

# Newsletter



Sacred Heart RC Primary School

20/12/2017

Dear Parents,

Firstly make I take the opportunity to wish you and your children the very best for the Christmas season.

We have used the Advent season in school to prepare ourselves for the birth of Christ and the children have been thinking about preparing themselves in their hearts and in their actions. The Nativities this year were of the highest quality and really demonstrated the value of the time spent preparing them. There are numerous studies that highlight the value of singing and of learning words and delivering them in front of an audience, most of all though they bring the story of Jesus' birth to life for the children just as much as learning from a book!



Talking of learning I wanted to share some news from the recent publication of the School comparison tables. As you know Sacred Heart is an inclusive Catholic Christian school and has children with the whole spectrum of Educational Needs. This means that the number of children achieving the expected standard is unlikely to be as high as less inclusive schools. However the DFE this year published the comparison progress tables, these are a much clearer and fairer way of comparing schools. It compares how much progress a child has made since starting school and demonstrates the value the school has added. In writing the progress children in Sacred Heart made was in the TOP 8% of all schools nationally. In reading the progress children in Sacred Heart made was in the TOP 20% of all schools nationally. In maths the progress of children in Sacred Heart made was in the TOP 20% of all schools nationally. Interestingly attendance figures are also produced. These put Sacred Heart in the top 4 schools in the borough and 10% nationally. Children are coming to school every day and this must mean that they are happy and enjoying the opportunities and learning on offer every day.

## Living Nativity

As well as performing nativities this year we arranged for the children to see and ride a donkey just like the Holy couple did on their journey to Bethlehem. At the same time we had sheep in the school garden so that the role of the shepherds could be better understood. The children had a great time and I hope it helped bring the Nativity to life for them. I am very grateful to Ms Bolton for working so hard on the day and making it happen. I wonder how we can bring it to life next year? Watch this space...



Finally, may I thank you for all the kind gifts and cards that I and the staff have received we look forward to seeing you all refreshed for the year ahead on the **3rd January**.

THIS IS THE READING CHALLENGE YOU'RE LOOKING FOR!

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# JOIN THE WINTER MINI CHALLENGE WITH STAR WARS

and get rewards for your reading this winter



SIGN UP AT [summerreadingchallenge.org.uk](http://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk)

Logos: DK, Disney, Lucasfilm, Arts Council England, Summer Reading Challenge, The Reading Agency

### Advent giving

Can you help the Sisters of Charity working with homeless men here in our own area. They especially need:

- |            |            |
|------------|------------|
| Shoes      | Soap       |
| Socks      | Underwear  |
| Toothpaste | Shower gel |

Anything will be gratefully received by the Parish office or Fr Gerry sdb. Thank you in anticipation for your kindness.

### Christmas Eve DECEMBER 24th Sacred Heart Church

Morning Mass at 10.30am only.

- 5.30pm-Children's Mass for Christmas (why not come dressed as a Christmas character?)
- 10.30pm-Carols
- 11.00pm-Midnight Mass followed by Sonia & Anna's Christmas drinks and mince pies!

### Christmas Day DECEMBER 25<sup>th</sup>

Morning Mass at 11.00am only

### Boxing Day-Feast of St Stephen DECEMBER 26th

Altar Servers' Mass at 12.00 noon

### Mass for New Year January 1<sup>st</sup> 2018

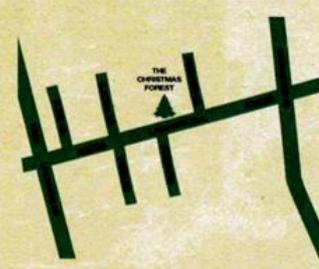
Mass at 12.00 noon





The Christmas Forest

fabulous fresh  
**CHRISTMAS TREES**



Ascension of the Lord Church, Lavender Hill,  
Battersea SW11 5TU

**THE CHRISTMAS FOREST IN LAVENDER HILL**

Open 26th November to  
24th December 8am - 10pm



**BUY A TREE AND WE PLANT A TREE IN AFRICA**  
treeaid.org.uk

Four different varieties in a huge range of sizes all selected from sustainable plantations plus holly, mistletoe and wreaths.

**GREAT PRICES FOR BEAUTIFUL TREES!**

**WE DELIVER**      [christmasforest.co.uk](http://christmasforest.co.uk) / 01865 427067      **PARKING**

January	Dates
<b>FIRST DAY BACK</b>	<b>Wednesday 3rd</b>
Don Bosco Federation Mass KS2	Wednesday 31st 10.00 am SH
Family Learning Y6	tbc
Y3 swimming	Spring term
Reception Family Learning	tbc
Class assemblies – 9.00 am	17th Nursery 24th 1N 31st 2H
February	Dates
Y1 Family Learning	Thursday 8th - pm
Inset Day - school closed	RE Monday 19th
Lent Retreat Morning Y3 (Matilda theme)	Thursday 22nd
HH Parent workshop	Wednesday 28th
Class assemblies – 9.00am	7th 5G 28th 5F

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**Executive Head:** Mr J Brading

**Associate Head:** Mrs N Byrne