



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

St Theresa's Primary School, East End Rd, LONDON N3 2TD

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AUTUMN TERM 2021

Friday 17th December

Dear Parents and Carers,

Last Friday, the Year 1 and 2 pupils treated their parents and carers to a wonderful nativity – well done to all the children and to all the staff involved in getting the show ready. On Monday evening, the Year 5 pupils held a carol concert for their parents and carers. The Year 5 pupils sang carols, read poems - and readings from the Bible - and we even had a piano solo. Thank you children and to the staff who rehearsed with them.

On Wednesday was our annual Christmas jumper day in support of The Passage. 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. A huge thank you to everyone for supporting this cause – we raised **£90.37**.

The school has now being using the online platform "Seesaw" for a number of years and we are delighted with how effectively it is used. However, please note that teachers are in class during the day and are therefore unlikely to always be logged onto Seesaw. Therefore if you have general queries about school, please contact the office; if you do leave a message for the teacher regarding homework etc., the teachers will aim to respond as soon as they can, within normal office hours.

It only remains for us to wish Miss Porcu the best luck for her maternity leave and to bid Miss Barber goodbye and to thank her for her contribution to St. Theresa's over the past three and a half years.

Wishing you all a very safe and joyful Christmas - see you all in January.

Barbara Costa

Online Safety – WhatsApp

WhatsApp is widely used by children to communicate with individual friends and as part of groups. However, a risk for children and young people using WhatsApp is being added to group chats where they don't know the others in the group, which may increase the chance they come across upsetting or disturbing messages. To prevent your child being added to groups by people they don't know, you can change the group chat settings from 'Everyone' to 'My Contacts Except...' This setting means only your child's phone contacts except those that you select can add them to groups. By selecting all contacts, it means that nobody should be able to add your child to a group chat without first sending them an invitation.

The Wednesday Word

This week's Wednesday Word is based on Luke 1:39-45 – Mary visits her cousin Elizabeth.

"Spend time with someone in need, visit someone who is sick, offer a smile" Pope Francis

In this Sunday's Gospel, even though Mary had many of her own preparations to make for the birth of Jesus, she still went out of her way to visit her elderly relative Elizabeth. Ask your child who they like to go and visit most? When did they last get a warm welcome and how did it make them feel? Who always makes them feel especially welcome and looked after?

"Working together to practice hospitality, will make us better human beings" Pope Francis

This Wednesday's Word is visitors.

<https://www.paperturn-view.com/uk/wednesdayword/preparation?pid=MTA101634&p=5&v=47.2>

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.

Match Funding from your Employer

Match funding is a fantastic scheme whereby employers provide funding for organisations such as primary schools.

It is a very simple and easy means of extra funding. As an employee it doesn't cost you anything, except maybe a little help at an event but could mean **hundreds of pounds** of extra money for the Friends of St. Theresa's, which directly benefits the children.

In many cases it is as simple as approaching your HR department and finding out about their scheme (the name of the scheme may differ depending on the company).

If you think you may be able to help us, then please do contact the school office and you will be put in touch with the Friends of St. Theresa's.



Reception	Daniel C for all his really hard work in phonics. He can now recognise all the letters of the alphabet. Ryan for recognising numbers 1-100 on the number square.
Year 1	The whole of Year 1 for their amazing effort in the Nativity play; there was so much hard work and effort. Max S for trying hard in his learning, and improving – well done!
Year 2	All of Year 2 for working so hard in getting ready for the Christmas Show – well done!
Year 3	Therryn for settling in so well into Year 3. Filipa for being a helpful and kind friend.
Year 4	Christina for producing a fantastic advert for our “Road Trip USA” topic. Mya B for making a great effort in using cursive script and joining up her handwriting.
Year 5	Jan for showing a responsible attitude in the playground. Sofia for her progress in literacy this half term.
Year 6	Isabel for her fantastic learning in RE this half term. Miss Georgious is very impressed. Noah for the great level of determination, focus and perseverance he shows in class.

The Golden Ticket Winners are:
Lily Y4
Haylie Y4

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 0800 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>

Applications for Reception

Applications are invited for the **Reception Class** for **September 2022** – this is for children born between

1st September 2017 and 31st August 2018.

The deadline to return this to the school office is 15th 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 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 or 020 8446 0006!

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.

Little Saints After School Club

Where? St. Theresa's School multi-purpose room

When? Every day after school until 6pm

Please contact Vicky for further information.

Email: Vicky_avraam@hotmail.co.uk

Telephone: 07968 498 364

Dates for your diary

Fri 17 th Dec	Last day of term 1pm finish
Tues 4 th Jan	INSET Day (school closed for children)
Wed 5 th Jan	Children back at school
Thurs 20 th Jan	Reception and Y6 Height and Weight check
Mon 14th Feb - Fri 18th Feb Inclusive – Half term	
Fri 1st April	Last day of Spring term 1pm finish
Tues 19th April	First day of summer term
Mon 2nd May	Bank Holiday
Mon 30th May - Fri 3rd June Inclusive – Half Term	
Mon 6th June	Staff Inset – School Closed for children
Thurs 21st July	Last day of Summer Term – 1.30pm finish

***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.

Household contacts of COVID-19 Cases (including Omicron)

If you are aged 18 years 6 months or over and you are not fully vaccinated, and you live in the same household as someone with COVID-19 (including Omicron), you are legally required to stay at home and self-isolate.

If you are fully vaccinated or aged under 18 years and 6 months, and you live in the same household as someone with COVID-19, you are not legally required to self-isolate. However, you are strongly advised to take a lateral flow test every day for 7 days and to self-isolate if any of these test results is positive.

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