

**OUR LADY OF LOURDES CATHOLIC MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
SAINT HUGH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY VOLUNTARY ACADEMY
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GREGORY HUGHES ~ Headteacher

TO: ALL PARENTS AND GUARDIANS

16th December 2022



Dear Parents/Guardians

CHRISTMAS 2022 NEWSLETTER

We have enjoyed a very successful and exciting festive period. It has been so nice to return to normality by holding and attending a number of special events.

JOINT CATHOLIC SCHOOL ADVENT SERVICE

The choir and children from St Hugh's, Our Lady of Lincoln and St Peter and Saint Paul's Secondary School combined for a special Advent Service at St Hugh's Church. The drama and music was a fitting tribute to the Christmas story. The children received many compliments for their performance. Thank you to all the staff from the three Academy schools for their excellent preparation.

END OF YEAR CHRISTMAS LITURGY

Year 6 and the Choir finished the term with a Christmas Liturgy. Thanks to Miss Blood and Year 6 for their preparation. We said thank you and goodbye to Mr Yates. Kevin has been a central figure in the school in a number of important roles over many years. Kevin has been a parent, a Governor, Chair of Governors, Mini Bus Driver and Site manager! We wish him a very happy and well deserved retirement.

Mini Vinnies have been providing Christmas cheer at Advent by making Christmas cards for Lincoln Hospital patients.

MUSIC, DRAMA AND CHRISTMAS NATIVITY

The infants performed the Nativity play "Lights, Camel, Action" to packed audiences over the Christmas period. This was based on the show Strictly Come Dancing, interweaving the Christmas story! The children performed wonderfully and it was a joy to see them all involved in such high quality performances. This was no mean feat by the teachers, teaching assistants and parents who made the event so memorable. Thank you to Mr Berezin for organising the photographs to commemorate the occasion. We are pleased to be able to send a copy of the performance to all our Keystage 1 parents. Enjoy!

The Choir have had a very busy Christmas period. The highlight was singing at the Royal Albert Hall. The school choir performed a selection of Beyonce songs to a full venue. This was a very long day for the children. They were excellent and the whole event was really special. Well done to Mr Ballard who coordinated the trip. Parents joined us in London and found the experience a really memorable and special occasion.

They sang at St Peter and St Paul's Church raising money for Age UK alongside the Deanery Choir. Many thanks to Mr Ballard for his hard work and preparation.

SCHOOL MASSES

This last term we celebrated mass for All Saints Day and then celebrated our Feast Day of St Hugh with a Liturgy. Many Parishioners and parents commented on how impressed they were with the reading, acting and behaviour of the children.

PTA NEWS

The Christmas Festival and the supporting events made a fantastic amount of nearly £2,000. Once again this is a phenomenal figure and many thanks go to Mrs Paterson and the entire PTA who worked so hard to make the Festival such a success. Also, a big thank you goes to parents and friends who supported the Christmas events. Well done to the Infant Choir who began the proceedings with excellent performances expertly arranged by Mrs Garcia.

FILM VISITS

All classes visited the cinema in Lincoln City to watch a variety of films. The children have been writing about their film in their English books back in the classroom.

SPORTS NEWS

The football team have been busy in a couple of tournaments. We entered 2 teams into the Premier League Primary Stars Football Festival at Lincoln City. The A team won all their games bar one and the B team only lost twice winning their remaining fixtures.

Both teams then returned to Sincil Bank to play in the Utilita 6 a side tournament involving 18 local teams. This tournament eventually ends at Wembley! Both teams played well with the A team reaching the final. We ended the game as runners up, narrowly losing 1.0. Well done to all who represented the school.

NETBALL

Netball training has now finished for the winter and will resume after the February Half Term.

CROSS COUNTRY

The Cross Country season starts in the New Year. Children will be notified if they have been selected to represent the school.

SWIMMING

Next term, the school returns to swimming at Yarborough following months of renovation.

FOUNDATION UNIT INTAKE 2023

The closing date for applications for next year is the 15th January 2023. Once again the school has received a high interest for places. Parents will be notified in April if their child has been accepted. If you know of any children who are new to the area please ask the parents to contact the school as soon as possible.

HOLIDAYS IN TERM TIME

I would like to clarify the position on requesting holidays in term time. Under the current Government directive no holiday time can be authorised in term time by any school unless there are exceptional circumstances. Doctor or hospital appointments will need to be verified with a medical note.

It is very much appreciated if any exceptional circumstance absence can be kept to a minimum to maximise pupil learning. Please feel free to discuss any extended time off school with myself to clarify the directive. Currently the overall attendance for the school is 96.8 % which is above the National Average. Thank you for your support with attendance.

NEW WEBSITE

The school website has been redesigned with new photographs enhancing the main content. It is due to be launched at the end of this week. Please follow the link to see all the information and dates relating to St Hugh's. <https://st-hughs-catholic-primary.co.uk>

SCHOOL PARKING

Thank you for observing our new parking drop off area. This is designed to keep traffic flowing and to a minimum. Can I please respectfully ask all car users to observe the 5 mile per hour sign and the double yellow lines indicating No Parking. The pathways need to be kept clear for pedestrians. There are a number of pre-school children as well as our own young pupils who are crossing the car park area at the start and end of the day. I am sure we would all agree that the safety of our children is paramount.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

For Mass times over the Christmas period please see:

<http://www.sthughslincoln.org.uk>

<http://www.peter-paul-lincoln.org.uk>

FINALLY

Thank you all for your attendance at recent Parent Teacher meetings. Your continued interest and support is greatly appreciated. Academically the teachers continue to set realistic and challenging targets for all children. I would like to thank the children for their enthusiasm and endeavour. I would also like to thank each Governor for the time they have freely given. I am also grateful for the considerable extra time given by the Teaching Assistants, Administrators, Cleaners, Midday Supervisory Assistants, Site Manager and Bus Drivers who all contribute to make St Hugh's such a successful school.

In conclusion, I would like to thank all who are involved in making St Hugh's Catholic Primary Voluntary Academy the happy and caring school it is.

On behalf of Mr John O'Connor our Chair of Governors, Staff and Governors, I would like to wish you all a happy and relaxing Christmas and New Year and look forward to welcoming the children back on Wednesday 4th January 2023.

Yours sincerely

Gregory Hughes

Gregory Hughes – Headteacher

IMPORTANT DATES:

<i>Wednesday 4th January 2023</i>	School reopens for the start of Term 3
<i>Sunday 15th January 2023</i>	Closing date for Reception September 2023 applications
<i>Thursday 9th February 2023</i>	Break up for half term. School closes at normal time.
<i>Monday 20th February 2023</i>	Children return to school and half term break
<i>Friday 31st March 2023</i>	Break up for Easter
<i>Tuesday 17th April 2023</i>	Children return to school after Easter break.
<i>Tuesday 9th May–Fri 12th May 2023</i>	KS2 SATs week. It is important that Year 6 pupils are in school all week.
<i>Friday 21st July 2023</i>	Last day of Academic Year