



St Clare's Catholic Primary School Newsletter

Friday 8th December 2023

Play, learn and grow together with Christ

St Clare's is a Christ-centred family where everyone is valued and respected. We learn and grow, whilst strengthening our relationship with God and one another. Together in His love, we can achieve our full potential.



Mrs Charnley's Message

Goodness, the weeks are just flying by and it is hard to believe how close we are to Christmas. Year 5 and Year 6 were amazing at the advent service on Monday night. They were all amazing in the way they read, played and sang. I was humbled by the way the children reminded us that it is not Christmas yet - Advent is our journey to remembering Jesus' birth. Not only that but we also raised £67.23. Well done everyone.

Next week our youngest children will remind us of the Christmas Story. Little Saplings, Rowan, Hazel, Willow and Beech have all been working hard and sneak peeks that we have seen tell us that you are in for a real treat. Please remember to bring your tickets with you so we can maintain our numbers for fire regulations. We do not charge for these tickets, as we believe you should not pay to see your children perform. However, there will be a retiring collection to help towards school activities so anything you can spare will be greatly appreciated.

This week we have had several reports of inconsiderate and dangerous driving on the Church carpark and directly outside the School gates. I ask you please, particularly at this time of goodwill to all mankind, that we think of others when dropping children off at school. Please don't park outside the School gates and take care when moving around the carpark. As you can appreciate there are children as young as three in our school and we really must think of their safety.

Second Week in Advent: Peace

How perfect to be going into the second week of Advent with this message and work for Peace.

Gospel – Mark 1:1-8

The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ the Son of God.

As it is written in Isaiah the prophet: “Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way.

A voice of one crying out in the desert: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.’”

John the Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

People of the whole Judean countryside and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River as they acknowledged their sins.

John was clothed in camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist. He fed on locusts and wild honey.

And this is what he proclaimed: “One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals.

I have baptized you with water, but he shall baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

Have a lovely weekend with family time together.

God Bless,

Mrs Charnley and the Staff of Saint Clare’s.

Faith

Here is our weekly mission - a small way of putting into practice the gospel values. We believe we are called to live our lives differently because of what we have experienced and prayed about. What we offer as the 'mission' is a suggestion of how we can all do just that.



“Anyone who stops learning is old, whether at twenty or eighty. Anyone who keeps learning stays young. The greatest thing in life is to keep your mind young.” — Henry Ford

Headteacher Awards! Awards of Excellence



This Weeks Winners Are...

Little Saplings: Haron - *"For being Kind"*.

Rowan: Ameerah - *"For being a kind friend and working hard in nativity rehearsals"*.

Willow: Caitlyn - *"Working really hard getting her jobs done independently"*.

Hazel: Muhammad P - *"An Excellent non-chronological report"*.

Beech: Shay - *"For trying to answer more questions & for a mature attitude to learning"*.

Pine: Rinnah - *"For working hard on her presentation"*.

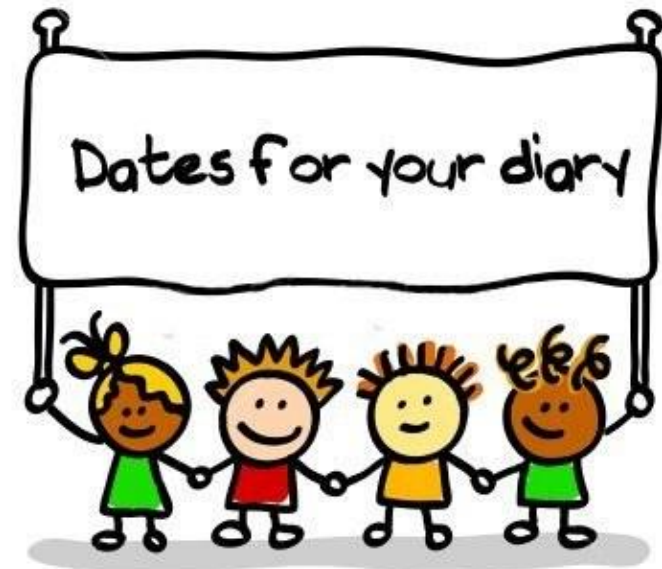
Elder: Jayden - *"For his hard work in Maths, Keep it up"*.

Cherry: Maryam P - *"An active member of the school community & setting a good example to others"*.

Oak: Corey - *"Working hard in all areas of the curriculum & showing kindness to all"*.

The Winning House this week: Rigby!

Dates for your Diary



Tuesday 12th December - Little Saplings Play in the Hall (10am).

Tuesday 12th December - Rowan Class Play in Church (2pm).

Wednesday 13th December - KS1 Nativity show 1 at 2pm - KS1 Nativity show 2 at 3:30pm.

Friday 15th December - Whole School Trip to the Pantomime.

Saturday 16th December - Messy Church at St Clare's Church Hall (1:30 - 3:00pm).

Wednesday 20th December - Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day.

Thursday 21st December - Break up for Christmas (1:30pm).

Monday 8th January 2024 - Return to school.

Thursday 11th January 2024 - Meet the teacher (5pm)

Pray for Peace – Play for Peace



Today we are running our 'Pray for Peace – Play for Peace' event. Throughout the day the children will be taking part in a number of playing and praying sessions. The children will also have the opportunity to **play** board games which they can share with their friends.

In order to raise money for children who are affected by war, we would love you to sponsor us! We have set up a donation page - within 'School Trips' on Arbor, where you can donate towards this cause, the donation link is now live! For more information or to donate directly to the charity please follow the link below. We are hoping to raise as much money as we possibly can!

Many thanks, The Student Council (Safaa and William - Cherry class)



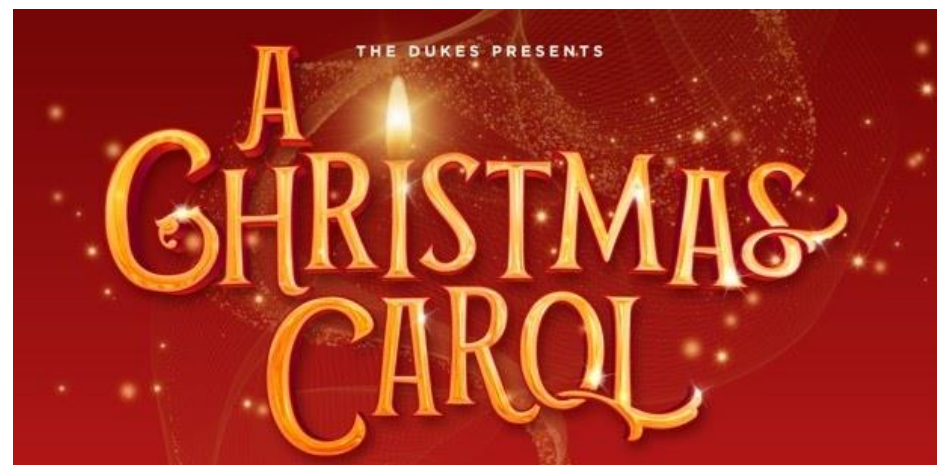


We have all been shocked and saddened by the devastating conflict between Israel and the occupied Palestinian territory. Food, water and fuel are in increasingly short supply. Families need urgent help. You will have seen the school council work on 'pray for peace - play for peace' fundraising which is happening today. With advice from the diocese and the children's and our desire to help all children who are the innocent victims of this conflict the money raised will go to CAFOD. You can learn more about where the money will be used by following link below
<https://cafod.org.uk/news/emergencies-news/israeli-palestinian-crisis-how-you-can-help>

You too can donate directly as this link will take you to their page.
<https://cafod.org.uk/give/donate-to-emergencies/israeli-palestinian-crisis-appeal>. You can also donate through Arbor which we will collate and send the total amount from St Clare's.

Thank you, in advance, for your support with this appeal led by the children and school council.

School Trip



This Year the whole school will enjoy a trip to the Dukes Theatre in Lancaster to see the upcoming production of **A Christmas Carol**, the heart-warming classic that has captivated audiences for generations.

We are going to Unwrap the magic this season with a musical adaptation of Charles Dickens classic tale, featuring toe-tapping live music, festive fun and a touch of Christmas magic. This heart-warming and uplifting tale of redemption is the perfect festive treat

The moral of *The Christmas Carol* is that society can be transformed for the better through generosity, empathy, and compassion.

Date: 15th December 2023

Please can all children come to school in their PE kits. Those children who have PE kits in school, the class teacher will send them home beforehand.

Piano/ Keyboard & Voice Lessons



There are still places available for parents who want to book their child in for Piano / Keyboard and Voice lessons with Mrs. Calman. The Parental Direct Payment scheme allows parents to pay the Music Service directly for instrumental and vocal tuition. The lessons are delivered in school, Individually. Please see the email that was sent to parents last week with instructions on how to book. There are currently only a limited number of places left to book!

Online Safety



At the end of each month we will be sending out a Online Safety Newsletter. We have also added a section to the website under 'Parents' which we would encourage you to take a look at. With Christmas comes a wealth of new technology for children to enjoy. Our ICT consultant has found that by using Google Family you can help to keep your child safe online. <https://familylink.google.com/>

Family Link gives you access to manage your child's account and data settings. As a parent, you can help change or reset your child's password if they forget it, edit their personal information or even delete their account if you feel necessary. You can also use the Google Family Link is a parental controls app that helps you keep your family safer online.

PTFA - Tuck Shop

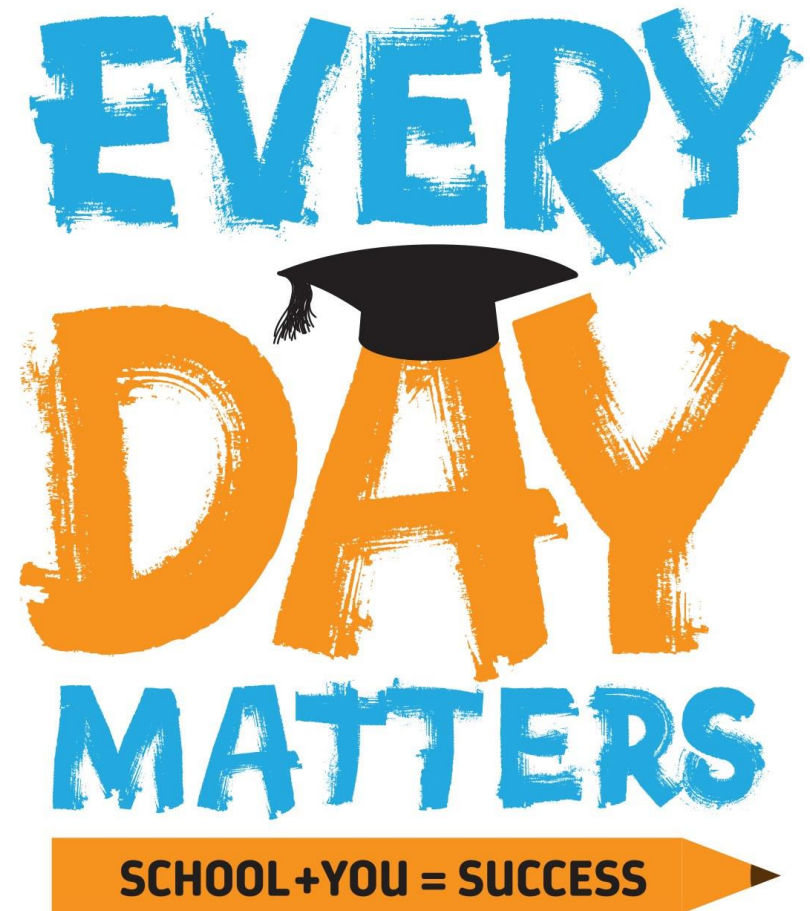


Swizzler Mix Bag	£1.00
Gummy & Fizzy Mix Bag	£0.60 or 2 for £1.00
Gummy Zone Fast Food	£0.30
Candy Canes	£0.40
Candy Sticks with Tatoo sticker	£0.50
Candy Floss	£1.00
Lollies	£0.20
Golden Wanders Crisps	£0.50
Thingies Crisps	£0.25
Rainbow Drops	£1.00
Cookie	£1.00
Cadbury Santa Selection Box	£2.00
Fruit Shoot Blasts	£0.50
Cup Drinks	£0.50
Chocolate	£0.40

Mrs. Patel will be running a Tuck shop at the end of every term. She has been busy shopping for all the goodies in preparation for this.

Our First Tuck shop will take place at the end of school On Wednesday 20th December 2023. Please see the price list. The correct change must be bought in as no change can be given.

Attendance



The whole school's attendance this week was 94.68%.

Well done to Year 6 (Oak), Your class had the highest attendance this week with 98.68%!

School Admissions



School admissions are now open.

If your child is in their last year of pre-school/nursery* you can now apply for their primary school place at: www.lancashire.gov.uk/schools

It's quick and easy to do and you will receive email confirmation of your application.

You must apply even if you already have siblings in school. If you live in Lancashire you can include out of area preferences on your online application.

As we are a faith school you will also need to complete a supplementary form that you will find on the last page of our admissions policy that you will find on our school website.

The closing date for primary applications for September 2024 is 23:59 on 15 January 2024.

St Clare's After School Club



St Clare's After School Club is a private childcare provider which provides childcare solely for children at St Clare's Primary School.

We pick up the children on our register from the school and take them to the adjacent church hall.

We provide a snack and a drink of milk or water then the children are free to choose from a variety of activities including arts and crafts, board games, small world toys, role play, outdoor play, physical play, quiet reading, IT resources (computer, XBOX, Wii etc.).

We also have the use of a large grassed area behind the church hall and the school playground for physical activities such as football, cricket, ball games, scooters etc.

We are open after school Monday to Friday. You may book the day or days you require subject to availability. Unfortunately, we cannot take one off or occasional bookings.

We are pleased to say we have spaces available. These will be on a first come first served basis.

Please contact Gill McAuley on 07879241099 between 2.30 and 5.30 for further information.

Please feel free to leave a message outside of these hours and we will get back to you.

Winter Holiday Activities & Food 2023

If you are interested and are eligible for FSM, please contact the School office for the code.



GET ^{stuck} IN Winter

BOOKING OPEN
07879 774978

The booking line is now open to enrol your child in a free holiday clubs programme over the Winter school holidays!

The Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme is a scheme funded by the Government and delivered by local councils, providing healthy food and fun activities to children and young people, with free places available for those on free school meals.

Sessions will include a variety of fun activities, including sports, music, arts and other exciting opportunities to learn and develop skills like meeting new friends, alongside a nutritious meal each day.

For information on how you and your family can get involved this Winter, please visit www.getstuckin.org.uk or call the booking team on 07879 774978 and quote your FSM code.

Your FSM Code

The Big Ambition Survey



The Children's Commissioner has launched [The Big Ambition survey](https://childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition) to understand what children want ahead of the next General Election. Please share this link or QR code with young people so they can have their say: <https://childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition>.





MESSY CHURCH

ST. CLARE'S CHURCH HALL
SATURDAY 16th DECEMBER
1.30 – 3.00PM

COME AND ENJOY AN
AFTERNOON OF ACTIVITIES,
GAMES AND BIBLE STORIES.

ALL AGES AND
DENOMINATIONS
WELCOME.

PARKING!



I understand that we all have to get to drop off our children on our way to work and how busy that can be with the traffic at that time. I also know that by parking on a double yellow line on the road outside the school is illegal and dangerous for the children—particularly if it is right in front of the gates to the school or parish carpark. Please be aware that we have been asked by the police to pass on any car number plate of anyone doing so. Think carefully about all the children coming to school and the safety of everyone. As reception children become more familiar with the routines and our drop-and-go system I am sure things will ease. Please use the one-way route when using the drop-and-go system. Some of the parking spaces are reserved for hospital staff, please be mindful that you are not blocking them in. I really appreciate your help and support in this matter.