



# NEWSLETTER



## Mon 16th Dec

Advanced chess club 3-4pm

Year 4,5 6 multisports 3-4pm

Year 1,2,3 Lego club 3-4pm

## Tues 17th Dec

Beginner and intermediate Chess club 3-4pm

Year 1,2,3 multisports club 3-4pm

Irish Dancing 5-8pm

## Wed 18th Dec

Christmas lunch and Christmas jumper/ Accessorize day

Year 4,5,6 football 3-4pm

Year 1,2,3 Arts and Crafts 3-4pm

## Thurs 19th Dec

Last day of term

School finishes at 1.30pm

Pupil attendance to date: 94.6%. Target 97%

13th December 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week, in whole school assembly, I spoke with the children about this half terms pillar of Catholic Social Teaching - Preferential Option for the Poor.

'Preferential option' means allowing someone to have the first choice. It means giving someone the best that is available; not just the scraps or leftovers.

God calls us to look out for those in need and work hard to support them and provide them with the best we can.

I told the children the story of St Oscar Romero and how he spoke up for the poor of El Salvador, where a small number of people had lots of power and wealth while everybody else had very little.

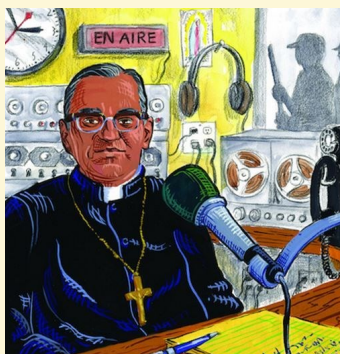
Romero predicted his own death at the hands of those he criticised and asked those that followed him to be 'God's microphone'.

As a community we are asked to look out for those that suffer and those that have no voice and speak up for them.

'It is not God's will for some to have everything and others to have nothing' (Oscar Romero).

Have a lovely and peaceful weekend everybody.

Mr Doherty



## School finish time

A reminder that school finishes at 1.30pm on Thursday. There will be **NO** Year 1,2,3 football club on Thursday.

After school club will run from 1.30pm—4.30pm on the last day of term.

## Christmas jumper day

This Wednesday is Christmas lunch day. The children can also wear a Christmas jumper or Christmas accessory on the day if they wish. Classes doing PE can accessorize their PE kit and /or wear a jumper too.



## Singing at Church

The children have been invited to sing with the Church at the 11am Mass this Sunday. It would be lovely to see as many children there as possible.





St Catherine Catholic Primary School

# FSCS News



13th December 2024

## CHRISTMAS @ St Catherine's

### FSCS Christmas Fayre

Thank you to everyone who volunteered and came out last Friday to kick start the festive season.

Thanks to your support, we raised a whopping ...

**£1,735.91**

### Monday 16 December Gift Day

*We received a record number of gift requests and so if you are able to volunteer at all, please do let us know.*

*The event will run from 8.30 am to approximately 11 am. Volunteers will help the children 'shop' for their chosen recipients and then wrap their gifts ready to take home. Please speak to your WhatsApp group class rep or find a committee member on the playground if you can help.*



You know what they say, **"many hands make light work"**.

### Christmas Raffle

One last chance to win a prize ahead of Christmas, join our Christmas raffle and be in with a chance to win a Hamper.

# Christmas party time!

Next week the children, in each class, will be having a Christmas party. Children can wear their own clothes to school on their party day.

Monday 16th - Year 4

Wednesday 18th— Year 3\* and Year 1 and 2

Thursday 19th - Year 5 and 6, Nursery and Reception



\* Year 3 have will still have PE on Wednesday. Please make sure your child has trainers in school so they can take part. They will not need to change into PE kit.

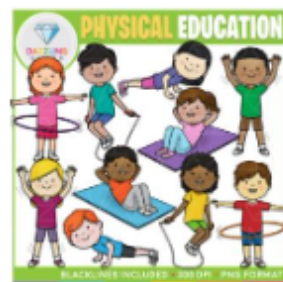
Dear parents and carers,

Please find attached PE timetable for next term. You should ensure that your child is in PE kit on the day of their PE lesson.



## PE days **Spring** 2025

For the whole of the Spring Term the PE days will be:



Nursery	Tuesday
Reception	Tuesday
<i>Children will need to come to school in trainers for PE. Same uniform as always.</i>	
Year 1	Tuesday
	Wednesday
Year 2	Tuesday
	Thursday
Year 3	Monday
	Wednesday
Year 4	Monday
	Wednesday
Year 5	Tuesday
	Wednesday
Year 6	Tuesday
	Wednesday

# Reception Nativity

Thank you to Reception for their INCREDIBLE Nativity play about the star that could not shine. Well all I can say is that the children certainly shone! A huge thank you to Mrs Phaure and Miss Hatzi for preparing the children so well and also to our our Year 5 and 6 children for their narration and for helping as stage crew. The singing, signing, dancing and acting were of the highest standard. We expect nothing less at St Catherines! Well done children and thank you to all of our families who attended the performances this week. You made this year's Nativity extra special by being there.



# Yr 3 Verulamium trip

This week, Year 3 visited Verulamium in St Albans, diving into the fascinating world of the Romans. The day began with an exciting artefact workshop led by a real archaeologist. The children examined Roman artefacts such as a strigil, a Roman amphora, and building materials. The archaeologist praised the class for their impressive knowledge and excellent behaviour.

At the interactive Verulamium Museum, the children explored mosaics, wrote their names in Latin, and discovered artefacts like Roman oil lamps, gaining a vivid insight into Roman life. It was a captivating experience that made history come alive.

Outside, they visited the Roman wall and hypocaust, where some even found Roman coins - true budding archaeologists!

The day ended with a well-deserved treat at the playground. Year 3 represented St. Catherine's School beautifully, showing enthusiasm, curiosity, and a love for learning throughout the trip.

Mr. Reardon



# Yr 6 at the Houses of Parliament

Year 6 had an exciting trip to Parliament, where they experienced democracy in action! The children explored the House of Commons and the House of Lords, learning about their roles and how important decisions are made. They were thrilled to sit in the public galleries and watch debates happening live in both Houses. A special highlight was meeting the Rt Hon John McDonnell, our local MP, who shared his journey into politics and inspired the children with his stories. He also promised to visit our school soon, which the children are eagerly looking forward to!

It was a fantastic day that gave our students a deeper understanding of democracy and left them inspired to make a difference in their communities.

Mrs Reardon



# Pantomime time!

Thank you to the FSCS for enabling us to provide a Christmas pantomime for our EYFS and KS1 children this week. The children had the most wonderful time and as you can see there was lots of audience participation. Our children are so fortunate to have these types of experiences and we are so thankful to the FSCS and our families for supporting their ongoing fundraising efforts.



# Nursery Nativity

Thank you to Nursery for an AMAZING Christmas show. These are our youngest children but you wouldn't have known it. The singing, speaking and acting were so impressive. Thank you to Miss Bain and Mrs Walker especially for all of their hard work with the children this term in the classroom and in preparation for the show. The children were a credit to you and their families.





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13th December 2024

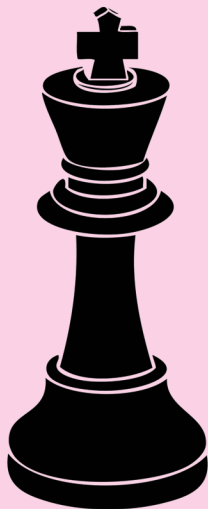
## Chess players of the week

Mr Hughes has been delighted at the progress of the children in chess club this term especially with their development of pieces and checkmate patterns.

Last week and this week's players of the week were:

Cora for her continued improvement and a nice checkmate.

Tomasz and Katherine for their checkmates and overall improvement in the school rankings.



## Attendance

As we enter the last week of term can I please remind you all of the importance of attendance. There are lots of extra curricular activities planned but the children next week but they will still have lessons too and should be at school. Let's instill good habits from an early age.

This week's top class for attendance is AM and PM Nursery with 100% attendance. WOW!







Pupil attendance to date: 94.6%. Target 97%

13th December 2024

## Irish dancing successes

On Saturday the Caulfield Academy (who run Irish Dancing lessons in school on Tuesdays) held a Feis at St Catherines.

I was so proud to see some of our current and past pupils performing so well and receiving awards.

Well done to Kourtney, Calley Ann, Mason and Madison.



## Runner of the Week



Well done to Marilyn who was runner of the week.

Today was Marilyn's first time with our squad and she ran a spectacular time of 5 minutes 20 for 1200m. Unbelievable! We have another star in the making! This was the last running club of the term and I wanted to say a massive thank you to Mr Papini for coaching the children and to the children themselves for their continued hard work. Looking forward to starting up again in January.



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## Perfect poetry

Well done to the children in Year 3 who were sent to see me with their wonderful poetry this week. The children had been writing poems about the things they would put into a magic box and used super similes to describe their choices. Great work children.

## KS2 Pantomime

Can I please remind the parents/carers of our Year 3,4,5 and 6 children that they need to be in school for 8am on Tuesday. Thank you.



# ST CATHERINE'S AMAZON WISH LIST



Dear parents and carers,

The school has opened an Amazon Wish list account to enable us to provide even more for our children in school. Please see link at bottom of page. There is also a link on the 'Quick Links' section on the homepage of the school website.

If you, or friends or family, are able to contribute please do so.

Once again your support is greatly appreciated.

Mr Doherty

<https://amzn.eu/12fuUtV>

**FREE PLACES AVAILABLE**  
FOR BENEFIT RELATED FSM CHILDREN

**EARLY BIRD PRICE**  
BOOK NOW BEFORE FRIDAY 13th December  
TO AVOID PAYING £25 PER DAY



**BEACTIVE**

# NEW YEARS CAMP

**SPECIALIST MULTI- SPORT HOLIDAY CAMP**

**USE CODE SIB10 AT CHECKOUT FOR 10% SIBLING DISCOUNT**



**For Children aged 4-12 years**

**Monday 23rd December- Friday 3rd January**

PLEASE SEE DATES ON THE BACK OF THE FLYER FOR EACH INDIVIDUAL SCHOOL

St Catherine's Primary School | Roxbourne Primary School



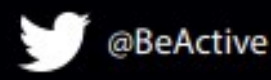
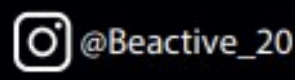
**DAILY COSTS  
STANDARD DAY**  
9.00-3pm- £20

**ADDITIONAL DAILY COSTS\*  
LATE PICK UP**  
3.00-3.30pm- £5  
\* Late pickup not available at St Catherine's



**Call 07715 847 132 / 07540 984 154**

Email: [info@beactivesports.co.uk](mailto:info@beactivesports.co.uk) | [www.beactivesportsandclubs.co.uk/book-online](http://www.beactivesportsandclubs.co.uk/book-online)





- FOOTBALL
- BASKETBALL
- DODGEBALL
- CRICKET
- ARTS AND CRAFTS
- TAG RUGBY
- HOCKEY
- ATHLETICS

Be Active Sports and Clubs provides children and Young people the opportunity to participate in a wide variety of activities throughout the day, leaving them wanting to come back for more.



**HAF WINTER 2024**

**Free funded spaces available for benefit related free school meal children, including a hot meal!**  
**REGISTER YOUR CHILD'S PLACE TODAY!**



1- To book your child's FREE place visit our website [www.beactivesportsandclubs.co.uk/book-online](http://www.beactivesportsandclubs.co.uk/book-online)

2- Select either Hillingdon HAF Programme or Harrow HAF Programme depending on what venue you are choosing to book

3- Select the venue you would like your child to attend

4- Click 'Book Now' (you will need your unique 6 character HAF reference code in order to complete the booking form- **HILLINGDON HAF ONLY**)

If you are having trouble booking online or would like more information regarding the HAF programme please contact us via email: [info@beactivesports.co.uk](mailto:info@beactivesports.co.uk) or call 07715847132

## LOCATIONS

### Harrow

Roxbourne Primary  
Torbay Rd  
Harrow  
HA2 9QF

Monday 30th December  
Thursday 2nd January  
Friday 3rd January

### Hillingdon

St Catherine Primary School  
Money Lane,  
UB7 7NX

Monday 23rd December  
Thursday 2nd January  
Friday 3rd January



## HOW TO BOOK

Visit our website  
<https://www.beactivesportsandclubs.co.uk/book-online>

Select the venue you would like your child to attend

Select the chosen dates that suit you

Confirm your selection and pay via our secure online system

If you are having trouble booking online or would like more information regarding our holiday provision please contact us at:

Email: [info@beactivesports.co.uk](mailto:info@beactivesports.co.uk) or Call: 07715 847 132



Scan with your smart phone

Our prayer for December is the Act of Sorrow. During Advent we repent (make things right with God) in preparation for the coming of Jesus. Purple is the colour of repentance and is represented in three of the candles on the Advent wreath. This is a sorry prayer that all the children should know.

Please make this a prayer that you say with your children at home during December.


  
The Act of sorrow




  
 Oh my God because you are so good



  
 I am very sorry




  
 that I have sinned against you


  
 and with your help




  
 I will try not to sin again.

Amen 



# WOW Walk to school challenge

We are excited to take part in this year's **WOW walk to school challenge** which is an initiative from Living Streets, the UK charity for everyday walking, to help as many children as possible experience the benefits of walking to school.

## What are the benefits of walking to school?

- Children feel happier and healthier.
- They arrive to school refreshed and ready to learn.
- Helps reduce congestion and pollution at the school gates.



Your children will self-report how they get to school every day. If they travel actively (walk/wheel, cycle, scoot or park and stride) **at least once a week for a month**, they will be rewarded with a badge.

**Park and Stride** – If driving, park and stride can help your child earn their WOW badges. **Park at least 10 minutes away from the school and walk the remaining journey.** If using public transport, hop off at least 10 minutes away and walk. Use the map below to see suggestions for areas to park and stride. Parking in the blue zone, where permitted, and walking the rest of the way will count as park and stride.

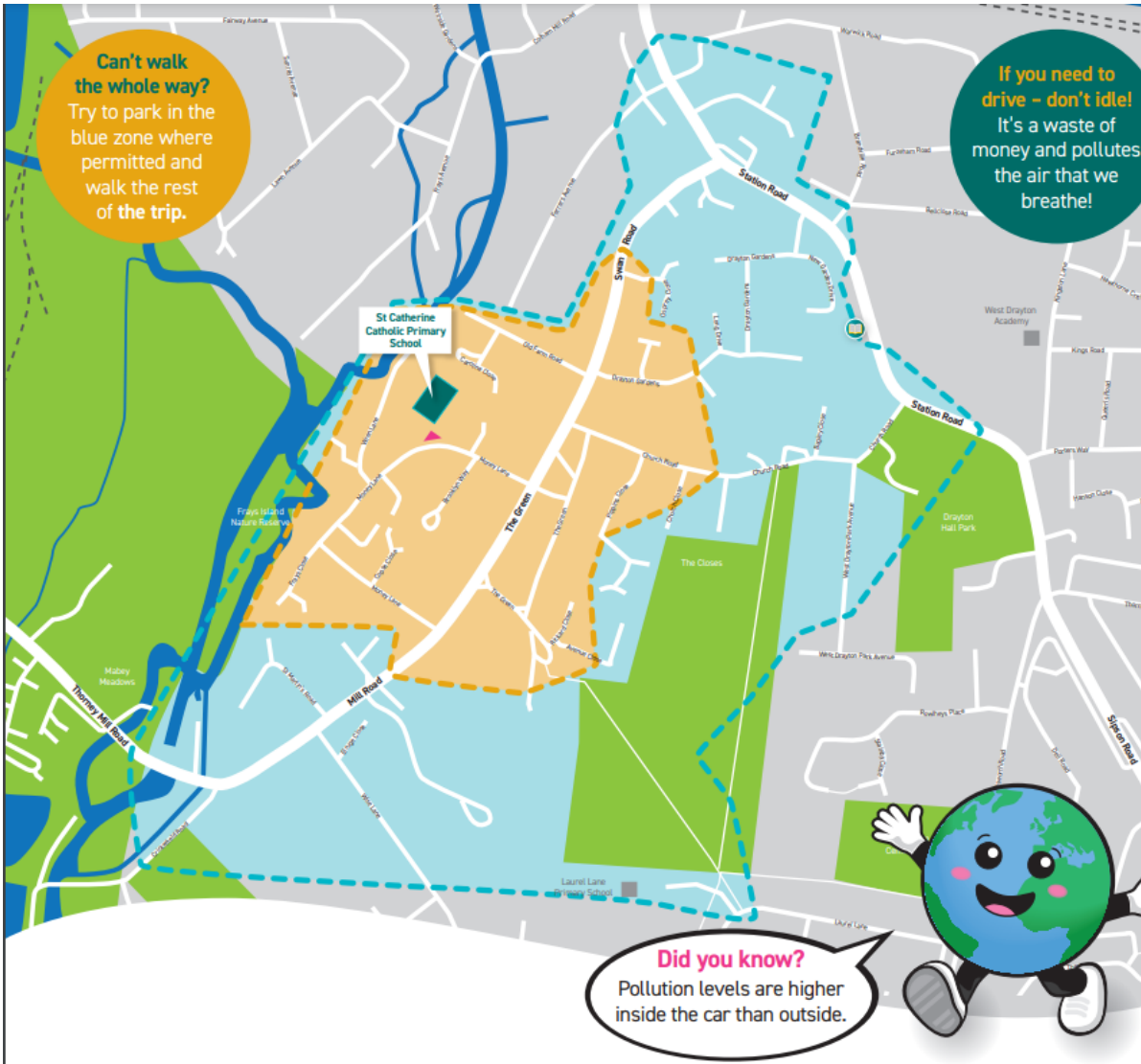
Your children have been introduced to the initiative today and are excited to get going! There are 11 badges to be earned from September 2024 – July 2025. Each badge has been designed by a pupil from across the UK as part of the annual WOW Badge Design Competition. WOW 2024/25 encourages pupils to Walk with Imagination, with a selection of badges ranging from a Bird's Eye View to Road Surfing up for grabs. The badges are made in Cornwall from material that was otherwise destined for landfill, including fridge trays, plastic plates and yoghurt pot off-cuts.

To launch this, next week we will hold a **walk to school week** where you can earn your first badge by walking to school at least once. From the following week you will need to **walk at least once a week during each month**.

Find out more about the challenge here: <https://youtu.be/op0zWJw1Hs0>

We look forward to hearing all about your travels. Happy Walking.





**Can't walk the whole way?**  
Try to park in the blue zone where permitted and walk the rest of the trip.

**If you need to drive - don't idle!**  
It's a waste of money and pollutes the air that we breathe!

**Did you know?**  
Pollution levels are higher inside the car than outside.

**skip**  
your ride,  
**take a**  
**stride**

**ST CATHERINE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL WALK ZONE MAP**

**Let's make walking part of your daily routine!**

- Key:**
- 5 minute walking zone
  - 10 minute walking zone
  - Bus stop
  - Zebra crossing
  - Pedestrian crossing
  - School entrance
  - Library



**EXPLANATION OF TRAVEL MODES ON THE WOW TRAVEL TRACKER**



**Cycle:** Select this icon if you have cycled all the way to school. 'Cycle' counts as an active journey and contributes towards earning a badge.

**Other:** This icon counts as an active travel trip and will contribute towards earning a badge. Choose this for any active journey that does not fit into the other categories.



**Walk/Wheel:** Select this icon if you have walked or wheeled all the way to school. We support disabled pupils and those with special educational needs to enjoy walking. This icon includes pupils walking with the use of mobility aids, including wheelchairs or wheeled walkers. 'Walk/ Wheel' counts as an active journey and contributes towards earning a badge.



**Park and Stride:** Park and Stride is a great way for pupils who live too far away from school to still earn a badge. Simply park the car at least 10 minutes away from school and complete the journey by foot, wheelchair, bike or scooter (any active mode of travel used to complete the journey counts!). 'Park and Stride' counts as an active journey and contributes towards earning a badge.



**Bus:** Select this icon if you took the bus (including school bus) or used public transport to get to school. 'Bus' does not count as an active journey, so it will not contribute towards earning a badge. If you choose to use public transport but still want to earn a badge, you can hop off at least 10 minutes from school and walk the rest of the way. If you choose to do so, instead of 'Bus' select 'Other'.



**Scooter/Skate:** Select this icon if you came all the way to school by scooter, skateboard, etc. 'Scooter/Skate' counts as an active journey and contributes towards earning a badge.

**Driven:** Select this icon if you drove all the way to school. 'Driven' does not count as an active journey so it will not contribute towards earning a badge.



**Absent:** Select this icon for any pupils who are absent (for every day of their absence). It is important absences are recorded correctly to give pupils a fair chance to earn a badge.

**Delete:** If you accidentally select the wrong travel mode, use the delete icon to clear it and start again.



**Taxi:** Select this icon if you travel by taxi the whole way to school. 'Taxi' does not count as an active journey so it will not contribute towards earning a badge.





# St Catherine Catholic Primary School and Nursery

*Our next community Stay and Play morning  
for Nursery and Reception aged children  
and siblings will be held on:*



## Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> March

### 10am until 12 noon

This event is open to children children  
currently attending our school and children in  
the local community. If you have a questions  
please contact our office:

[office@stcatherine.co.uk](mailto:office@stcatherine.co.uk)

telephone: 01895442839

## Important future diary dates

Monday 16th December: FSCS Gift Day

Monday 16th December KS2 Community Carol concert on playground at 6pm

Tuesday 17th December: Years 3-6 pantomime at Lyric theatre Hammersmith (Aladdin). Children to be at school by 8am

Wednesday 18th: School Christmas dinner day and Christmas jumper/ Accessorize day

Thursday 19th December—Last day of term. School finishes at 1.30pm

