



# St. Monica's Primary School

## Newsletter 24th November 2023



Dear Parents and Carers,

This Sunday marks the final week in the Church's calendar, with the feast of Christ the King, or 'Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe'.

In our Gospel assembly this week the children spent time wondering about Kingship, and shared questions and thoughts about the type of king Jesus was and is to us. As we come to the end of another Church year, it is a time to reflect and get ready for the season of Advent ahead of us. Pope Francis has declared the new liturgical year, which begins on the First Sunday of Advent, a *Year of Prayer*.

*'I would greatly desire that we devote 2024, the year preceding the Jubilee event, to a great "symphony" of prayer. Prayer, above all else, to renew our desire to be in the presence of the Lord, to listen to him and to adore him.'* Pope Francis

2025 is a Jubilee year for the Church, and I will share more on that in future newsletters. For now it is enough to focus on the Pope's desire for us to consider prayer, and to make space and room for prayer in our lives.

As we journey through the Year of Prayer at St Monica's, we will warmly invite you to join and share in our experiences of prayer, providing opportunities to find prayer time in our lives.

Wishing you a lovely weekend.

Mrs J Pearson

### Christingle service - Friday 1st December 2pm



*Photo courtesy of Kevin Mayhew website*

Next Friday we will hold our annual Christingle service in St Monica's church. The children are all invited to bring in all the elements to make a Christingle, and they will have time in class to make them before the afternoon. This is a lovely prayer service where we think about the closely approaching season of Advent. Classes will need some support with walking to and from church for this service, and of course we would welcome those helpers to stay through the service with us. Please speak to your class teacher if you can help. The service lasts roughly 40minutes.

### Important Dates for Diaries

Thursday 30th November	FOSM Wacky Hair Day in Exchange for chocolate
Friday 1st December	Christingle Service at Church 14:00
Monday 4th December	FOSM PJ Day in exchange for a bottle
Friday 8th December	FOSM Christmas Fayre at school 15:30-17:30
Tuesday 12th December	Infant Nativity at Church 18:00
Wednesday 13th December	KS2 Strings Concert in the Hall 09:30
Wednesday 13th December	KS2 Drama Club Panto in the Hall 18:00
Thursday 14th December	School Christmas Dinner—please order in advance
Thursday 14th December	KS2 Carol Concert in the Hall 18:00
Monday 18th December	KS1 Christmas Party after lunch in the Hall
Tuesday 19th December	KS2 Christmas Party after lunch in the Hall
Tuesday 19th December	School closes for Christmas at 15:30

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### Walton Gardens Cross Country

A huge well done to all of the children who took part in the Cross Country at Walton Gardens last weekend.

The Year 4/5 girls came 1st and the Y6 girls came 2nd in their races.

Thank you to all the families for your support in cheering them on through the mud!



*This is what the Warrington Guardian said: Youngsters tackled some of the boggiest conditions endured in the Neville Jones Schools Cross Country League when the 2023 series concluded at Walton Gardens on Saturday.*

*Organisers lost count of how many running shoes came off and stuck in the mud as pupils from the town's primary and secondary schools braved the conditions.*

*As has become the norm, families, friends and fellow competitors hugged the course to cheer on more than 300 young athletes in the third and final round of an event becoming increasingly popular.*

### Mini Police



This academic year St Monica's will be joining with a number of schools across Warrington, taking part in a scheme run by Cheshire Constabulary called the "Mini Police". Our Mini Police officers will be working with the Senior Leadership Team and our local PCSOs to work on projects which come out of issues they have identified for our local community. We have a team of ten pupils from Years 4,5 and 6 who will become mini police officers for this year. We were overwhelmed with the interest in this new group, and had a total of 20 applications for the 10 positions. All of the applicants went on to have an interview with the leadership team. Miss Williams and I were extremely proud of every single applicant. Applications and interviews are a life skill, and I have told all the children in assembly today that every applicant has been successful, in that they have put themselves out of their comfort zone and gained valuable experience that will stand them in good stead the next time an opportunity comes up, or an interview is required.

Our Mini Police officers have been invited to a ceremony next Wednesday morning, where they will be 'sworn in', and all the officers will receive a mini police officer uniform to wear during that event, but also when conducting MPO activities. I look forward to seeing the ideas the group come up with for making improvements on issues in our local area.

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### Junior Safety Officer Competition

Road Safety Awareness Week



**Competition Time** Deadline: Friday 1st December

Announcement: Monday 4th December

KS1: Decorate the traffic cone in bright colours (template sent home).

KS2: Design a sign for slowing down traffic in our local community.

### **Prizes**

The winner of KS1 and KS2 will each receive a £5 book token.

### **Remember**

Be safe. Be seen. Be Secure.

Erica and James

### Y5 Swifts— Fire Service visit to school

On Tuesday 21st November, the Fire Service paid Y5 a visit. In the first workshop the children learnt all about escape plans and the importance of testing smoke alarms. Afterwards, they went inside a smoke tent and practised what to do when a room fills with smoke. James and Ryan (firefighters) then showed the class the main features of the fire engine. It was an amazing afternoon!



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### BOOKS FOR BUGS

**Closing date: Midnight Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November**

Our Books for Bugs Book Fair has begun! Gain access to hundreds of discounted books this week with free delivery to school!

#### How to order-

Visit [www.booksforbugs.co.uk](http://www.booksforbugs.co.uk)

- Choose your books and add them to the basket- if you are not sure where to start why not checkout our new Quick Shop feature with the top 100 for each key stage.

At the checkout stage add your billing details as normal and for shipping put

**Your Child's Name**

**Your Child's Class (Or 'School Office' if it's a gift you don't want the child to see)**

**Name of School: St Monica's School**

**Address: St Monica's Close, Appleton, Warrington**

And most importantly...

**WA4 3AW** the school's postcode. It is the postcode that will activate the free shipping option called 'Virtual Book Fair only'.

You can then pay by debit/credit card or Paypal If you are unsure here is a handy video guide <https://booksforbugs.co.uk/virtual-book-fair-info-for-parents/>

You can order up until midnight on **Sunday 26th November**

Orders are dispatched within a few days of the fair ending so never long to wait!

Any book priced £2.99 or over purchased through the virtual book fair will also benefit school as we will receive a free book for every 5 purchased, every book counts!

Happy shopping!



**Launch date: Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023 - Closing date: Midnight Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2023**

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### FOSM—st Monica's Christmas Fayre Raffle tickets

- Purchase a ticket or a book of tickets. *A ticket is £1.00. Book of 5 x tickets is £5.00.*
- Add your details to the ticket/book (if a book details to be added to each ticket).

Return the ticket(s) to school in an envelope, with your child's name and year on.

Please return all tickets to the school by the end of the day on **THURSDAY 7<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2023**. Please also return any unsold tickets too.

If anybody would like to purchase more tickets, please speak with your class Rep who can provide you with some more.

Here is an idea of some of the generous prizes so far ...

Alpaca walking  
Skip from ADS  
Fresh meat hamper  
£25 voucher from Grill on The Square  
Voucher from Chill Factor  
Choy Hing voucher banquet for 2

Thank you again for all your support. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the Christmas Fayre.



**THURSDAY 30TH NOVEMBER**  
WACKY HAIR DAY  
IN EXCHANGE FOR  
CHOCOLATE

**MONDAY 4TH DECEMBER**  
PJ DAY  
IN EXCHANGE FOR A  
BOTTLE

**FRIDAY 8TH DECEMBER**  
CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY  
IN EXCHANGE FOR  
CAKES



**Fill & decorate a jar**



all will be available to buy at the Christmas fayre for £1

### COMPETITION TIME

- Find a jar with a lid
- Decorate the jar however you like
- Fill with sweets, stickers or small toys etc....
- Bring into school by Tuesday 5th December
- A Winning jar will be picked on Thursday 7th December
- more than 1 entry allowed



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