

OUR LADY OF LOURDES CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
SAINT HUGH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY VOLUNTARY ACADEMY
WOODFIELD AVENUE ~ DODDINGTON PARK ~ LINCOLN LN6 OSH
TELEPHONE ~ 01522 501137 FACSIMILE ~ 01522 501145
EMAIL ~ enquiries@st-hughs-pri.lincs.sch.uk
WEB ~ <http://www.st-hughs-school.org.uk>



GREGORY HUGHES ~ Headteacher

TO: ALL PARENTS AND GUARDIANS

20th December 2023

Dear Parents

CHRISTMAS 2023 NEWSLETTER

We have enjoyed a very successful and exciting festive period. This week, Mrs Pallister's class delivered Christmas cards to our neighbours on the estate. Children made cards for people who will be in hospital this Christmas with really thoughtful messages inside. During this season of advent we sent home travelling crib packs for families in preparation for the festive period.

It was with great sadness that we heard of the death of Miss Geraldine Bell after a short illness. Geraldine was a former St Hugh's pupil and in one of my first classes when I started working here. She was a teacher at St Peter and St Paul's and will be fondly remembered for being such a thoughtful, kind and happy person. In short, she was a special person. May she rest in peace.

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. Parents and friends of the school were invited. Thanks to Miss Blood, Mrs Boyns and Year 6 for their preparation.

MUSIC, DRAMA AND CHRISTMAS NATIVITY AND CHARITY WORK

The infants performed the Nativity play "Christmas with the Aliens" to packed audiences over the Christmas period. 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.

The Choir has had a very busy Christmas period. They recently performed at St Peter and St Paul's Church at the Age UK concert. The church was packed and all enjoyed a very special Christmas Service raising £1800 for this worthwhile charity. Many thanks to Mr Ballard for his hard work and preparation.

At a recent assembly we invited Mr Burr to tell us about the wonderful things the United Lincolnshire Hospital charity does for children and patients especially over the Christmas period. We raised £90 for presents for people in hospital at this time by holding a Sock Day. Mr Burr presented a cheque to the school and thanked the school for its generosity.

PTFA

The Christmas Festival and the supporting events made a fantastic amount of nearly £2000. Once again this is a phenomenal figure and many thanks go to Mrs Paterson, Mrs Francis and the entire PTFA 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.

SCHOOL MASSES

This last term we have celebrated two masses. The first was for All Saints Day with Canon Geoffrey the celebrant. Miss Webster and the children organised the Liturgy of the Word. Secondly, we celebrated our feast day with visiting pupils from St Peter and St Paul's Secondary School. Many Parishioners and parents commented on how impressed they were with the reading, acting and behaviour of the children. Canon Eddy then blessed our new Forest room. The room is to support mental health and wellbeing of the pupils, parents and staff. We have since held workshops offering mental health support and therapy time.

SPORTS NEWS

Year 4 took part in a new futsal event involving a number of local teams and.....we won! We had 3 out of 3 wins with 11 goals scored and no goals conceded. Congratulations go to Mr Gosling and to all our players - including some who have never played before!

Our girl's football team did us proud in a tournament at Lincoln City FC against other schools in Lincolnshire. They played 7 games; winning 3, losing 3 and drawing 1 leaving us in 4th place overall. It was a really good morning and result, especially considering for many of our girls it was their very first game outside of the school grounds. Well done girls!

The Boys Football 'A' team also took part in the Utilita 7 a side tournament. The boys managed to win and draw games missing out on qualifying for the next round having played some excellent football. We look forward to more matches in the New Year.

This term our year six Sports leaders have been receiving training thanks to PremierEdLincs .The children have done a wonderful job helping the younger children to develop teamwork skills.

SWIMMING

Next term Miss Noor's class will be swimming. Please note they will start on Wednesday 10th January. Well done to Miss Gosling's class for making excellent progress during their time at the pool.

FOUNDATION UNIT INTAKE 2024

The closing date for applications for next year is Monday 15th January 2024. 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'd 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 new directive. Currently the overall attendance for the school is 96.6 % which is above the National Average. Thank you for your support with attendance.

OUTINGS

All the children enjoyed an exciting trip to the cinema. They saw various recent films and then used this as a basis for their English creative writing and topic work.

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 to all our parents who continue to support the school in all the events and meetings that we hold. Thank you for your generosity sending cards and gifts to the staff this Christmas time. It is greatly appreciated by all.

Thank you also to the teaching staff who work so hard to ensure all children reach their potential and offer curriculum enrichment beyond the curriculum with after school activities and clubs. I would also like to thank the children for their enthusiasm and hard work.

I would also like to thank our Governors for the time they have freely given. I am grateful for the considerable extra time given by the Teaching Assistants, Administrators, Cleaners, Midday Supervisory Assistants, Site Manager and Mini-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 School 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 3rd January 2024.

Yours sincerely

Gregory Hughes

Gregory Hughes – Head teacher

IMPORTANT DATES:

<i>Wednesday 3rd January 2024</i>	School reopens for the start of Term 3
<i>Monday 15th January 2024</i>	Closing date for Reception September 2018 applications
<i>Thursday 8th February 2024</i>	Break up for half term. School closes at normal time.
<i>Monday 19th February 2024</i>	Children return to school and half term break
<i>Thursday 28th March 2024</i>	Break up for Easter
<i>Monday 15th April 2024</i>	Children return to school after Easter break.
<i>Mon 13th May–Fri 17th May 2024</i>	KS2 SATs week. It is important that Year 6 pupils are in school all week.
<i>Friday 19th July 2024</i>	Last day of Academic Year