



December 6th 2024

Laleham Lea

A Catholic Independent

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Dear Parents

What an action packed week of performance we have enjoyed starting with our Junior Christmas Carol Concert on Tuesday evening which was the perfect way to start our festive celebrations. Well done to Mrs Corrigan, our singers, readers and orchestra who were all simply mesmerising—a truly beautiful evening enjoyed by all, including Reverend Fiona who praised our performers at the end!

Our youngest students from Nursery to Year 2 took to the stage in the Long Room today for performances of 'It's a baby!' and 'Simply the Nativity'. They had all worked so hard to learn their songs and lines and put on two fabulous shows for their parents. Well done to you all!

Well done also to our footballers who beat New Valley School by 4 goals to 2 in the Croydon Cup Quarter Final on Wednesday. They progress to the semi-final stage to be played in the new year.

We have entered the period of advent and our Prayer Club have made a beautiful Advent Wreath this week for the Long Room. In RE, all classes have been learning about the meaning of Advent as well as the Nativity and have produced some lovely art work and models. We do hope you all like our Nativity display outside, we ask that you please do not allow children to touch or go behind the display.

We are all very excited for the PTA Christmas Fair this afternoon, we look forward to seeing you all there.

Mrs Reece

Acting Headteacher



Christmas Carol Concert

Well done to our Junior Choir and Orchestra for an absolutely phenomenal Christmas Carol Concert on Tuesday. You can find a full gallery of images on the website—

<https://lalehamlea.co.uk/galleries/christmas-carols-2024/>



THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL



Our Celebration of the Word Assembly this week focused on Advent and our Prayer Club shared their Advent Wreath—explaining to the school the meaning of each candle and how Advent is a time where we prepare for Christmas.

*The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. **Isaiah 2:1-5***

Focus on Catholic Social Teaching principals: Stewardship



In Year 4 this week the class have been learning about the impacts of Global Warming on God's World and how it is everyone's responsibility to take care of our planet. This also links to our Eco-School work as we work towards this year's Eco-Schools' Green Flag application.

Prayer Club



Prayer Club enjoyed making a beautiful Advent Wreath this week for our Long Room display and discussed the meaning of each Advent Candle.



Year 3—Advent Prayers



Year 3 wrote their own beautiful prayers for Advent this week.

EYFS Advent Wreaths



EYFS—It's a Baby!

For more pictures see—

<https://lalehamlea.co.uk/gallery/>



Year 1 & 2 The

For more pictures see—

<https://lalehamlea.co.uk/gallery/>



Nursery

This week, Nursery have been learning all about the meaning of Christmas. The children have enjoyed:

- Viewing a power point and discussing 'Christmas around the world', comparing similarities and differences in traditional celebrations in different countries. As an extension, we shared our own experiences by drawing a picture of our family celebrating a special event or occasion.
- Playing a Christmas Snap card game and reinforcing turn taking with our peers.
- Creating our own Advent and Christmas Wreaths.
- Listening to Christmas stories



Reception



We've had another great week in Reception full of fun and learning! In Literacy we have been enjoying learning the story of the Jolly Christmas Postman, and have also enjoyed posting some cards of our own in the Reception Class postbox! While in Maths we have been learning about odd and even numbers.

In Art we created our own beautiful advent wreaths out of card, and also made a beautiful wreath for the wall using our handprints.

A huge well done to Reception and Nursery for their fantastic singing, dancing and acting during our Nativity this morning - they were all absolutely fantastic! A very big thank you also

to all of our parents for their support and the fantastic costumes provided.

As our last week of term approaches we are looking forward to a week full of fun, learning, Christmas crafts and a disco in the classroom!

Year 1&2—Polka Theatre



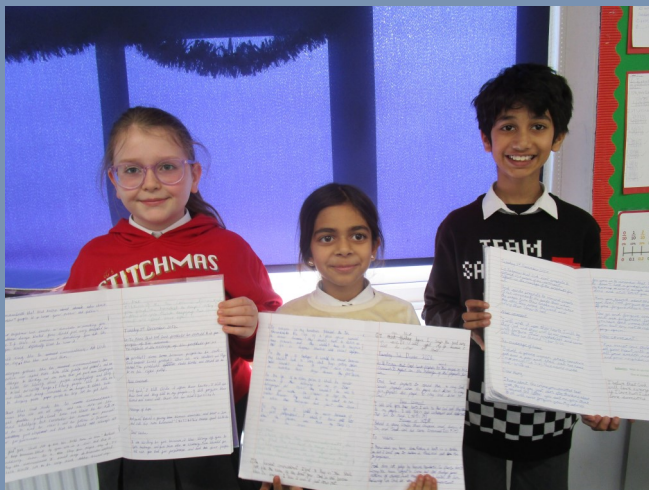
Year 4

This week Year 4 have analysed an illustration of the Annunciation. They reflected upon Mary's feelings as a young girl, when the heavens burst open and down descended Angel Gabriel, **'Hail Mary full of grace, the Lord is with thee.'** Luke 1:28.

Mary was chosen by Almighty God, chosen above all women to give the world a miracle, baby Jesus. They then wrote a diary entry from the perspective of Mary and her encounter with Angel Gabriel.



Year 5



In RE this week Year 5 have been learning about The New Covenant and the importance of always having love for each other.

"You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, all your strength and with all your mind, and love your neighbour as yourself."

Year 6



Year 6 students enjoyed a visit from Kooth, a mental health organisation who delivered an insightful workshop on kindness and empathy.



Our Music Teacher Mrs Corrigan has a Christmas album out for Pre-School Children. She has been singing some of these songs in her music sessions.

The Christmas album "Clap with your Snowman" is available to download from all the usual platforms iTunes, Spotify, YouTube, Amazon Music etc.

Please have a look for your little ones this Christmas.

You're Invited!
SVP Coffee Morning

Sunday, 8 December

After 10 am Mass,
St John the Baptist Church, Purley CR8 2EF

All funds gathered will be used to help those in need in our local community

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS EVE MASS 2024 24TH DECEMBER AT 5PM ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH



As we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus, we would like to invite the children of our parish to dress up as characters from the first Christmas in our Children's Christmas Eve Mass. They will help us remember the events of that miraculous night, as we tell the story of our Saviour's birth.

The character choices are:

Mary, Joseph, Angel Gabriel, Shepherds, Angels, Kings x 3, Innkeepers, Donkey x 1, Star x 1,

Please note:

If more than one child wants to be a solo character Fr Francis will draw names from a hat in the interests of fairness. If children do not have their name chosen from the draw, we would still very much like them to feel they can dress up and be involved in another role.

Readers and narrators:

More suitable for older children - readers must have strong, clear voices to narrate the Christmas Story, mass readings and intercessions. Please do email to advise if you have children who would like to read during Mass.

Singers also needed:

We are looking for older children (teenagers) who would like to take part in 4-part carol singing. Ideally they should have experience of singing in parts and the ability to learn from sheet music as rehearsal time is limited. The rehearsal for singers will run at the same time as for actors and readers, in the church hall.

Rehearsal

In order to take part in the Children's Christmas Eve Mass it is **essential that all children attend the rehearsal** that will take place on Sunday 22nd December at 3.30pm in the Church. If you have school-aged children you may leave them for the rehearsal. Parents of nursery-aged children must remain with their child during the rehearsal, even if they have an older sibling. The rehearsal will take approximately an hour and a half.

If you are unable to attend the rehearsal we still encourage the children to come to Mass dressed as their favourite Nativity character. We will invite all the children in the congregation to come up to the altar at the end of Mass for a final hymn.

Any questions please don't hesitate to get in touch:

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