



December 13th 2024

# Laleham Lea

A Catholic Independent

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Dear Parents

What a lovely festive week we have enjoyed to bring our term to a close.

We started our week by lighting the second candle on our advent wreath; the candle of peace and discussed this in assembly. We also picked the PTA raffle winners and our House Captains announced the winners of the gingerbread man competition.

On Monday afternoon we welcomed West End in Schools, courtesy of the PTA, for a fabulous performance of Dick Whittington. A big thank you to our wonderful PTA team for this special Christmas treat.

On Wednesday morning we welcomed Mary Carter from CAFOD back to Laleham Lea for a special Advent assembly, focusing on the god's gifts at Christmas and how this links to our Catholic Social Teaching principals. Following this, we all tucked into a delicious Christmas Lunch, prepared by the fabulous Zhanna and the Nourish team. A big thank you, not only for this, but also for your fantastic food every day.

Our new-look website is now live, with a few final tweaks taking place. You will also notice that excitingly, we have launched Facebook and X accounts and in the new year we will be active on these channels with all our news and events so do give us a follow and 'like'!

Wishing you all a lovely, safe and peaceful Christmas. Students return to school on January 7th following our Staff CPD day on January 6th.

Mrs Reece

Acting Headteacher



**For amazing  
independent  
Maths work**



**For kindness,  
hard work and  
participation**



## Panto

Students from Reception to Year 6 were treated to an amazing panto on Monday courtesy our PTA (oh yes they were..!)

The tale of Dick Whittington was enjoyed by everyone. A lovely treat at the end of a busy term. Thank you once again to our PTA for this.

**If you have any safeguarding concerns over the holidays, please contact Mrs Khan our Designated Safeguarding Lead or Mrs Reece & Mrs Saville our Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads on—  
[safeguarding@lalehamlea.co.uk](mailto:safeguarding@lalehamlea.co.uk)**



# THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL



In our Assembly on Monday we lit the second candle on our Advent Wreath; the candle of peace which also reminds us of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem. Reception and Year 2 children have also made their own beautiful Nativity scenes.



We were delighted to welcome Mary Carter from CAFOD back to Laleham Lea on Wednesday for a special Advent assembly which focused on the meaning of each Advent Candle and how this links to our Catholic Social Teaching principals.

Our Year 4 Students attended Mass at John the Baptist on Tuesday as part of our regular Mass class rota and took the time to admire the beautiful Advent Wreath there too.



**"And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to be delivered. And she gave birth to her first-born son and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn." (Luke 2:4-7) (Isaiah 9:2)**

## Mini Vinnies



Focusing on our Catholic Social Teaching principals of The Common Good and Solidarity our Mini Vinnies paid a visit to the residents of Westside Care Home on Tuesday to sing Christmas Carols.



## Nursery

This week Nursery have continued to learn about Christmas and enjoyed participating in a range of activities to support their learning including:

- Listening to the story 'Cookies Christmas invention'.
- Using a variety of materials to design and decorate our own 'Christmas Jumpers'.
- Playing Christmas musical statues with our peers.
- We also really enjoyed our Christmas lunch on Wednesday!



## Reception

This week, Reception Class had a wonderful time celebrating the festive season! We started by making our own Christmas crackers and had lots of fun telling each other the jokes that went inside them.

The children also got creative with lovely snowman Christmas cards, which they could not wait to give to their families! The festivities continued as we watched a very funny pantomime with the rest of the school.

The children beautifully wrote letters to Santa to tell him what they'd like for Christmas this year. They also enjoyed posting their Christmas cards in the class post-box.

To end the term, we enjoyed a fantastic time at our class Christmas disco, dancing and singing Christmas songs together. A very big well done to all of our Reception children for an amazing first term at Laleham Lea. We wish all of our Reception class families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



## Bollywood Dancing

The whole school were treated to some amazing Bollywood Dancing on Monday as our Bollywood Club took to the stage to show off their moves.





## Year 1



Following interviews with 'Mary' two week's ago, it was the shepherds' turn in the hot seat this week as Year 1's intrepid journalists asked lots of questions to discover just what the shepherds saw that famous night.

## Year 2



Year 2 made some truly amazing models, posters and PowerPoint slide shows for homework all about the Nativity story.



## Christmas Lunch

A huge thank you to Zhanna and the Nourish team for our delicious Christmas lunch—described by one Year 4 child as 'glorious' and others as 'the best lunch ever"! Thank you so much Zhanna and the team!

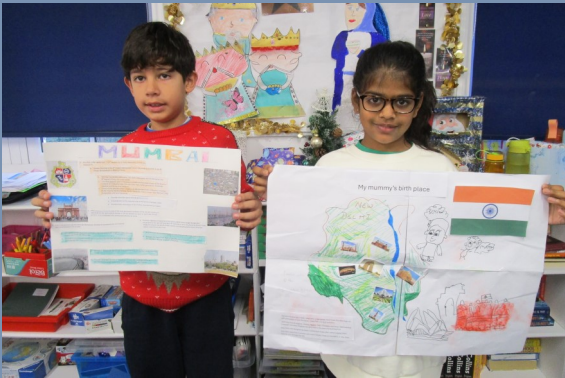


### Year 3



Year 3 made their own stunning Christmas cards in Art this week.

### Year 4



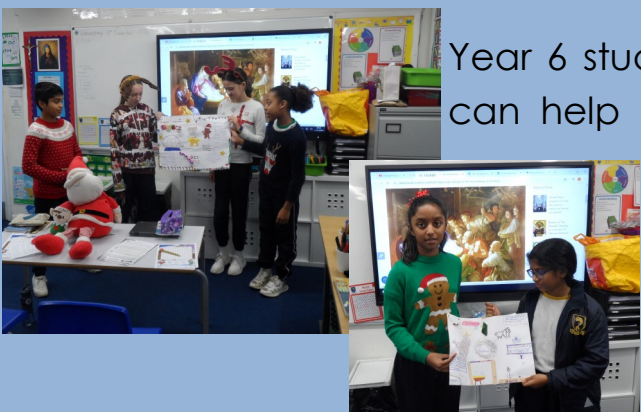
In Geography Year 4 have been learning about India and wrote their own insightful fact files about a chosen city.

### Year 5



Year 5 have been reading 'A Christmas Carol' by Charles Dickens and this week took part in role plays of some of the most memorable parts of the story.

### Year 6



Year 6 students have been deciding on ways we can help our friends and family reflect on what Christmas is really about. They have produced fantastic posters and presented their ideas on how to share the real meaning of Christmas.



## Musical Maestros

We have several musicians who have passed examinations recently. Well done to our:

Year 5 student—Saxophone—Grade 1 with Distinction

Year 6 student—Cornet—Grade 1 with Merit & Grade 4 Piano Pass.

Year 5 students—Piano—2 x Grade 1 with Merit



## Sporting Success



Well done to our Reception and Year 3 swimmers who won a haul of trophies and medals including Golds and 'Most improved' titles at a recent swimming gala.



Well done also to our Year 4 badminton champ who won Gold in the under 10s' competition at Dulwich Badminton Club.

## Stars of the week

