

Christmas 2017

Growing in Faith

Christmas Mass Times

St Thomas of Canterbury
Parish, Billingham

Christmas Eve - Holy Rosary 5.00 pm

St John's 7.00 pm

Christmas Day - St. Joseph's 10.00 am

"Each of us is an Innkeeper who decides if there is room for Jesus."

Please remember in your prayers
Amelia in Year 5 and her family.

Please also keep in your prayers those
people near and far who are missing
loved ones this Christmas or are suffering
in any way.

Important Dates for your Diary

- Return to school: Monday
8th January 2018 at 8.50am
- Half Term 12th to 16th February
2018
- KS1 Sats - May 2018
- KS2 Sats - 14th May–17th May
2018
- Phonics Screening check (Y1) -
week beginning Monday 11th June,
2018
- The Term Dates and Holidays for
2018–2019 are now available on
the school website

Wishing you a Holy and Peaceful Christmas



As a busy and rewarding time of year draws to a close it is a pleasure to be able to reflect on the successes of this term. The recent Nativity Plays and Carol Service capture perfectly what makes our school such a special place to be—we have children who shine at every opportunity, who work together and support each other; we have staff who go the extra mile to ensure that our children receive the very best, and wonderfully supportive families who help us every step of the way. My sincere thanks to each and every one of you. It has been a pleasure to see so many of our families at our recent Christmas events—thank you for joining us.

The end of this term sees us say goodbye to Mrs Murray, one of our much loved Teaching Assistants, after 25 years of dedication to our school. We thank her and wish her a well-deserved and happy retirement.

I would also like to extend my sincere thanks to our Governors, to Fr Butters, and to the Friends of St. Paul's. Their contribution and support of our school is often unseen but their unstinting work makes such a difference to the life of our school.

I hope that you enjoy a wonderful Christmas and that the love, peace and joy of the Christmas season is shared by you and your families, now and throughout the coming year.

With very best wishes,
Sheena Sinclair.
Headteacher



Our Mini Vinnies have been 'turning concern into action' once again this term. They have worked with Ms Ronan to produce beautiful Christmas cards for sick and house bound parishioners. The cards have been collected by the SVP and will be circulated before Christmas. We are sure they will bring much happiness to others.

Thank you also for your generous donations to the Billingham Foodbank. We have our final collection for this year on the last day of term but will be accepting donations again in the new year.



Christmas 2017 Newsletter



Student Council

Our student council do an amazing job being the voice of the children at our school. Alongside the art club, the student council—together with the support of Mrs Lankeford—organised a spectacular Christmas Craft Fayre which was the perfect opportunity to showcase the talents of our children. They also ensure that every Friday is "Freshen up Friday" - the children ensure that our school environment is kept clean and tidy. Thank you children—I know you will enjoy deciding what to spend your profits on to enhance our school environment.

Road Safety Winners

Our Year 6 pupils are the proud winners of this year's Stockton Council Road Safety Quiz. The final was a nerve-racking experience but the representatives of the class—Lucie, Harry, Ella and Joel—were well supported by their classmates and were awarded their trophy by the Mayor of Stockton, Maurice Perry. Well done Y6—another trophy to add to our collection!



After—School Clubs

Beginning on 15th January 2018, after-school clubs are as follows:

KS1 Multi Sports	-	Monday 3.15—4.15
Y3 & Y4 Football	-	Monday 3.15—4.15
Dance	-	Tuesday 3.15—4.15
Netball	-	Tuesday 3.15—4.15
Cookery Club (Y6)	-	Tuesday 3.15—4.15 (6 weeks)
Lingotots (EYFS/KS1)	-	Tuesday 3.15—4.15
Martial Arts	-	Wednesday 3.15—4.25
KS2 Multi Sports	-	Friday 3.15—4.15
Y5 & Y6 Football	-	Friday 3.15—4.15

More than Dance

Our KS2 children enjoyed a fabulous 2 day workshop with More than Dance and together produced a beautiful Advent reflection "A story to Tell" which was performed to our school community. There are many photographs of the production —along with a variety of other photographs celebrating events this term— on our school website...please do take a look!

