



## St Mary's Roman Catholic Primary School

Kirkley Cliff, Lowestoft, Suffolk, NR33 0DG

Tel: 01502 565384 Email: [office@stmarysrcps.org](mailto:office@stmarysrcps.org) [www.facebook.com/stmarysrcps](http://www.facebook.com/stmarysrcps)

Executive Headteacher: Mrs Helen Armstrong

Acting Head of School: Mrs Abi Goddard

Chair of Liaison for Governors: Beryl Edwards

## Our Mission Statement

As God's family we are STARS within a loving and thriving community, celebrating our diversity. We ignite lifelong learning where everyone becomes a positive influence on our world.

### Our Gospel Values

Every person is a valued member of our community, invited to follow Christ's call to a life of **love**, **hope** and **forgiveness**. We **respect** and support each other to live in **peace**. We embrace challenges and develop the **courage** to create a better world for us all.

### Advent Liturgy

This week we lit the third advent candle. We light the rose colour candle on the third Sunday as rose is a liturgical colour that is used to signify joy. On this day we celebrate that our waiting for Christmas is almost over.

The third Sunday of Advent is traditionally called *Gaudete Sunday*. *Gaudete* is the Latin word for rejoice, and this is the time for us to rejoice because Jesus came and died so that we may live forever with him! We wish you a very happy and peaceful Christmas.



### Advent Mass with Father Padraig

Thank you to Father Padraig who came into school last week to celebrate an Advent Mass with us all. You could hear the children singing all around the school!

### Christmas Carol Service

The Choir and the Mini Vinnies attended the parish Carol Service on Sunday at Our Lady Star of the Sea Church. They sang 3 songs and we were all very proud of them. A special thank you to Miss Skidmore for leading the choir. They were all brilliant. We were very surprised at the end of the service as Fr Padraig had organised a very special visitor to come and see the children!



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### Christmas Plays

Well done to Reception, Key Stage 1 and lower Key Stage 2 for their marvellous performances to parents and families. They showed amazing confidence and worked hard to learn their songs and lines. Thank you to everyone who supported the shows.



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### **Christmas Giving Tree**

All the presents have been collected by the charities who were absolutely blown away by your generosity. Thank you to each and everyone of you who enabled us to help those who are not as fortunate this Christmas.



### **Carols at the Care Home**

The Mini Vinnies and the Choir also attended Kirkley Manor Care Home. The children sang a selection of carols for the residents. They all had a lovely time bringing Christmas cheer!





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### **Year 5 Carols round the tree**

Thankyou to Year 5 for entertaining the crowds before the Craft Fair last week. You brought festive cheer and beautiful voices. Mr Cross was very proud!



### **Christmas Dinner**

Over 150 Christmas dinners were served up and eaten. Many thanks to all the team who helped and supported to ensure that everyone was able to enjoy their meal together.





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### Christmas Craft Fair

We had further success at our Craft Fair and as a result of the children making such wonderful gifts to sell we were able to support Miss Crowe and Mr Cross in their bid to raise money for CAFOD even further with another £80 raised. Thank you for your support.



### Chocolate Christmas Raffle

A massive thank you to you all for buying tickets. We raised another £300 for the CAFOD fundraising. Congratulations to all the lucky winners!

### Christmas Bauble Winners

The entries to the Christmas Bauble competition were excellent and it was very difficult to choose the winners. Congratulations to everyone that entered.

The winners were:

Reception - Logan

KS1 - Alfie

KS2 - Lily

Adults - Camilla





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### **Congratulations to Mrs and Mr Leigh**

We are pleased to share with you that Mrs Leigh has had a beautiful baby boy called Lochlan.



### **Mass to celebrate the Epiphany**

Fr Padraig will be celebrating Mass in school at 9am on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January. You are all welcome to attend.



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### CALENDAR DATES for 2023 - 2024 ACADEMIC YEAR

The following dates and events are subject to change if necessary. Please refer to the most up to date newsletters for termly dates.

<b>January 2023</b>		
4 <sup>th</sup> January	First day of the Spring Term	Children return to school
4 <sup>th</sup> January	Epiphany Mass in school	9am all welcome to attend
21 <sup>st</sup>	World Religion Day	Celebrating all our brothers and sisters faiths
<b>February 2023</b>		
7 <sup>th</sup>	Internet Safety Week	Activities in school
14 <sup>th</sup>	Start of Lent	
<b>Monday 19<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>FEBRUARY HALF TERM</b>	<b>Pupils return 26<sup>th</sup> February</b>