



25th November 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week the children have been learning about road safety and how to keep safe. Thank you to everyone who participated in the initiatives this week. Dr Bike came in and fixed many bikes, ensuring they were safe to be ridden.

We also enjoyed a fantastic assembly by St Juan Diego class this week. They celebrated all their learning from the term. They spoke beautifully and so many of the children had learnt their lines and delivered them with confidence.

The first Sunday of Advent is this coming Sunday. Today we had our advent preparation day, where the children spent time writing their Advent promises and prayers, making decorations to share with the rest of the school. On their return to school on Monday the trees, decorations, Advent wreaths, cribs and purple cloths will be up in classrooms and around the school.

A huge thank you to the Friends of St Winifred's for sourcing donations of two Christmas trees for the school. **The Knights of St Columba** donated a Christmas Tree for the main entrance to the school and **Reeds Rains Estate Agents** in Catford have once again donated one for our school hall. We are thrilled and cannot wait to decorate the school for Christmas. Once the trees are up, we will of course share photos of them with you all.



Knights of St Columba Christmas Competition

The Knights of St Columba, Council 117 have invited us to enter their Christmas, Nativity scene competition. The children will be taking home all the instructions for them to create a beautiful drawing of the Nativity. I have attached the proforma to the newsletter just in case you need another one. All entries must be returned to the school by Monday 5th December.

Nativities

To attend the children's Christmas performances, you will need to contact the school office and book. We are offering two tickets per child. However, if you were to want more, we will put you on a waiting list and issue additional tickets nearer the time if available.

Upper Key Stage 2, Years 5 & 6, will lead us in a Carol Concert in the Our Lady of Lourdes Church at **6pm**. As it is being held in the church in the evening, we hope that the whole family will be able to attend.



November

29th: Year 3 – Unicorn Theatre – Pinocchio
29th: EYs Nativity – 2pm
30th: EYs Nativity 10am

December

1st: Year 5 – Unicorn Theatre - Pinocchio
1st: EYs & KS1 Panto in school – Aladdin
1st: Diocesan Advent Service
6th: KS1 Nativity – 2pm
7th: KS1 Nativity – 2pm
9th: Christmas Lunch and Jumper Day
12th: Lower KS2 Nativity 2pm
13th: Lower KS2 Nativity 2pm
14th: Year 4 – Unicorn Theatre- Pinocchio
14th: Upper KS2 Carol Concert 6pm
15th: Christmas Fair 3pm – 5:30pm
16th: Whole School Mass / Class Parties

We also had an assembly by the Mini Vinnies. The Mini Vinnies are made up of children from Years 5 and 6. The children prepared it all themselves. They have created an Advent calendar of good deeds, where all the children are encouraged to do something positive every day of advent.



Mini Vinnies are the junior section of the Catholic organisation of the St Vincent de Paul Society, which exists to help those in need. They want to help people in need during the cold winter months and have come up with the idea of a back to front advent calendar.

They also have put out an Advent plea. They are asking each class to create their own Advent Calendar for a good cause. Rather than opening a calendar door each day and removing the gift, they are requesting that a gift is donated instead. Each class will have a box to collect their donations. The children will collect all the items at the end of term and take them to the Lewisham Donation Hub.

The kinds of things that can be donated include unopened body moisturiser (especially emollient 50), adult and baby shampoo, hair conditioner, toothpaste and toothbrushes (child and adults), perfume and after shave, deodorant (men's and women's), mouthwash, shaving foam, razors, talcum powder. Tinned tomatoes, noodles, UHT milk, pasta, rice, tinned soups, chick peas, cereal, tuna and mackerel (tins), couscous, pasta sauce, Indian sauce, lentils, coconut milk, stock cubes, crisps and treats, orange squash (and similar), flour, breakfast bars, coffee, tea.

Thursday 15th December

COUNTDOWN TO THE CHRISTMAS FAIR IS ON! ONLY 3 WEEKS TO GO!

Thank you to those who have been able to volunteer to help out at the Christmas Fair, we still need 12 more volunteer parents or carers to help the event run smoothly! This year we are asking parents and carers to donate their time, whether that be helping at a stall, being involved with logistics, baking a cake, or decorating a grotto. We really hope to create a lovely Christmas experience for the whole school community and we cannot do it without you! Please get in touch with your class rep or email stwinifredsfriendsse12@gmail.com if you can help.

Our Christmas raffle ticket sales will also be getting underway with amazing prizes to be won: £150 Sainsbury's voucher, 2 x @NetgemTV 4K Netbox with 1 year Amazon Prime (worth over £200!), £50 Bar tab @ The Lord Northbrook, £50 Luciano's voucher, £50 Epic Inflatables voucher, 1 week of after school childcare with Little Gremlins, Free MOT at St George's MOT Centre, £20 The Find Store voucher, £15 Wine & Such voucher, 2 x £10 Milk Vouchers, Waitrose Christmas gifts, a handmade children's costume...and more exciting prizes.



Look out for the ticket sheets that will go out via email and WhatsApp. Each ticket is £0.50 – Please bring the sheet plus money in a sealed envelope to your child's teacher or the school's office by the 14th December at the end of school. The Raffle will be drawn at the School Fair on the 15th December.

On Friday 9th December we will be having our Christmas lunch in school. If a child, who is normally packed lunch, would like school dinner on this day for £2.30, please let the office know. I attach the menu for your information.

This year, Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Lee will continue to run their First Holy Communion programme here at St Winifred's. This will take place one afternoon straight after school starting in the New Year. If your child would like to join the programme, please register your interest with Fr Emeka. You will be expected to attend Sunday Mass and a meeting with Fr Emeka on Thursday 5th January 2023 at 7pm in the Church. Classes will begin after this meeting.



If you have a child who will be starting school in September 2023 (born between 1st September 2018 and 31st August 2019) or know someone who does, I hope that St Winifred's is your first choice! We will be hosting a series of open days until the application deadline – 15th January 2023. If you would like to book a place on one of the open days, please contact the school office.

During the School Day		After School
9:15am – 10am	2pm – 2:45pm	4pm
Thursday 15 th December	Thursday 1 st December Wednesday 4 th January	Wednesday 7 th December Monday 9 th January

Applications for Reception Class places for September 2023 can now be made on line.

Cycling:

Greenwich is now offering a **free 2hr lesson** from your home with a qualified cycle instructor:

<https://www.cycleconfident.com/sponsors/greenwich/>

Christmas Show:

With Christmas approaching, we have an exciting Christmas Music Show for families with younger ones. Father Christmas is also going to make a surprise appearance! Tickets can be booked through the Bob Hope Theatre website: <http://www.bobhopetheatre.co.uk/> Please see flyer attached.

Volunteers:

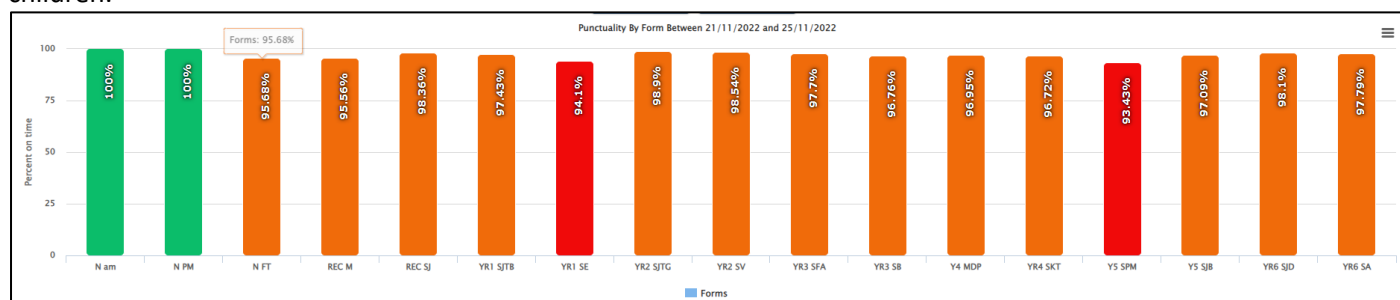
Now that we are able to welcome more people into school, it would be fantastic to increase the numbers of volunteers. If you are able to spare some time on a weekly basis and would like to volunteer in school, please let Mrs Carey (mcarey@swcps.lewisham.sch.uk) know. Mrs Carey can then meet with you, discuss what you would be able to offer and ensure all safeguarding checks are completed before commencing.

Wednesday Word

Please see the [link](#) to this wonderful resource to share with your child, to support them in understanding the Mass Readings for the coming weekend.

Punctuality:

Please remember that the Schools Street is now in operation, this affects how you are able to get your child to school on time if you drive. It's incredibly important to get the children to school on time. We expect 97% + for all children.



This week's winner is St James the Great, with 98.9%! Well done.

Parent App:

If you need any help with downloading the app, please do not hesitate to ask us. Many parents in the school use it to update our records and to inform the office of absence.



Social Media:

Just to remind you, follow us on:



St Winifred's Catholic Primary School



St_winifreds_lee



@stwinifredslee

Thank you for taking the time to read the newsletter.

Claire Gillespie