



10th December 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I have received so many emails from parishioners praising the children, who participated in Sunday's Carol Concert at Our Lady of Lourdes. Thank you to all of the children who performed and to all their families for attending.

This week Years 1 & 2 performed their nativity to the rest of the children. They were fantastic! Thank you to all the children who narrated, acted and sang in the performance. Again, as always, these performances take an enormous amount of time and effort to put together, so a huge thank you to the KS1 staff, who prepared the children.

The EYs and KS1 Nativities have been recorded. Next week we will record the Lower KS2 Nativity and Upper KS2 Carol Service. Thank you to all the families who gave permission for their child to be filmed. Once all the videos have been edited, they will be shared with you all. Look out for the links next week.

Today we ended our week with a delicious Christmas lunch. Please look on our social media for photos from the festivities. The children looked ever so festive in their Christmas jumpers. Thank you to everyone who donated £1 for The Jimmy Mizen Foundation, we have raised £224 so far.

Class Christmas Parties:

Next Friday we will have our class Christmas parties. Your child's class teacher will be in touch soon with a suggested party food list, where you'll be able to sign up. If everyone brings a little something, then there will be enough for the whole class to share. Please stick to the specified list, as we need to cater for all of our children's dietary requirements and allergies.

Christmas Cards:

Some parents have been asking if cards are allowed this year. If you would like to do, then you are more than welcome to. Please do not feel any obligation to do so, especially as we are a school who is trying to be environmentally friendly and promote sustainability, where we can. If you would prefer to send one card for the class, this can be displayed in the classroom.



First Holy Communion and Reconciliation Preparation 2021-22:

We have the list of children who wish to prepare for the sacrament of Holy Communion and Reconciliation. The dates of the classes are being finalised with Father Emeka. As soon as they have been agreed, we will be contacting parents directly. Please look out for an email next week.



Friends of St Winifred's:

Christmas Raffle: Thank you to all of you who sent in donations for the raffle. The friends were in school today, turning the collection boxes in each classroom into festive hampers for raffle prizes! Please find attached information about the Christmas raffle, which will be drawn on the last day of term. The raffle tickets are also attached. If you would prefer to have a paper copy, please pick one up from the office, friends have also been distributing them on the playground.

Bedding Plants Sale:

On Monday the Friends will be selling bedding plants on the playground after school. Please see the flyer attached for further information. Remember all proceeds go to the children, it is very much needed and very much appreciated!



Feedback:

Thank you to everyone who participated in the survey. I found it incredibly useful. Thank you for being so open with me. I have collated all the responses and grouped them into common themes. I will be asking you all to engage with this on a termly basis. Please find the summary of this term's survey attached.

After school clubs Spring Term

A letter was sent last week offering a variety of after school clubs beginning after the Christmas Holidays. The grid on the letter indicates the day it is running and which year group each club is open too. Please do not forget to send your completed selection form back. The Spring term football club letters have also been sent, these clubs are very popular and will be allocated on a first come, first serve basis. Please note that if we are unable to fill the places in any of the clubs, then we will not be able to afford to run them.

Mobile Phones and devices:

Please may I remind all parents that only children in Years 5 & 6, who have permission to walk to and from school by themselves, bring a phone to school. This phone is then kept off for the school day. There is no other reason why a child should have a mobile in school. Also, any device with cellular or Wi-Fi capability should not be in school, this includes the I-watch or other similar watches. Thank you for supporting the school with this.

Reception 2022:

If you have a child who will be starting school in September 2022 (born between 1st September 2017 and 31st August 2018) or know someone who does, I hope that St Winifred's is your first choice! There are two more open days left after Christmas. If you would like to book a place on one of the open days, please contact the school office. Please feel free to share this information with prospective parents you may know.

During the School Day	
Friday 7 th January: 9:15am – 10am	Monday 10 th January: 2pm – 2:45pm

Applications for Reception Class places for September 2022 can now be made on line. Please follow this link: <https://lewisham.gov.uk/myservices/education/schools/school-admission/applying-to-start-primary-school>

School Library Books

Please could you check whether you have any school library books that need to be returned to the school and bring them back as soon as possible. The school sent many books home over the pandemic and unfortunately not all of them came back, so we really need to keep tabs on the books we have. If your child has borrowed any this term from the main school library, please ask them to drop them back to the library.

Also, can I recommend that you join the public library, if you have not already. It is free and such a great resource to use with the children. Please visit the Lewisham website to find the closest library to you.

<https://lewisham.gov.uk/myservices/libraries/branches>

Mini Vinnies Advent Appeal:

The Mini Vinnies, made up of children from Years 5 and 6, have put out an Advent plea. 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.

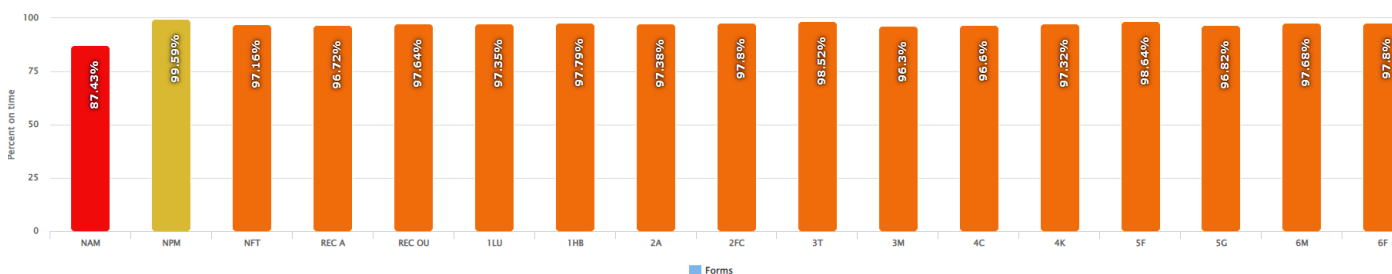
They are still asking for donations. The children will collect all the items at the end of term and take them to the Lewisham Donation Hub.



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.

Punctuality:

Punctuality dipped this week, it has been much better. I know that the weather and the traffic have not helped and some days it really cannot be helped. I thank all of you for trying hard to arrive on time, let's see if we can have high levels of punctuality in the last two weeks of term.



This graph shows the punctuality for this week. This week's winner is: 5F! Well done to 5F on 98.64%! Let's see who can win it next week!

Covid-19 Guidance

We are in the season of the common cold. Lot of us will develop coughs, which in the past we would not have been worried by. However, due to the pandemic, all new, continuous coughs need to be treated as potential Covid-19. I know that it is incredibly frustrating when a child has to be off, when you're sure it's 'just' a cold.

The guidance is very clear, the main symptoms of COVID-19 are:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot, for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- a loss or change to sense of smell or taste – this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

If any one in the school develops any of these symptoms, child or adult, they are sent home and must have a PCR. Thank you for your understanding, we know it is not ideal.

Spare clothing for accidents

Thank you for bringing in your outgrown uniform, but we are very short of aged 6/7 and 8 underwear for minor 'accidents'. Also socks and tights for the wet weather 'accidents'. If you are able to donate any of these items we will be very appreciated.

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. <https://www.swcps.lewisham.sch.uk/thewednesdaywordwebsite/>

Food Bank

Please be reminded that the school's foodbank is open. If you would like to access it, please contact the school office. If you are able to donate to the foodbank, all donations will be greatly received.

Parent App:

Please, please, please download it! We re-sent a link to those parents who have not started using it last week. There are **192** app users now, which equates to over 250 children. So thank you and welcome to our new users! I still would really like more users. If you have not downloaded the app yet, please do so. I have had really positive feedback from parents who have started using it. You are able to access all the information we hold on your children. Since using the app, so many contact details have been updated. Vital information that we need, if we needed to contact you in an emergency. If you need any help with downloading it, please do not hesitate to ask us.



Social Media:

As you all know, I have created a Facebook, Instagram and Twitter account for the school. If you have not started following us, it's not too late to do so! I have been sharing lots of photos of the children in school and on trips and of their displays.

If you would rather your child **not** be included in photos and videos, please return the letter to the school or send a request via the Scholar Pack app. We will then update our information and know which children not to include in our posts.



St Winifred's Catholic Primary School



St_winifreds_lee



@stwinifredslee

Thank you for taking the time to read the newsletter, it really is very much appreciated

Claire Gillespie