



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

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SPRING TERM 2023

Friday 6th January

Dear Parents and Carers,

A very happy new year to you all and welcome back to the start of a new term here at St. Theresa's. We welcome all the new families who have joined us; we hope you will all be very happy here.

This morning, Father John celebrated Mass with the school; we remembered the visit of the Wise Men to Jesus – the Feast of the Epiphany. The word epiphany means 'manifestation' or 'display'; the Feast of the Epiphany celebrates the manifestation of God's glory in the person of Jesus. The Feast of the Epiphany proclaims and reminds us that God came among us and this should change the way we see things and act.

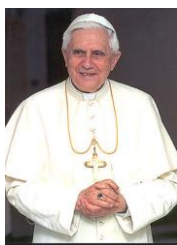
The Finchley Foodbank was founded in 2013 and is an ecumenical project of St Mary's RC Church, East Finchley. It provides food and other assistance to local people needing support, supplying clients with enough food for three days. Before the pandemic, it helped around 55 clients per week; during the pandemic it peaked at 390. Since then, their numbers have grown steadily. The foodbank relies on food donations from the community and for this reason, from Monday, St. Theresa's will become a drop off point for donations. Please see the list attached of much needed items. The donation box will be found in the office reception area.

Have a lovely weekend.

Barbara Costa

A prayer for the soul of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI

Father, eternal shepherd,
hear the prayers of your people for
your servant Benedict,
who governed your Church with love.
In your mercy, bring him with the flock
once entrusted to his care
to the reward you have promised your faithful
servants.



He did the work of Christ on earth.

May your Son welcome him into eternal glory.
May your servant whom you appointed high priest of
your flock
be counted now among the priests in the life of your
kingdom.

Give your servant the reward of eternal happiness
and let your mercy win for us the gift of your life and
love.

May he rejoice in those gifts for ever with your saints.
Through Christ our Lord,
Amen

Message from the Friends of St. Theresa's

HAPPY NEW YEAR! We hope that you all had a great break and that the children enjoyed their Christmas Chocolate Stockings which we bought as a Christmas treat.

The Friends' Committee is busy planning events for 2023 but we would welcome any ideas from you. Every class will be responsible for running an event and your class rep will give you further details. Thank you to Year 5 and Year 6 who organised the Halloween Disco and Movie Nights respectively in the Autumn Term.

Health Update from www.gov.uk for Parents and Carers

Flu and coronavirus (COVID-19) are currently circulating at high levels and are likely to continue to increase in coming weeks. High numbers of scarlet fever, which is caused by group A streptococcus, also continue to be reported.

Professor Susan Hopkins, Chief Medical Adviser at the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA), said:

It's important to minimise the spread of infection in schools and other education and childcare settings as much as possible. If your child is unwell and has a fever, they should stay home from school or nursery until they feel better and the fever has resolved.

Helping children to learn about the importance of good hand hygiene is also key, so practice regular handwashing at home with soap and warm water. Catching coughs and sneezes in tissues then binning them is another simple way to help stop illness from spreading.

Adults should also try to stay home when unwell and if you do have to go out, wear a face covering. When unwell don't visit healthcare settings or visit vulnerable people unless urgent.

Remember that flu vaccination is still available for all eligible groups and is the best protection against the virus. We have seen good uptake in older age groups but vaccination among young children remains low. Flu can be very unpleasant and in some cases can lead to more serious illness. Getting your child vaccinated protects them and others they come into contact with, and it's still not too late.

St. Theresa's pupil attendance target for 2022-2023 is 96%

Period	Whole school attendance
From 5/9/22 - now	94.6%

Class with highest attendance to date - Y2 is now in the lead with 95.9% attendance and Y6 is in second place!

At the end of the year, in July 2023, the class with the highest record of attendance will win a non-school uniform day!

Y4 Swimming Spring Term

Since the Year 4 pupils missed two swimming lessons in the autumn term, they will have 2 catch-up lessons. The lessons will take place on Monday 9th and Monday 16th January at 9.50am - 10.50am. Please ensure the Y4 children come to school on those days with their swimming kits.

Online Safety

You don't need filters, likes or followers to be enough

You are enough, Just as you are

KIDSONLINENOWORLD

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. **Please ensure you pay for breakfast club charges in advance of your child attending, or on the morning.**

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 Costa is the Designated Safeguarding Lead at the school; Mr Troy and Mrs 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/2022/09/Child-Protection-and-Safeguarding-Policy-September-2022.pdf>

The Wednesday Word

"The newness which God brings into our life is something that gives true joy." *Pope Francis*

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus makes a new start and begins his mission to the world. This new year presents an opportunity for us to make a new start. We can be sure that our efforts will always be rewarded when we take the time to make a new start with Jesus. Spending time with him (through prayer) helps us become the best we can be. Each of you say what is the best thing that you've ever started. What did you like about it?

Ask your child if they have made any new starts in 2023. If so, how is it going? It may help your child if you mention any new starts or resolutions which you have made for 2023 and tell them how it's going for you. How does your new start help you or others?

"As we begin this new year, are there any new starts that we can make with our family, friends or with God?"

Perhaps we can: always try to help around the home before having to be asked; remember to start each morning with a prayer and thank God for each new day and for each other; make a new start with church; be peacemakers and try to make friends with someone we've fallen out with. You may like to choose something new to start together that will strengthen your family.

<https://www.paperturn-view.com/uk/wednesday-word/christmas-holiday-special?pid=MTA101634&sp=7&sv=79.2>

Applications for Reception

Applications are invited for the **Reception Class** for **September 2023** – this is for children born between 1st September 2018 and 31st August 2019.

The deadline to return this to the school office is 15th January 2023. 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.

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

Tues 10 th Jan	Y5 and Y6 visit to North Finchley Mosque
Wed 11 th Jan	Y3 and Y4 visit to North Finchley Mosque
Thurs 12 th Jan	Reception, Y1 and Y2 visit to North Finchley Mosque
Fri 13 th Jan	Y2 trip to the Tower of London
Wed 18 th Jan	Y6 trip to the RAF Museum
Fri 27 th Jan	Y1 trip to Science Museum
Thurs 2 nd Feb	4pm-6.30pm Parent Consultations
Tues 7 th Feb	4pm-6.30pm Parent Consultations
Mon 13 th -Fri 17 th Feb	Half term holiday
Wed 22 nd Feb	Ash Wednesday
Thurs 2 nd March	World Book Day
Fri 17 th March	Red Nose Day

New dates in bold

**All parents welcome*

FINCHLEY
Foodbank
FOOD FOR PEOPLE IN NEED
Foodbank shopping list

Collection Box is located at office entrance

• Cereals	• Soap
• UHT milk	• Baked beans
• Tea	• Tinned tomatoes
• Tinned meat – corned beef, pies, ham etc.	• Tins of custard/rice pudding
• Tinned fruit	• Pasta
• Tinned vegetables	• Pasta sauce
• Toilet rolls	• Biscuits
• Rice	• Soup
• Tuna, sardines & mackerel	• Washing tablets/capsules
• Jars of coffee	• Oil
• Sugar	• Honey & jams etc.
• Crackers	• Sanitary wear
• Toothpaste	• Deodorant
• Shampoo (2in1's)	• Shower gel
• We also need empty egg boxes (only 6/12 egg size boxes)	