



## ALL THE NEWS FROM SACRED HEART



Hope ♥ Joy ♥ Fulfilment

December has truly been magical here at Sacred Heart. Throughout the month, our school has come alive with a hive of activities, from joyous discos and enchanting nativities to festive games and our much-loved Christmas jumper and dinner day. During all this festive fun, our children have embraced the true essence of the Advent season with open hearts, preparing for the birth of Jesus at Christmas. This time of year, is not just one of celebration but also a significant period for reflection, fostering kindness and love within our school community.

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to those families who generously donated toys and books for the Church's Christmas Fair. Your contributions were greatly appreciated by Fr David and the parish committee, who tirelessly work to give back to our church community. Additionally, I want to express my gratitude to all the parents who kindly provided spare coins for our school Christmas raffle and games. The funds raised will not only support charitable causes but also help equip our children here at Sacred Heart. Your kindness and generosity truly embody the spirit of the Advent season, and we are so grateful for your support.

As we conclude this Advent term, let's take a moment to reflect on the remarkable achievements of our wonderful children. Their hard work is a testament to their determination to learn and grow, just as Jesus inspires us to do.

On behalf of the Staff and Governors here at Sacred Heart, I would like to wish you all a peaceful Christmas together and God's blessings for the coming year.

God Bless!

*Alan James*

### **Advent at Sacred Heart**

This Advent, our school community came together in a beautiful whole school mass, where we reflected on the true significance of Christmas. In the spirit of this sacred season, we remembered the journey of Mary and Joseph, and how we too can embark on a journey of hope and love. A highlight of our Advent celebrations was the delightful carol service led by our Year 3 children. Through song and readings from Luke's gospel, our hearts were filled with the warmth of Christmas. The children's voices resonated with the love of God, reminding us of the importance of coming together as a family in faith.

We were delighted to welcome the Travelling Crib from St. Patrick's as it made its way around the Trust schools. The crib serves as a gentle reminder of the humble beginnings of Jesus' birth and encourages us to think of those who are misplaced in the world today. Our time spent in worship and community has allowed us to deepen our understanding of the season, encouraging us to cherish every moment as we prepare for the birth of Jesus. Let us carry forward the lessons of kindness, compassion, and charity that we have discussed, and keep the spirit of Advent alive in our hearts, sharing joy and goodwill with all. Together, we look forward to a Christmas filled with God's love and blessings for every one of us.





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## Celebrating Advent Through Creativity and Teamwork

Our school has been alive with creativity and teamwork which was evident in two delightful competitions: the Advent stained glass window competition and the hula hoop Christmas challenge. These initiatives not only enriched the Catholic life of our school but also allowed our children to embody the true spirit of Christmas. The stained glass window competition encouraged our pupils to reflect on the beauty of the Advent season and the joy that the birth of Jesus brings. Each class worked together to design and create their stunning pieces, filled with vibrant colours and meaningful symbols of hope and love.

The winners of the Stain Glass Window are **Maple Class** 😊



The Hula Hoop Winners are **Rowan Class**





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The much-loved Menphys Carol Concert took place at DeMontfort Hall on the 6th December, marking a joyful start to the festive season in Leicestershire. This event truly embodies the spirit of Advent, reminding us all of the importance of community and togetherness during this special time of year. Featuring a delightful mix of traditional and contemporary carols, the concert showcased the exceptional talents of local primary and secondary school students, bringing families and friends together in a heartwarming celebration.

We were especially proud of our own Sacred Heart Menphys choir. Children from Year 5 and 6, alongside the children's choir from St John Fisher, were superb ambassadors for our Trust and whose performances were nothing short of exceptional. This was made possible by the dedication of Mrs Ong, who worked tirelessly in preparing both schools for their solo on the night.

The Menphys Carol Concert provided a platform for our young people to shine, with their performances adding to the uplifting atmosphere of the evening and shine they did!!



### Christmas Nativities: EYFS and KS1

We are filled with joy and pride as we reflect on the recent performances of our Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 students, who beautifully retold the Christmas story. Our youngest children displayed remarkable bravery and confidence as they took to the stage, sharing the wonderful message of Jesus' birth with family and friends. Their heartfelt performances were filled with the spirit of Christmas, reminding us all of love, hope, and the joy that this holy season brings.

We extend our thanks to the teachers, staff, and parents who supported our children in preparing for this special event. It was a magical experience that will be cherished by all who attended. Well done to our amazing children!





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**Christmas Jumper, Disco and Dinner Day:**

This Christmas season, our school was filled with excitement, joy, and laughter as everyone came together to celebrate in a truly festive spirit! The recent Christmas jumper day brought a rainbow of colours and creativity, with students proudly wearing their most cheerful jumpers, spreading warmth and smiles all around.

The dinner hall was alive with the sounds of giggles and chatter, as children tucked into a delightful Christmas dinner prepared by our amazing kitchen staff.

The highlight of the festivities was undoubtedly the Christmas disco, where children danced and sang their hearts out with friends, creating wonderful memories that will be cherished. Throughout these celebrations, we felt a deep sense of hope and fulfilment, reflecting our school's mission to nurture not just the mind, but the spirit too.

Thank you to all the staff at Sacred Heart who help make all of this so special for our children; they are super stars!!!





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**Welcome**  
to our Sensory  
Friendly Mass &  
Holy Communion  
Preparation

**Saturday 18th January 2025**  
at Sacred Heart Primary School - Mere Close, Leicester, LE5 3AH  
**11.00am 1st Holy Communion Preparation**  
**11.30am Sensory Friendly Mass**

We try to welcome everybody to our celebration of Mass, however the typical environment in our Catholic churches can be stressful for younger parishioners with autism, sensory difficulties, neurodiversity or learning needs.

We're delighted to host a special Sensory Friendly Mass for those with additional needs on one Saturday morning each month presided at by Fr David Cain and supported by specialist teaching staff from our local Primary Schools.

Before each Mass we'll also run a short 1st Reconciliation & 1st Holy Communion Preparation session to prepare your child to receive these sacraments next summer.

Contact: [holyfamilyleicester@dioceseofnottingham.uk](mailto:holyfamilyleicester@dioceseofnottingham.uk) or 01162511436

**Dates for the Lent Term:**

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January – School opens for Lent Term 1.

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January - NPSCC Number Day.

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January – Whole school mass – The Baptism of Jesus

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January - Height and Weight check for F2 and Year 6.

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February – Last day of Lent Term 1.

17<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> February – School closed for half term.

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February – School opens for Lent Term 2.

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February – Parents evening.

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April – Last day of Lent term.

14<sup>th</sup> April – 25<sup>th</sup> April – School closed.