>Baran</b> for creating a wonderful story map of the birth of Jesus.
<b>Year 1</b>	<b>Radek</b> for putting excellent effort into his work – well done. Keep pushing to do even better! <b>Roksana</b> for getting on so well with her work; she puts in lots of effort and it is improving every day.
<b>Year 2</b>	<b>Emily</b> for being a Have-a-Go Mo and for her attitude towards her learning. <b>Frank</b> for his attitude towards his learning, especially during Maths lessons.
<b>Year 3</b>	<b>Kezie</b> for working hard in literacy. <b>Matylda</b> for always being a great role model and displaying excellent behavior in class.
<b>Year 4</b>	<b>Arvin</b> for his improved handwriting. <b>Krissy</b> for the presentation of her home-learning.
<b>Year 5</b>	<b>Genevieve</b> for progress in her Maths this week. <b>Jashper</b> for working hard in all subjects this week.
<b>Year 6</b>	<b>Charlie</b> for his excellent and interesting balanced argument – well done! <b>Olivia</b> for consistently showing great focus and drive in all lessons. Well done!
<i>The Golden Ticket Winners are:</i> <b>Kimberley Y2</b> <b>Rachel Y3</b>	

### **Safeguarding at St. Theresa's**

A reminder to all parents that if you have any concerns about the safety of your child, or the safety of another child, you can call the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC) for support and advice on 0808 800 5000. Alternatively, parents can ring the Barnet Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub on 0208 359 4066 or speak to the school.

Miss Barbara Costa is the Designated Safeguarding Lead at the school; Mr James Troy and Mrs Barbara Folan are members of the safeguarding team. However, safeguarding and child protection at St. Theresa's is everyone's responsibility and is taken extremely seriously.

Parents can find the school's Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy on the school website:

<https://www.st-theresas.barnet.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Child-Protection-and-Safeguarding-Policy-September-2021.pdf>

### **Breakfast Club**

Breakfast Club runs daily from 7.45am - 8.30am in the school hall for £3.50. Please let the school office know if you would like your child to attend.

### **Applications for Reception**

Applications are invited for the **Reception Class** for **September 2022** – this is for children born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2017 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2018.

The deadline to return this to the school office is 15<sup>th</sup> January 2022. The forms are available to download on the school website. Please also be advised that you must also complete a CAF (Common Application Form) from Barnet - the on-line system is already open.

### **Non Stop Action**

Bookings for Non Stop Action clubs are now open! Following feedback from the St. Theresa's school council pupils, for Spring Term these clubs will be Multi Sports clubs, which will offer lots of different sporting choices for your children to enjoy! Please see information about Multi Sports below:

**Multi Sports** - We offer a variety of sports and activities for the children to enjoy and develop several key skills. A big focus is placed upon improving children's ABC's, enabling them to be confident and understand the importance of skills such as movement, ball striking, throw & catching, dribbling linked into the various sports the children will be playing. We want the children to be individually confident, but teach the importance of teamwork, participation, respect, and fair play. In KS1, these sports will be themed differently and age appropriate, by simplifying activities linked to the sports. In KS2, we can offer a range of different sports, based on what the children in the club would like to do - these can include Football, Cricket, Basketball, Tennis, Athletics and more!

To book these clubs, please go to [www.NonStopAction.co.uk](http://www.NonStopAction.co.uk) and click **BOOK NOW** in the top right corner - please be aware that you will need to be logged in to see these clubs. If you haven't booked with Non Stop before, just register an account and make sure you list your child as attending St Theresa's.

If you have any issues, speak to Non Stop Action directly on [info@nonstopaction.co.uk](mailto:info@nonstopaction.co.uk) or 020 8446 0006!

### **Y3-Y6 Parents: your child could be entitled to free school meals**

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Please speak to a member of the school office team if you think your child may be eligible for free school meals.

### **Dates for your diary**

Mon 13 <sup>th</sup> Dec	7pm Y5 Carol Concert (in school hall)
Wed 15 <sup>th</sup> Dec	School Christmas Lunch
Wed 15 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christmas Jumper Day
Fri 17 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Last day of term 1pm finish
Tues 4 <sup>th</sup> Jan	INSET Day (school closed for children)
Wed 5 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Children back at school
Thurs 20 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Reception and Y6 Height and Weight check

**\*New dates in bold**

## St. Theresa's COVID-19 Update

Dear Parents,

There are confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the school and we are therefore asking parents to please take extra precautions when sending their child/ren to school.

### **Omicron Variant**

All contacts of suspected Omicron cases must self-isolate, regardless of their vaccination status. They will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace.

### **Returning from abroad**

All international arrivals must take a Day 2 PCR test and self-isolate until they receive a negative result.

### **Routine Lateral Flow Tests**

Whilst all children under the age of 11 are not required to routinely test for COVID-19, we are strongly recommending all parents carry out lateral flow tests twice a week on their children. You can order rapid lateral flow home test kits here: <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>. Or you can get up to 2 packs of 7 rapid tests from a local pharmacy; please visit <https://test-for-coronavirus.service.gov.uk/collect-lateral-flow-kits> for further information.

If the lateral flow test result is negative, your child can continue with their normal daily activities.

If your child gets a positive lateral flow test result – you must then get book a PCR test immediately to confirm the result. Your child should stay at home and not have visitors (self-isolate) until you get the PCR test result – they can only leave home to have the test. Please visit <https://self-referral.test-for-coronavirus.service.gov.uk/antigen/essential-worker> for further information on how to book a PCR test. We do not recommend postal test as these take longer for the results to arrive – and we are advising parents use the walk-in test centres wherever possible.

If the PCR test result is negative, your child can continue with their normal daily activities.

If the PCR test is positive your child will need to self-isolate until the date specified by the Test and Trace team - who will contact you following the positive test result.

### **If your child has symptoms – PCR tests**

If your child has any of the following symptoms DO NOT send your child into school and get a PCR test (not lateral flow) immediately:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot, for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- a loss or change to sense of smell or taste – this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Your child should stay at home and not have visitors (self-isolate) until you get the PCR test result – they can only leave home to have the test. Please visit <https://self-referral.test-for-coronavirus.service.gov.uk/antigen/essential-worker> for further information on how to book a PCR test. We do not recommend postal test as these take longer for the results to arrive – and we are advising parents to use the walk-in test centres wherever possible.

If the PCR test result is negative, your child can continue with their normal daily activities.

If the PCR test is positive, your child will need to self-isolate until the date specified by the Test and Trace team - who will contact you following the positive test result.

### **If a member of your household tests positive for COVID-19**

Children can still attend school if some-one in the household tests positive for COVID-19 however it is advised that everyone in the household takes a PCR test as a precaution and continues to take the lateral flow tests.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school.