



WHAT'S IN THE NEWS?

Sadly, the last two weeks have felt a little quieter than usual in school due to many children and staff being poorly. Most were suffering with high temperatures, aching bodies, exhaustion, coughs and vomiting. On Friday we saw our whole school attendance rise to 93% compared to Friday 21st November when it had dropped to 85%. We were pleased to see so many return at the end of last week and hopefully all remain well.

Due to staff absence we had to cancel Year 3 Forest School and have agency supply staff in school to ensure we always met pupil ratios. This also meant your child may not have bought homework or changed their reading book on their usual day. Thank you for your support during this time.

At the end of last term, we said goodbye to Miss Wells who had worked as a Teaching Assistant in our school for twenty years and Mrs Patel who was a Mid-day Supervisor. We welcome two new members of staff to our team. Mrs Smith who will work as a TA and Mrs Hussain who joins as a Mid-day supervisor.

On Friday our catering provider Aspens held a pizza making afternoon with some children across Key Stage 2. class teachers chose 8 children from their class to make their pizza from scratch. Children were chosen for reading regularly at home, living out our school values and for trying their best with their learning. We are now in discussion with Aspens about a bread making afternoon for the children.



WORD OF THE WEEK: HOPE

1st Week of Advent Year A
Theological Virtue
Hope

First Reading
Isaiah 21:5
Gospel Reading
Matthew 24:37-44

Hebrew Bible
Jeremiah 29:13-14
New Testament
1 Peter 1:3-9

Meaning
We believe that even in the darkest of times, God's love and light shine through. This hope isn't just wishful thinking, but a confident expectation of God's promises. Hope is a powerful virtue that can give us strength to persevere, even when things get tough, and to trust that God is always with us, guiding us towards a brighter future. In the season of Advent, we hope for the coming of Jesus and that he will bring peace, joy and love to the world.

Prayer
Think of a reason that you have to be hopeful. Share that hope with someone this week.

Daily Breakfast Club 7:45-8:45	EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES	
Monday Breakfast Club	TB Sport: Gymnastics (Year 1, 2 and 3)	3:30 - 4:30
Tuesday Breakfast Club	Music Tuition TB Sport: Cricket (Year 4, 5 and 6)	All day 3:30 - 4:30
Wednesday Breakfast Club	TB Sport: Dodgeball (Year 1,2 and 3)	3:30 - 4:30
Thursday Breakfast Club	TB Sport: Dodgeball (Year 4, 5 and 6)	3:30 - 4:30
Friday Breakfast Club	No afterschool provision	

TRANSFER TO RECEPTION CLASS IN SEPTEMBER 2026

The window for applying for a reception place for your child for September 2026 is now open and closes on 15th January 2026. If you apply after the deadline this may reduce your chances of getting a place at your preferred school, particularly if it is popular. Failure to apply will mean the City Council will place your child in a school within Nottingham City where there is a space available. This may mean your child moving to a school a few miles away from your family home.

Although your child currently attends our nursery, **this does not guarantee you a place in Reception.** We follow the admissions criteria from the diocese, so it is important you visit other schools and list them on your application too. Priority is given to Baptised Catholic children. To be placed in this category you must complete a supplementary form and bring your child's original Baptism certificate including church stamp into school and Mrs Barfield or Mrs Rogers will take a copy of it and return it straight back to you. We are unable to accept copies to ensure validity of our admissions policy.

ATTENDANCE SHOUT OUTS!!

Our Education Welfare Officer, Miss Bradshaw, continues to monitor attendance daily. She will make home visits to support parents to ensure their child attends school regularly and on time. **Last week attendance continued to be lower than our average due to many children and staff being poorly with a virus. It was pleasing to see most children and staff being well enough to return to school by the end of the week**



OUR LADY & ST. EDWARDS PRIMARY AND NURSERY CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY

GORDON ROAD, ST. ANNS, NOTTINGHAM. NG3 2LG

TEL: 0115 9155800

WEBSITE: www.elseacademy.org.uk

X: @elseacademy Instagram: elseacademy_nottingham

Guided by Jesus in all that we do. Together, we are one school, one community, one world.



Week beginning:	School Event	Assemblies/Services	After School
1 st September	1 st Sept: INSET DAY 2 nd Sept: INSET Day 3 rd Sept: School opens to pupils	3 rd Sept Welcome back Celebration of the Word 4 th Sept	
8 th September	10 th Sept – 12 th Sept Hathersage residential – Year 3 and 4	8 th Sept:C.O.T.W 10 th Sept Swimming commences for Year 6	
15 th September	15 th Sept – Meet the Teacher 3:20-3:45pm 17 th Sept – Individual and family photos 19 th Sept – Jeans for Genes Non-Uniform day.	15 th Sept Mass led by Year 6 9:15am in church 18 th Sept Year 6 retreat afternoon 19 th Sept: Celebration Assembly	EXTENDED SERVICES CLUBS BEGIN 17 th Sept Year 6 Information Meeting at The Becket 18 th Sept Year 6 Information Meeting at Christ the King
22 nd September	24 th September EYFS Phonics meeting for parents 2:30pm 26 th Sept: International Day	22 nd Sept: C.O.T.W 25 th Sept: Year 1 Retreat afternoon 26 th Sept International Day Assembly 2:30pm	22 nd Sept – Year 6 Information Meeting 6pm.
29 th September	3 rd Oct St Francis Feast Day 3 rd Oct: Fairtrade Tuck Shop	29 th Sept C.O.T.W 1 st Oct St Therese of Liseux House Feast Day 3 rd Oct – St Francis Hub Mass 3 rd Oct: Celebration Assembly	
6 th October	10 th Oct: World Mental Health Day	6 th Oct: C.O.T.W 8 th Oct: Harvest C.O.T.W led by Year 5	
13 th October		13 th Oct St Edward Feast Day Mass in church 9:15am 17 th Oct: Achiever of the Half Term Awards	
20 th October	HALF TERM		
27 th October	HALF TERM		
3 rd November	6 th Nov: Flu Immunisations 7 th Nov – Fairtrade Tuckshop	3 rd Nov: C.O.T.W 7 th Nov: Celebration Assembly 2:30pm	
10 th November	Anti Bullying Week 11 th Nov Remembrance Day Liturgy 9:45am	11 th Nov: Remembrance Day Liturgy 14 th Nov.: House Point Prize afternoon	
17 th November	Judaism Week in school 21 st Nov Youth Fun Day	17 th Nov C.O.T.W	23 rd Nov: Feast of Christ the King. School lead parish Mass 9am.
24 th November		24 th Nov C.O.T.W	
1 st December	5 th Dec Fairtrade Tuckshop	1 st Dec Advent C.O.T.W led by Year -6 5 th Dec: Celebration Assembly	
8 th December	11 th Dec EYFS Nativity 9:30am 12 th Dec Christmas jumper day	8 th Dec: Advent Mass in church 9:15am	
15 th December	17 th Dec Christmas Dinner and party afternoon 19 th Dec INSET Day	15 th Dec Advent C.O.T.W. led by Year 5 18 th Dec: Achievers of the term awards 18 th Dec Christmas Carol Service led by Year 3 and 4	

LEARNING ABOUT JUDAISM

All the children have thoroughly enjoyed learning about the Jewish faith over the past couple of weeks.

Content included

EYFS – Hanukkah

Year 1: Abraham and Moses

Year 2: Shabbat

Year 3: The Synagogue

Year 4: The Torah

Year 5: Passover and Seder plate

Year 6: Rosh Hashanah



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PARISH NOTICES:

Holy Family Parish Taizé Evening MONDAY 8th December St Augustine's Church 7 pm Come along to our service of music and reflection this Advent, refreshments served afterwards.

Holy Family Parish Carol Service Monday 15th December 7 pm Our Lady & St Edward's Church followed by mulled wine and mince pies in the cafe.

The Crib: As we are beginning to think about putting our decorations up for Christmas, don't forget the Crib, the Nativity scene, reminding us along with our friends and family, of the real meaning of Christmas. On Sunday 14th December we are all encouraged to bring our Baby Jesus to be blessed on the Sanctuary by Fr Chris. If you haven't got a crib, try looking on-line or in shops, they are not expensive and bring baby Jesus along – adults & children welcome.

This year's advent booklet is: A Journey to The Crib, an Advent and Christmas Devotional - daily meditations reflected in art and literature to accompany your journey through Lent. It costs £3.95 and can be used every year, available from the church.

Christmas Mass time leaflet and Advent services is now available from the back of church. Do take a copy and share with family and friends - they are waiting for your invitation.

Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve: Wednesday 24th December St Augustine's Church 5pm Sacred Heart church 7pm

Christmas Day: Thursday 25th December Our Lady & St Edward's Church 9am, Sacred Heart Church 11am, Sacred Heart Church – Italian Mass 12.30pm Our Lady & St Edward's Church Vietnamese Mass 1pm

Mass Stipends: In the past, when every church had its own priest, there would usually be 6 slots for Mass stipends each week. Priests may accept one Mass stipend per day and on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation, he has to offer one Mass for the people of the parish. Now that we have merged parishes and church communities, the number of Masses in each church has diminished. Usually in our parish, we have two Masses per week in Our Lady & St Edward's, two Masses per week in St Augustine's and three Masses per week in Sacred Heart. One Sunday Mass is applied to the people of the parish. Because of this, and the large number of funerals we have in the parish, sometimes we can only accommodate two a week, if a Mass intention has been booked on a particular date, we will always do our best to honour this. However, there may be occasions when we need to move a Mass because of the circumstances of the day. We will always try and contact people to arrange another date, or the Mass intention will be moved to the next available date in the diary. If you want to have a Mass intention on a specific date, please give at least 3 months' notice as the diary does get booked up. At the moment, we are fully booked for Masses until the end of December and a number of dates in January have already been booked. Thank you for your patience in this regard.

Please pray for:

- Margaret Harte RIP, funeral at Sacred Heart on Wednesday 10th December at 12.30
- Maureen Lankester, funeral at OLSE on Monday 15th December at 11 am, reception on Sunday at 6 pm. May they rest in peace.

This week:

- Community Café at Our Lady & St Edward's this Wednesday: 12 – 3
- Community Café at Sacred Heart Community Centre this Thursday 12 – 3 pm. All welcome.
- Meditation Group: our next meeting is this Thursday 4th December in Sacred Heart Community Centre 7.30pm all welcome

Nottingham Catholic Medical Association Mass: Monday 1st December at 8pm in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel of St Barnabas Cathedral, Nottingham NG1 5AW. All are warmly invited to Mass, and to join for drinks at Browns, afterwards.

Invitation to The Becket School's Advent Community Evening: at 6pm on Wednesday 3rd December 2025, to include scripture, live worship music and carols, drama, and prayerful reflection. Refreshments will be available afterwards. All are welcome! The Becket School, West Bridgford, Nottingham NG2 7QY

Christmas Shared Table at St Augustine's Church: this year it will be on Sunday 14th December after the 11.30 am Mass. Do come along, bring some food to share and begin the Christmas festivities together.

Trinity school is putting on Carols by Candlelight on Tuesday 16th December at 7pm at St Teresa's Church. Please do join the pupils for an evening of Carols, readings, and reflections by candle light, with Mulled wine and mince pies served from 6:30pm in the hall. NG8 3EZ

Christmas Gift collection for Emmanuel House: We require donations of new hats, gloves, scarves, socks, plus toiletries, gift bags and sweet treats. They can be put in the containers in church before the 15th December or brought to the office. Thank you!

Job Advert: Parish Bookkeeper for the Diocese of Nottingham based at St Hugh's House in Nottingham, £27–£30k pa, depending on experience. Strong technical skills and the ability to work collaboratively with clergy and volunteers are essential. More details on the Diocesan website: www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/careers/parishbookkeeper

Fr Chris' letter to parishioners regarding Mass times is still available to take from the back of church and is also on the website, under 'NEWS'. Please send your comments to Fr Chris or Diane or speak to one of the Pastoral Team. Your opinions matter!!

Second collection next weekend for the Poor & Needy Parishes of our Diocese.

Foodbank requirements this week: Decaf coffee, tinned peas, carrots, potatoes, sugar Shampoo & conditioner and Washing up liquid

Are you getting married next year? If so, please contact Fr Chris as we require at least 6 months' notice and you will need to attend a Marriage Course. The dates of the Marriage course, held at Sacred Heart are 21st & 28th January and 4th February.

Christmas items for sale in our shops: come and take a look and support our parish – visit the new shop in OLSE café after Mass.

Word of the Week; Hope. We believe that even in the darkest of times, God's love and light shine through. This hope isn't just wishful thinking, but a confident expectation of God's promises. Hope is a powerful virtue that can give us strength to persevere, even when things get tough, and to trust that God is always with us, guiding us towards a brighter future. In the season of Advent, we hope for the coming of Jesus and that he will bring peace, joy and love to the world. Think of a reason that you have to be hopeful. Share that hope with someone this week.



SEASON OF ADVENT

As we enter into the season of Advent there are many opportunities for you to come in to school for our liturgical celebrations to prepare us to celebrate Jesus' birth at Christmas. Please join us on

Monday 1st December at 2:40pm, theme of Hope, led by Year 6

Monday 8th December at 9:30am, Advent Mass in church

Monday 15th December at 2:40pm theme of peace, led by Year 5

Thursday 18th December at 2:30 Scripture reflections and carols led by Year 3 and 4.



Our EYFS / Key Stage 1 nativity rehearsals are underway. The children will perform to parents and families on Thursday 11th December at 9:45am EYFS Nativity with KS1 choir.

All parish services are shared in this newsletter and advertised on the parish website. <https://ccen.co.uk/>

DAaRT GRADUATION

Over the past ten weeks our Year 5 children have been taking part in weekly DAaRT sessions. This programme stands for Drug, Awareness and Resilience Training. The children have worked with an experienced DAaRT officer covering a range of life skills. On Thursday morning the children gave an insight into the things that they have learnt during their graduation. Thank you to the parents that came along this morning to share in the children's celebration.



MASS TIMES & LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Monday 1 st December St Ralph Sherwin and the Martyrs of Derbyshire	9:30am (OLSE) 11:30am (OLSE)	MASS Maria Ken Thi Nguyen RIP Funeral Service for Michael McManamon RIP
Tuesday 2 nd December	9am (SA)	MASS Service of the Word & Holy Communion
Wednesday 3 rd December St Francis Xavier, Priest	6pm (SH) 7pm (SH)	MASS Exposition and Confessions Mary Taylor RIP
Thursday 4 th December	9:30am (SA)	MASS James Francis Dore RIP
Friday 5 th December	9:30am (SA)	MASS David Mackay Snr & Jnr RIP
Saturday 6 th December	9am	MASS
Sunday 7 th December Second Sunday of Advent	9am (OLSE) 10:15am (SH) 11:30am (SA)	MASS Michael Rahilly RIP Charlie Doherty's Intention For the People

CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY

FRIDAY 5TH DECEMBER AT 2:30PM

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CHILDREN WHO HAVE BEEN CHOSEN BY THEIR TEACHER(S) TO BE IN ASSEMBLY THIS WEEK

NURSERY: Chiamamnda and Harry

RECEPTION: Asher and Michael

YEAR ONE: Chimmi and Thea

YEAR TWO: Chicago and Shanelle

YEAR THREE: Mila and Seweryn

YEAR FOUR: Chiwetara and Elizabeth

YEAR FIVE: Chiamaka and Olly

YEAR SIX: Amelia and Timi

PARENTS OF THESE CHILDREN ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND