

St Ethelbert's RCP School

Christmas 2021



Dear Parents,

This term has been a very strange one – we returned to school in September, looking forward to being able to return to some sort of ‘normality, following the disruption of the last couple of years. Unfortunately, the re-emergence of Covid and the restrictions recommended by Bolton Council and Public Health, have limited some of our usual activities. Nevertheless, the staff have done their very best to make this a special time for the children in school. I would like to thank them for their hard work in these difficult times. I can assure you that they go above and beyond their job descriptions to ensure that the children make progress, have memorable experiences and are happy and safe in school. Our school community is very lucky to have such dedicated staff and we should never take them for granted. On behalf of all the staff and pupils of St. Ethelbert's, may I take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy Christmas. Just a reminder that school closes at **2pm on Tuesday 21st December** and reopens at **8.50am on Monday 10th January 2022.**

M. Messham
Headteacher



Goodbye Mrs Ritchie!

We are so sad to be saying goodbye to one of our longest-serving members of staff – Mrs Ritchie-who has been a teacher at St. Ethelbert's since 2002. Mrs Ritchie's contribution to our community has been immense, particularly in her role as Special Educational Needs Coordinator. She has helped so many families over the years and she will be greatly missed. We wish Mrs Ritchie every blessing as she takes on a new role at Ladywood Special School.



Welcome!

We welcome Mrs Hannah Sanderson to our staff team; Mrs Sanderson will teach in Y1 on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays, sharing the role with Mrs Haslam, who teaches on Thursday and Fridays. We also welcome Mrs Claire Campbell, who will be our new SENCO for two days per week. Mrs Claire Coyle is now on maternity leave so Miss Emma Schofield is our new Nursery teacher until July 2022.

We have also had some new additions to our team of teaching assistants – Miss Georgia Dillon has been supporting Y2 pupils since November, whilst Miss Holly Kirkham supports children in Y3 on Monday and Tuesdays, following a successful period of volunteering in school. Miss Leah Dobson and Mr. Mobeen Hasan will join us in the new term, supporting pupils in Y3 and Y4 respectively. We also have two new lunchtime supervisors, Mrs Rachel Goodwin and Miss Kerry Harris.

New Parent Governor

Following our recent election, we welcome Mrs Jenny Taylor to our board of governors, as the new parent governor. We are sure she will be a great addition to the team. A big thank you to Mr. Joao Maria for his fantastic support over the years in this role.

Christmas Songs on Seesaw

Unfortunately, we are unable to hold our Christmas performances this year, due to Covid restrictions in school and in church. However, keep an eye open for some seasonal singing on our Seesaw platform next week.

GIFT Team

Congratulations to our new GIFT Team members, who received their special blue jumpers from Father Morrourh last week.



October Birthdays

Nursery: Elliot, Maddison

Reception: Thomas, Jackson, Aysel

Y1: Patricia

Y3: Zain, Jack

Y4: Anahid

Y5: Cade

Y6: Kobe, Mason, Faidha, Daren, Terry-Lee

Happy Birthday to you all!



Severe Weather

In the event that a cold snap descends upon us after Christmas, I would just like to clarify our procedures in case of severe weather which might make it necessary to close school for any length of time.

The decision to close school is not one that will be taken lightly. Many factors need to be taken into account including:

- The extent to which roads and pathways on school premises and the surrounding streets present a risk to both pedestrians and motorists
- The ability of staff to get to school; the vast majority of our staff do not live in the immediate area of the school, with a number not even living in Bolton. Enough staff would have to be present in order to satisfy regulations regarding pupil: teacher ratio.
- In the event of a school closure, we would use our texting service to make parents aware of the situation. For this reason, **please make sure that the mobile phone number held on our computer is up to date and let us know of any changes.**

November Birthdays

Nursery: Yahyaa, Mason, Zainab

Reception: Joshua, Daria, Kaylum

Y1: Nona, Mia, Dylan, Lissia-Lou, Oliver, Sofia

Y2: Allen, Naeirika

Y3: Tylan, Kaima, Muhammad

Y4: Penny, Hadiya, Tyler, Sedrik

Y5: Daria, Carson, Allan, Phoebe, Mylee

Y6: Alfie, Hank, Katie

Happy Birthday to you all!



December Birthdays

Nursery: Saskia, Maksymillian, Bobby, Sienna

Reception: Muhammad Hussain, Jacob, Basel, Myla

Y1: Khadeja

Y2: Aaliyah, Joshua

Y3: Lilly-Anne, Murillo, Octavio

Y4: Archie,

Y6: Alfie, Adam, Kelechi, Rhianne

Happy Birthday to you all!



Christmas Masses



Christmas Eve (24th December)

- St. Ethelbert's Vigil Mass – 8pm
- St. William's Vigil Mass – 10.30pm

Christmas Day (25th December)

- St. William's – 10.30am

Sunday 26th December (Boxing Day)

- St. Ethelbert's – 10.30am
- St. William's – 12.30pm
- **NO EVENING MASS**

Christmas Discos

Even though we were unable to hold Christmas activities after school this year, due to Covid, the staff did a great job organising class discos. The children had great fun!

