



STAR OF THE SEA R.C.
PRIMARY SCHOOL
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Happy Christmas to all our families

20th December 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a busy term we have had! We have enjoyed some wonderful Christmas performances from our gorgeous Nursery children, up to our year 5 and 6 Advent service. It was so lovely to welcome families into school this Christmas, the first time since 2019. A big thank you for supporting these events.

Thursday, 22nd December – last day of term. Early pick up

As Thursday is the last day of term, you will be able to pick your child up early, if you wish to.

Please come to the school yard and collect your child from the usual place between 1pm and 1.30pm only.

After 1.30pm, the gates will be closed until the usual pick up times.

If your child is leaving school early and walking home on their own, please email the class year group email address so the teachers know you have agreed to this. We cannot allow any child to leave early unless we have permission from an adult. Thank you.

Children who are not leaving school early will stay with their class teacher until the end of the school day. Thank you.

Donations of Food, Toiletries and Essential Items

A HUGE thank you to all our families who sent in items for the reverse Advent calendar. They were most gratefully received by the SVP who picked them up from school.

School Term and Holidays 2022 - 2023

Please see our school website for our school term and holiday dates for this academic year. As mentioned in my earlier newsletters, we close for the Christmas holidays this Thursday **and re-open on Monday 9th January 2023.**

School meals

Thank you for your patience during the past two weeks. This was due to staff absence. When we return, we will be using the **Week 3** menus.

Y5 swimming

Please remember that swimming restarts for Groups 1 and 2 on Monday, 9th January.

Mass times over Christmas

You can find church bulletins on our school website containing information about the Parish of Our Lady, Star of the Sea (under 'A Catholic Education')

Here are the Christmas mass times:

Christmas Eve

5.00pm Carols & Mass, St Edward's Church, Whitley Bay,

7.00pm Carols & Mass, Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, West Monkseaton.

Christmas Day

10.00am Mass, St Edward's Church, Whitley Bay

Christmas Mass in school for staff and pupils

Father Andrew will celebrate mass this Wednesday, for the whole school.

Christmas parties

These take place this week. Party snacks will be provided by us along with some sparkle and shine!

Christmas Jumper day

There were many beautiful jumpers in school last Friday! Many thanks to everyone who donated money to Save the Children.

Support for families

School holiday food vouchers are being paid to families who are eligible for income based free school meals. If your circumstances have changed or you feel that you may be eligible for free school meals please email studentsupport@northtyneside.gov.uk and provide them with your child's name, date of birth and school.

If you are experiencing exceptional hardship, you may be entitled to Crisis Support. Please telephone the North Tyneside Council Welfare Assistance team on (0191) 643 2777 and press option 2 between 9am and 2pm, Monday to Friday.

Ease into Christmas: Holiday Activities

Children and young people in North Tyneside can take part in activities designed to keep them active and eating healthy this Christmas and New Year! They are available to all children in North Tyneside, but free for those on income related free school meals. Further information is enclosed.

North Tyneside Autism Hub

Please also find attached a poster from North Tyneside Autism Hub. They are continuing to support families in North Tyneside, in 2023, through their Autism hubs for parents and carers of children 5 and over post diagnosis of autism.

Music Lessons

We have the following music lessons available for children:

Guitar (year 4 and above), Keyboard (year 3 and above), Rocksteady (year 2 and above) and Violin (year 2 and above). Rocksteady leaflets were sent out to children last week and if are interested in any other music lessons please email the school office at starofthesea.primary@ntlp.org.uk for further information.

Goodbye Mr Burton

Mr Burton leaves Star of the Sea this week to enjoy new challenges. We thank him for all he has done for our school during his time here, especially using his musical talents so well! We wish him the best of luck for the future and hope his new career is a huge success. He will be missed by everyone.



Thank you to all our staff for working so hard this term and to you, for all your support. Also, thank you to our governors for the time they give to school so freely.

Please pray for anyone feeling sadness this Christmas time, you are all in our thoughts and prayers.

Kindest regards,

K.L. DiMambro

Mrs K DiMambro,
Head Teacher.

'Come, Lord Jesus'. Rev. 22:20