

ST RAPHAEL'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



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Thursday 17th December, 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

I want to begin this final newsletter of 2020 by saying a huge thank you to the St Raphael's community of children, parents and carers, staff and governors for the support you have given school in what has been an unprecedented year.

There have undoubtedly been challenges but we have been able to overcome them together. There have also been many things to be proud of. Firstly, the children who have been amazing throughout the whole year. Their resilience, adaptability and joy have made us all and I am sure yourselves so proud this year. The children have continued to work hard throughout the year and have had many successes in their learning. Also the way in which our school community has worked together to follow the new procedures to minimise risk has helped to keep our children and staff safe.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation with this.



Christmas Productions You will soon receive the YouTube links for the Christmas productions and Christmas Carols. Well done to the children and staff for producing these. We hope that although, unfortunately, we had to do things differently this year they are still creating a special memory. Once again we were very proud of the children as I am sure you will be.

Christmas in School: The children have enjoyed a variety of activities and reflections during Advent. In assemblies we have looked at our Advent journey as a time of preparation for Christmas Day.



The children have been led in Collective worship and have produced beautiful Crib scenes from our virtual travelling crib.

The children enjoyed Christmas Dinner and Party day. Thank you to our catering team who have worked so hard to produce these special meals for the children. Thank you too for your donations on non-uniform days which will be split between Willow Wood Hospice and School Fund.

The children had a special visitor to our outdoor classroom this week and all received a gift. Our thanks to the generous legacy of a local lady and her friends. Each year the Mabel Fund has made a donation to our Christmas celebrations and this year we have used this to buy a gift for each child. We have also had a generous donation from Morrison's of prizes for party day.

"May God's love shine in our lives as we care, share and learn together."

Covid Track and Trace: During the Christmas holiday please continue to inform school of any positive cases or isolation periods for the pupils or their families. The updated advice for school attendance has been emailed to all parents/carers.

The email address to contact is head@st-raphaels.tameside.sch.uk

Information and links to Covid 19 guidance is available on the school website.

Before and After School Provision: The new provision has been very successful and will continue with the same start and end times next year. Please see the school website for more information or if you want to book a place for your child. For those who already attend please return the booking form for Spring Term 1 to secure your places.

Can I also take this opportunity to thank Mrs Catherine Bardsley our Chair of Governors and all the Governors for their hard work and support for St Raphael's during this year. Also our thanks to Father Philip and Deacon Antony for their continued support and prayers.

School closes at the usual bubble times on Friday, 18th December 2020 and we return to school in the New Year on Monday 4th January, 2021. The bubble starts and ends to the day will remain the same and we ask that you continue to social distance on the school drive in line with schools guidance from the DFE.

I would like to wish you all a very happy and holy Christmas. Enjoy this special time with your families.



Kind regards,

Mrs L Lakner
Headteacher