ST JOHN THE BAPTIST NEWSLETTER

Headteacher's Note

Friday 19th December 2025





Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the close of this very busy and joy-filled term, I want to take a moment to reflect on all that we have shared together. The past few weeks have been crammed with events, opportunities, and moments that truly celebrate the life of our school community in this festive season..

Last week, we were blessed with two wonderful performances: our EYFS Nativity and the KS1/KS2 Christmas play, *Scrooge - Bah Humbug!* From our youngest pupils to our oldest, the children embraced the chance to share their talents and take to the stage. I was incredibly proud of each and every one of them. Their confidence, creativity, and enthusiasm brought a magical atmosphere to our school and reminded us all of the true meaning of Christmas – a time of hope, joy, and love. The profits from the plays more than covered the refreshments and prizes provided for the Christmas parties. Thank you for your generous donations - it is greatly appreciated - we raised **£1842.21!**





Thank you also for your generous donations of mince pies, raffle prizes, and chocolates that have kept us going through the festive celebrations. A special thanks to our PTA for their continued support in serving refreshments and for all their hard work this term. They began the year with the highly successful Summer Fair which raised **£2,503.24** and followed it with the Disney-themed disco.





Thanks to these efforts, the PTA has just purchased a class set of tablets, which we look forward to using in the new term. Your support is truly invaluable.

Thank you to all parents and carers for your unwavering support throughout the term and for the many kind words and compliments about the Christmas performances. Your presence and encouragement mean so much to the children and to us as a staff team. Together, we have created a community where every child feels valued and celebrated

Earlier in the month, we said farewell to Mrs Slattery in the office and wish her every success in her new role. At the same time, we have welcomed two new members to our office team: Mrs Porter, our new School Business Manager, and Miss Ormerod, School Business Support Officer. Please do introduce yourselves to them and give them a warm welcome to our school family.





This final week in school has been so magical and the excitement is infectious. We have unpacked our class presents from Fr Christmas and even had a surprise appearance from him on Monday morning and he gave all the children a selection box.

FAREWELL MRS GLYNN

Yesterday, we also said a heartfelt farewell and thank you to Mrs Glynn, who has now begun her well-deserved retirement. Mrs Glynn has been a cherished member of our school family, and her dedication and care have touched the lives of so many children over the years. We wish her every happiness as she begins this new chapter.

CHRISTMAS DINNER

Yesterday, we celebrated our final Mass of the year and later enjoyed a delicious Christmas Dinner together – what a treat! We even had a special visit from a Nigerian version of Santa which filled the room with excitement and joy. I think he is a very close friend of Fr Joseph.



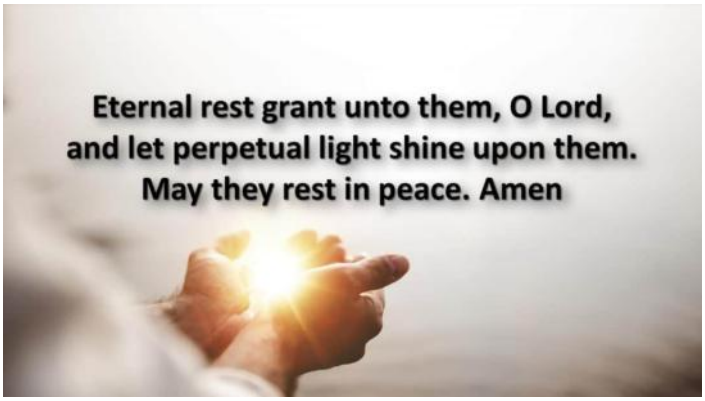
A huge thank you to all the staff involved in setting up the hall to make our shared meal so special, and well done to our kitchen team for creating such a beautiful Christmas dinner for us all to enjoy. It was delicious!



"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will." *(Luke 2:14)*

Sad News





Please keep Mrs Townley and her two sons in your thoughts and prayers over the Christmas period. Mrs Townley sadly lost her husband unexpectedly on 11th December. Our thoughts and prayers are with her and her family at this very difficult time.

Finally, I want to wish you all a wonderful, happy, and holy Christmas. Please see below the times of Masses over the festive period.

Christmas Eve - 5.00pm at St Mary Magdalene's, Burnley

Christmas Eve 7.00pm, St John's, Padiham with Carols at 6.30pm

Christmas Day - 9.30am at St Mary Magdalene's, Burnley

Christmas Day - 11.00am at St John's, Padiham





Thank you for your partnership and support throughout the term. I look forward to welcoming the children back to school in the New Year on **Tuesday 6th January 2026**.

May the peace and joy of Christ fill your hearts and homes this Christmas.

Have a blessed Christmas, Mrs McKeating