



Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School

Together we live and learn; we play and pray

Friday 5th December 2025

Message from Mrs Collier: This first week of Advent, our school community has been reflecting on Hope. Advent is a sacred season when we open our hearts to the promise of Christ, welcoming hope as a light that guides us, comforts us, and calls us forward. During this special time, we renew our Catholic mission by sharing kindness, offering prayer, and living out the Gospel values through our words and actions. As a school, we continue to nurture faith, compassion, and service, reminding our children that hope is not only something we feel, but something we share.

Each day throughout Advent, we are blessed to take part in a daily retreat, a short moment of prayer, reflection, and song led by One Life Music. These beautiful times of prayer and worship are helping us celebrate the joy and deeper meaning of the season together.

We were also filled with pride as our talented choir children performed in the joint Carol Service hosted by St John Fisher Catholic Secondary School. Our children sang beautifully alongside pupils from a number of Catholic schools across Peterborough, in this joyful celebration. Their voices and confidence truly shone as they sang their hearts out, marking a wonderful and uplifting start to Advent.

What a special way to begin this holy season, as a community rooted in faith, united in hope, and celebrating the birth of Jesus with joy in our hearts.

Weekly Attendance

Reception: 93.7%

Year One: 93.7%

Year Two: 91.2%

Year Three: 94.5%

Year Four: 94.5%

Year Five: 95.8%

Year Six: 94.3%

School: 94.0%

Year to date: 95.3%

Gospel value: Hope

Hope means trusting that God is with us, even in uncertain times. When we live with hope, we stay positive, encourage others, and believe in God's promises with confident hearts.

Scripture reminds us to "Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation" (Romans 12:12), giving us strength to trust in God's plan. In Advent, we wait with joyful hope for our Saviour to be born, a beautiful and special season.

Hope also helps us honour the dignity of every person, reflecting the Catholic Social Teaching principle of Dignity of the Human Person, which teaches that each of us is uniquely created, valued, and loved by God.

Our school attendance target is 96%. We want every child to reach their full potential at school and maintaining good levels of attendance is vital in this. Thank you for your continued support with this!

A reminder that our attendance policy is available on our school website and can be found here:

<https://www.sacredheartprimary.org.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=2659&type=pdf>

Upcoming Dates

8th Dec – EYFS & KS1 Nativity Dress Rehearsals – see email for details

9th Dec – EYFS Nativity 9.45am – ticket see email for details

9th Dec – KS1 Nativity 2pm – ticket see email for details

10th Dec – Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day – see email for details

11th Dec – KS1 Nativity 9.15pm – see email for details

12th Dec – FOSH Christmas Movie Night – see email for booking details

15th Dec – Whole school trip to Pantomime – see letter for details

17th Dec – EYFS vision screening – see email for details

17th Dec – KS2 Christmas Carol Concert – 6pm – see letter for details

18th Dec – Choir at Cavell Centre – see email for details

19th Dec – Christmas Pyjama Day – see email for details

19th Dec – FOSH Breakfast with Santa – see email for booking details

19th Dec – LAST DAY OF TERM

Sunday's Gospel Matthew 3:1-12

MASS DATES

Please note Mass is now 09:05am each Thursday morning

10th Dec (Weds) – Years Three and One

18th Dec – Whole School



Newsletter and R.E. Learning

EYFS

EYFS have been very busy practicing their Nativity ready for their performances next week!

In English, we have read the story 'The Jolly Christmas postman' and have been trying to order the story.

In maths, we have been thinking about the numbers 9 and 10 and have been doing lots of activities using numicon.

In RE, we have been thinking about the story of Jesus' birth and we created our own nativity scene in the classroom.

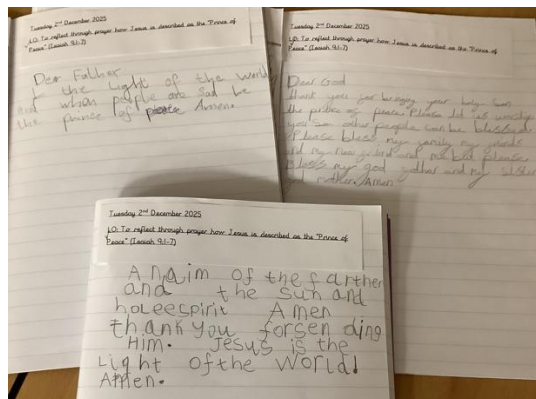
Year 1

Year One have enjoyed learning about when the Angels visited the Shepherds. We had lots of great discussion as to why the angels visited and why it was important. The children then created their own angels for our Advent display. In English, the children have been busy writing their own version of Stanley's stick. We have been very impressed with their creative ideas!



Year 2

In Maths the children have worked on adding and subtracting two 2-digit numbers. Our Nativity rehearsals have continued and the children are looking forward to the performances next week. In RE we have been reflecting on Jesus being the Prince of Peace and the Light of the World. The children then spent time creating a prayer about their reflections.





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Year 3

In Year Three the children have been working on the multiples of 2,5,10 and 3. Some children were very confident, but some children needed to spend more time on their TT Rockstars to practise those tables! In English the children are writing their non-chronological reports about Europe. They have found the facts about Europe fascinating.

In RE the children have considered gifts. They thought about special gifts they had received and how the amount of care and effort that the present giver uses really makes a difference to how special a gift is. Finally, they linked it to Advent and realised that the greatest gift anyone has ever been given was Jesus.

Year 4

This week, Year 4 have been exploring the life of Roman soldiers and studying the uniform they wore. Using expanded noun phrases, the children created some great descriptions. In science, we have been investigating evaporation and the effect that temperature has on it. In Maths, we explored the 7x, 11x and 12x table and how we can use our other times tables to solve them. In RE, we looked at the Feast of Christ the King and what kind of king Christ is. We compared how we can serve Christ and how he can serve us. The children then looked at depictions of Christ the King and created their own designs.

Year 5

Year five have been busy in RE this week. They really enjoyed a visit from St John Fisher and looked at significant events through the bible. They have also been continuing with unit 'Prophecy and promise' and looking at how they can help others from advent with the inspiration of David. In Theme the children enjoyed looking at pictures of Henry VIII and deciding which one was the real one as well as thinking about why the pictures of him look very different. In Science the children enjoyed investigating how the sun appears to move across the sky, they did this by measuring their shadow and seeing how the size and position changed.



Year 6

This week the children delved further into our new topic about World War II. They looked at some key events that we will be studying over the topic to understand where they sat on the timeline of events. Linking with our WW2 topic, we have been continuing to study our film clip in English and have thought about the importance of symbolism to help our reader to understand a deeper meaning in our story. The children came up with some excellent ideas. In RE, we have been focussing on Mary as the Mother of God and the use of theological language to describe this belief. We were able to study some artwork to create wondering questions surrounding this belief.



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Holy Family

This week we have been reading the story of Jesus's birth and all the special events leading up to it. We painted pictures showing Mary saying "Yes," to God when she was visited by the Angel Gabriel. Also, look at our cow hanging proudly in Peterborough Cathedral as part of their Winter Wonderland installation. Some of us have been to visit it and were proud to see it hanging right in the centre and looking magnificent!



Volunteers Sought to Support School Admission Appeals

The Diocese of East Anglia Schools' Service is seeking volunteers to serve as school admission appeals panel members, helping ensure parents' rights are upheld when a child is not offered a place at their preferred Catholic school.

Panel members play a vital role in considering cases where parents wish to challenge a refusal of admission. Each hearing typically lasts between 20 and 30 minutes, although some may take longer depending on their complexity. During the busy summer term, multiple appeals may be scheduled on the same day, and volunteers may occasionally be asked to sit for two or even three consecutive days. Importantly, panel members are always able to decide their own availability, making this a flexible opportunity suited to those available during school hours.

Appeals may be heard in person or via video conferencing, and volunteers can express a preference for the type of hearings they are comfortable with. All panel members will receive training from the Diocese.

To ensure a balanced and fair process, each panel is made up of both lay members, people without professional involvement in education, and education members, people with experience working in or understanding schools. Individuals cannot sit on panels for schools with which they have a personal connection, for example being a parent, governor or staff member.

Anyone interested in volunteering or finding out more is invited to contact Helen Bates, Assistant Director (Schools' Service), at the Diocese of East Anglia, 21 Upgate, Poringland, Norwich, NR14 7SH, by email at ssc@rcdea.org.uk or by telephone on 01508 495509.



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FOSH upcoming events and notices



Christmas Movie Night - Friday 12th December

FOSH is excited to announce that we will be hosting a Christmas Movie Night after school on Friday 12th December, from 3:30pm to 5:30pm.

At the end of the school day, the FOSH team will collect children directly from their classrooms and take them to the event, where they will enjoy a festive film (chosen on the day). Each child will also receive popcorn, a snack, and a drink.

Tickets are £6.00 per child, and must be booked in advance by **Monday 8th December**.

To book a ticket, please email FOSH@sacredheart.peterborough.sch.uk and include:

- Your child's full name
- Your child's year group
- Any dietary requirements

Breakfast with Santa - Friday 19th December

FOSH is pleased to share details of our special "Breakfast with Santa" event taking place during school time on Friday 19th December.

Participating children will be collected from their classrooms by the FOSH team and taken to the event at their allocated session time below.

Session times:

- 9:30am–10:30am: EYFS & KS1
- 10:30am–11:30am: KS2

Children are invited to come to school in their Christmas pyjamas and will enjoy breakfast with Santa, festive music, Christmas crafts, and a small treat to take home.

Tickets are £5 per child and must be pre-booked by **Monday 15th December**.

To book a ticket, please email FOSH@sacredheart.peterborough.sch.uk and include:

- Your child's full name
- Your child's group
- Any dietary requirements