



## The Little Way -2 December 2024

Dear parents/carers

This is the penultimate newsletter of 2024. The last edition will come out in the last week before we break up for the Christmas holidays.

There are lots of important times/updates in this edition, as we prepare in the lead-up to Christmas.

This **Saturday 7 December, from 4pm-6pm**, we will be holding our annual **Christmas Bazaar** in school. This is a vital way for the Friends of St. Teresa's to raise funds for our children. We hope that as many of you can support our efforts that day by coming along.

Next week, we welcome our parents/family members from Reception to Year 2, to watch our **Christmas Nativity**. These will be taking place on Tuesday 10 and Wednesday 11 December, at 9.30am.

Our **school choir** will be singing in the **Grainger Market from 10am until 11.30am, on Wednesday 11 December**. Please join them if you can!

On **Wednesday evening, from 5.30pm until 7pm**, we have our annual **Wreath Making workshop**. Parents/family members and the wider community are welcome to join us for this event.

**Thursday 12 December is our Christmas jumper day**. Children are encouraged to bring a small donation (suggestion £1) that we can then donate to local charity Vinnies, in Byker, which will help towards their Christmas meal appeal. **Christmas dinner day** is on this day. After school, we have our **Christmas film nights until 5.15pm**.

**Monday 16 December**, we will be holding our annual **Christmas Carol Service**. This is a chance for as many of our Key Stage 2 children, from Year 3 to Year 6 to join us at 4pm in church to lead our celebrations.

On **Wednesday 18 December**, all children will be attending the **Christmas Pantomime at the Tyne Theatre**. On the night time, at 6pm, there is the partnership of churches/schools **Carol Service** -all are welcome to join us.

**Christmas party day** will be on **Thursday 19 December**. Children can wear their party clothes for the day and can bring in a paper plate with their food on for the party (please put your child's name on this).

The last day, **Friday 20 December**, will see us celebrate Mass together in church -all are welcome to join us. In the afternoon, at 2.30pm, there will be our annual '**Carols in the Forest School**'-all welcome to join us for this event.

Many thanks

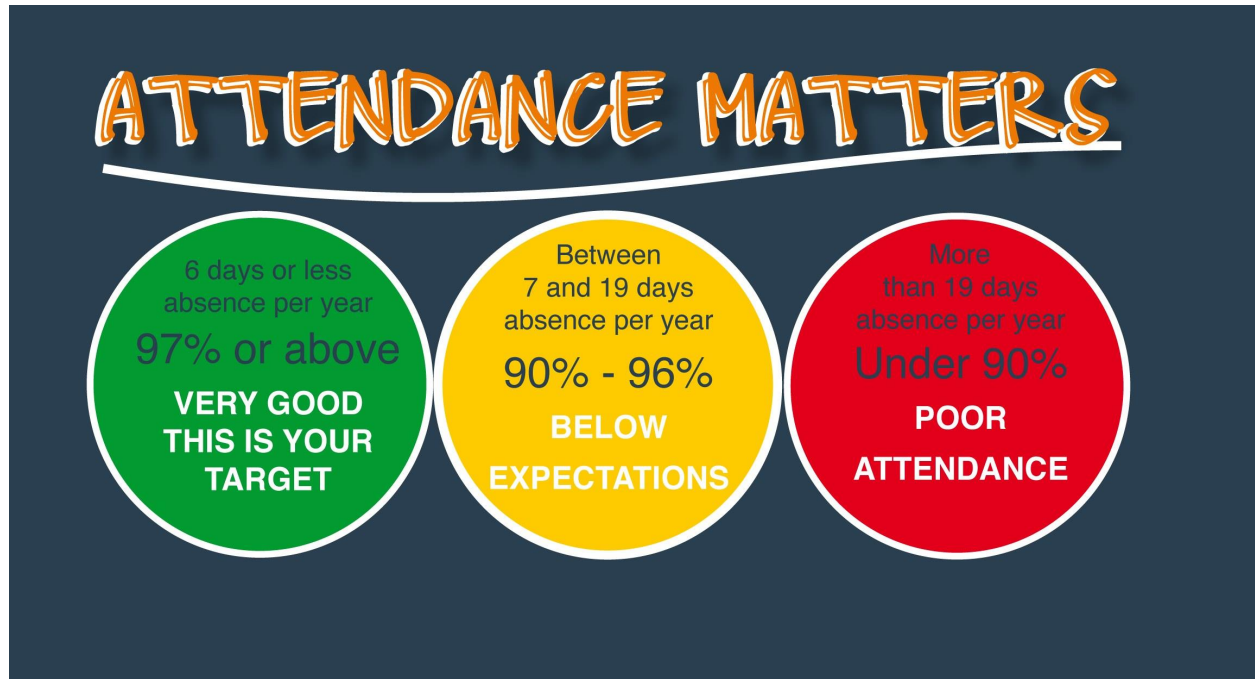
Mr. Turner

(Head Teacher)

Please find further information on:

- Attendance
- Online safety
- Achievements
- Curriculum updates
- Ways to connect with us...
- Dates for your diary

## Attendance



As a school, we have an attendance target of 96%. Our whole school attendance has been consistently above this since the start of the year -thank you to all parents/carers in your part in ensuring your child/ren's good attendance and punctuality.

**Week 1 September attendance = 97.5%**

**Week 2 September attendance = 98.4%**

**Week 3 September attendance = 94.9%**

**Week 4 September attendance = 96.8%**

**Week 5 October attendance = 96.9%**

**Week 6 October attendance = 96.8%**

**Week 7 October attendance = 96.1%**

**Week 8 October attendance = 94.2%**

**Week 9 November attendance = 94.9%**

**Week 10 November attendance = 96.1%**

**Week 11 November attendance = 96.3%**

Sickness bugs can be common-place at this time of year. If your child suffers from sickness or diarrhoea, please ensure they are off school for 48 hours after the last symptoms.

Please do try to keep holidays to the school holidays. Any request for holidays will be unauthorised and your child will miss out on vital education time. The school will not supply work for your child if you choose to take them out of school in term time.

### **Did you know?**

90% attendance sounds good but means that your child misses on average:

- One half day every week.
- Nearly four weeks every school year.
- Over one school year in a school career.

2 weeks holiday in term time every year with no other absences means that your child:

- Can only ever achieve 95% attendance
- Will miss about two terms in a school career

Being just 5 minutes late every day adds up to missing about 3 days of school every year.

## Online Safety

### **Cyberbullying**

Last week was anti-bullying week. To coincide with what children learned about then, please find more information on cyberbullying and how to approach these matters with your child/ren:

[Cyberbullying facts and advice | Internet Matters](#)

**“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world” – Nelson Mandela.**

## Achievements



**Please do encourage your child/ren to bring in their out of school awards/achievements. We like to celebrate these, as well as in school awards, in Celebration Assembly every other week. Our next assembly is this coming Friday.**

Well done to our under-11 boys' team, who have qualified for the County Cup round of the Small Schools' Cup. Winning both their matches on the night to progress to the next round, 6-0 and 3-1.







### **Year 3**

Art and Design:

[Year 3 Art & Design: Growing as Artists | St Teresa's Catholic Primary School](#)

### **Year 4**

Bikeability in Year 4:

[Year 4 | St Teresa's Catholic Primary School](#)

### **Year 5**

Anti-bullying week and science:

[Year 5 | St Teresa's Catholic Primary School](#)

### **Year 6**

Geography, Computing and a Panto visit for Year 6:

[Year 6 | St Teresa's Catholic Primary School](#)



## St. Teresa's on social media



Please do give us a follow/like on our various social/communication platforms...

To see children's day-to-day work through the week, follow our St. Teresa's [Twitter page](#). As this page is currently locked and only for our parents/friends of St. Teresa's, **please email the office with your username** so we can accept your request.

Give our [Facebook Page](#) a like/follow to be notified of any key information via this page.

## Dates for diary



Calendar dates can also be found on our website at: [School Calendar | St Teresa's Catholic Primary School \(stteresasnewcastle.org.uk\)](http://School Calendar | St Teresa's Catholic Primary School (stteresasnewcastle.org.uk))

**\*Please note further dates will be added as/when confirmed/organised and will be in bold**

Wednesday 4 December, 3.30pm - **Marrick Priory parent information meeting**

Saturday 7 December - **Friends of St. Teresa's (PTA) Christmas Bazaar in school**

Monday 9 December - **Reception/Key Stage 1 Nativity (dress rehearsal)**

Tuesday 10/Wednesday 11 December, 9.30am - **Reception/Key Stage 1 Nativity performances for parents**

Wednesday 11 December, 3.20-4.20pm - **First Holy Communion in-school session with Miss McTernan**

Wednesday 11 December, 5.30-7pm - **Wreath Making Night for parents/family members and wider community**

Wednesday 11 December, 10.30-11.30am - **Choir Singing in the Grainger Market**

Thursday 12 December - **Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch**

Thursday 12 December, 3.30-5.15pm - **Christmas movie night for Year 1/2, Year 3/4 and Year 5/6**

Monday 16 December, 4pm - **Key Stage 2 Carol Service in church**

Tuesday 17 December, 6.30pm - **Year 4 First Reconciliation Service**

Wednesday 18 December, 10am - **Tyne Theatre Christmas Pantomime for whole school**

Wednesday 18 December, 6pm - **Partnership Carol Service in church**

Thursday 19 December, pm - **Christmas parties**

Friday 20 December - **Christmas jumpers can be worn today**

Friday 20 December, 9.30am - **Advent Mass in church (all welcome)**

Friday 20 December, 2.30pm - **Carols in the Forest School (all welcome)**

Friday 20 December, 3.20pm - **break up for Christmas holidays (return on Tuesday 7 January)**