

Our Lady's Catholic Primary School

We aspire that through the love of Jesus everyone
should "have life and have it to the full."



NEWSletter

Friday 19th December 2025



Christmas Joy

Loving God,

We thank You for the joy of Christmas
and for the gift of Your Son, Jesus.

As we celebrate His birth,

help us to open our hearts to love,
our hands to kindness,
and our lives to peace.

May our homes be filled with warmth
and laughter,

our days with gratitude and generosity,
and our world with hope and goodwill.

Bless our children, our families, and our
school community,

and help us to share the light of Christ
with everyone we meet.

Amen.



Message from Headteacher

As we come to the end of this term, I would like to take this opportunity to say a massive thank you to everyone for making my first term at Our Lady's such a special one. I have felt incredibly welcomed and supported, and it has been a real joy getting to know our children, families, and wider school community.

Thank you for your openness, your kindness, and for working with us through both the challenges and celebrations of the term. As a school family, we are strongest when we work together, supporting one another with trust and care. I truly feel privileged to serve this community, and I thank you for trusting us with your greatest gifts - your children. My promise to you as we move into the new year is to continue serving you and our school community to the very best of my ability.

As Christmas approaches, I wish you all a beautiful and peaceful Christmas, spent with those you hold dear. May your homes and hearts be filled with love, joy, peace, and hope.

I would love to hear your Christmas stories—please feel free to send us photos or emails sharing how you are celebrating this special time: the food you are preparing, traditions you have, favourite games, stories, or family films. We would be delighted to share in your joy.

I look forward to seeing you all in the New Year. The first day back at school is **Tuesday 6th January 2025**.

With warmest wishes and gratitude,

Aga Parzybylska

Farewell and Thank You

We are saying goodbye to some much-loved members of our school family - Mrs Griffiths, Mrs Benson, Mrs Nixon, and Miss Loney. Each of them has made a special and lasting contribution to life at Our Lady's.

Through their care, dedication, and kindness, they have supported our children, staff, and families in countless ways. We are incredibly grateful for everything they have given to our school community, and they will be greatly missed by us all.

We thank them sincerely for their hard work, commitment, and the love they have shown our children. As they move on to the next chapters of their lives, we wish them every happiness, success, and blessing for the future.

They leave with our deepest thanks and very best wishes.

Advent & Christmas Celebration

Throughout Advent, our children have led us beautifully through a series of Advent assemblies, each class sharing a special message to help us reflect, pause, and prepare our hearts for Christmas.

- Nursery delighted us with joyful carol singing
- Reception and Year 1 shared a wonderful Nativity
- Year 2 celebrated the Joy of Christmas through The Snowman
- Year 3 explored the Sounds of Christmas, focusing on angels and bells
- Year 4 reflected on Christmas Gifts, through the story of kings and shepherds
- Year 5 taught us about Christmas traditions
- Year 6 shared how Christmas is celebrated around the world

We also came together as a whole school for a beautiful Christmas Carol Service, which truly captured the spirit of the season.

A heartfelt thank you to all the staff for the time, care, and creativity that went into preparing these wonderful events - especially Mrs Bryan and Mr Scullin for their leadership and support. And of course, a huge thank you to our parents and carers for taking the time to join us and support the children.

The children sang so beautifully and confidently, and their performances have truly set the tone for our Christmas celebrations.

This year, as a school, we have focused on stopping, pausing, and reflecting in the midst of life's busyness—taking time to celebrate the moment and enjoy the true beauty of Christmas.



Reception

What a busy advent we've enjoyed in Reception. Starting with visiting Dinmore Hill Christmas Tree Farm to choose a tree for our school, which we decorated with lots of excitement. Then, a visit to Father Christmas at Madley that was extra magical. All this while practising for our Christmas performance. The children were fantastic in the Nativity, they told the story of Christmas with passion and joy, bringing a smile to us all. Merry Christmas from us all in Reception.



Year 1

We have had a lovely term in Year 1. These are some of the highlights. We had a visitor from the Museum Services, teaching us about toys and games from the past. We enjoyed a carousel of engaging activities and played with many toys from the past. She taught us lots of outdoor games too including Granny's footsteps and Mulberry Bush. We also visited Madley Environmental Study Centre and went on a Christmassy walk with Bluebell the Elf. She showed us all the wonderful lights and decorations in the woods, and we finally met Santa! His grotto was hiding behind a giant bookcase! We all enjoyed preparing for and performing our wonderful Nativity play. The children shone in each of their roles. We were very proud of them. As well as lots of learning, we have also been enjoying some Christmas crafting: we have made wreaths, baubles and paper chains to decorate our classroom.

I will miss all of you wonderful Year Ones, but I know that you will continue to flourish next term. Thank you to the families for all of your support and kindness. Merry Christmas!- Mrs Griffiths

Year 2

Year 2 have been very busy! We created snowman artwork for the assembly, using bubble wrap to print snowy backgrounds. We enjoyed decorating the Christmas tree while listening to festive music, which helped us get into the Christmas spirit. In our learning, we also researched interesting facts about famous London landmarks and shared what we discovered.

Year 3

In Year 3, we have had a busy run up to Christmas. We enjoyed our Advent assembly all about the different sounds that can be heard at Christmas, which came from a list that we made as a class. In Geography, we conducted a traffic survey on the Ross Road to see which vehicle was the most common. We were sad to realise that the most common vehicle used was a car and that we did not see many buses which would be better for the environment. This week we have made a fruit tart with puff pastry and seasonal fruits - apples, pears and plums.



Year 4

Year 4 have had an exciting and busy autumn term!

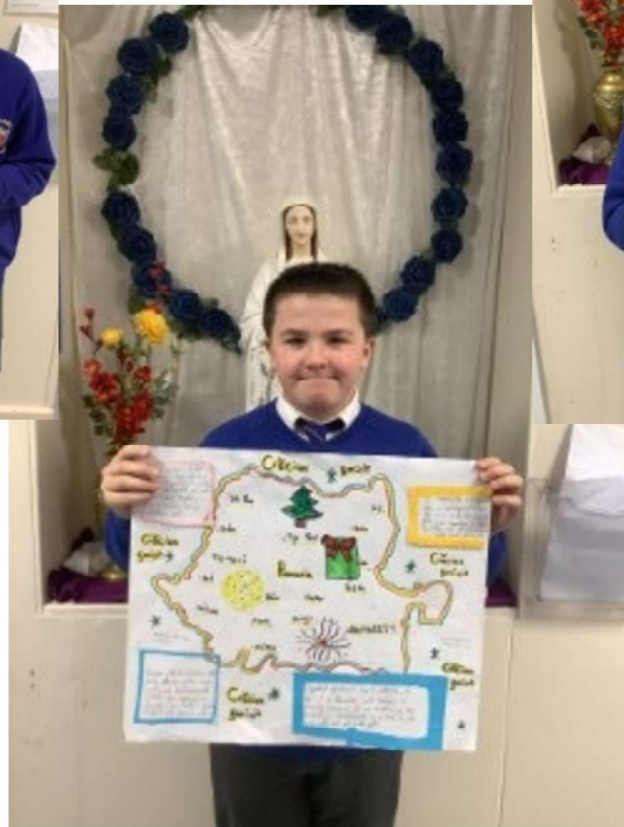
- Sports Skills: Pupils have developed their Cricket skills with Chance to Shine and improved their Football skills with Hereford FC.
- History in Action: They enjoyed an engaging Roman workshop, bringing history to life in the classroom.
- Library Visit: A trip to Hereford Library sparked curiosity and a love for reading.
- Science Investigations: Children explored states of matter and sound, carrying out hands-on experiments—including using tuning forks to investigate vibrations.
- Geography fieldwork: In Forest School, pupils investigated forest biomes, combining science with nature in a fun and practical way.

It's been a fantastic term full of learning, discovery, and new experiences. We are looking forward to welcoming the pupils back in the New Year!



Year 6

It has been a busy few weeks in the lead up to Christmas for Year 6! At the beginning of December, we visited Father James and Mrs Warren at Belmont Abbey - who gave us a wonderful tour of the Abbey. We shared Christmas lunch with our buddies last week during our Whole School Christmas dinner - which was filled with Christmas cheer. This week we performed our Advent assembly 'Christmas around the World' to our families and friends. We also sang in the KS2 Carol Concert with Year 3, 4 and 5 on Wednesday evening. In class, we have also been preparing for Jesus' birth by taking time for whole class meditation - focusing on the four Sundays of Advent. It has been a busy few weeks for us in Year 6, so we are looking forward to a little break over the Christmas period. Feliz Navidad!



Celebration

Congratulations!

Well done to all our children who received a Gold Award and our Virtue Award this week. We are so proud of you - keep up the wonderful effort!

Class	Virtues	Fantastic Fortnight	Golden Awards	
Year R	Olivia	Oakley	Maria	Lilla
Year 1	Zach	David	Emil	Denys
Year 2	Alex S	Jayden	Maja	Matvii
Year 3	Tymon	Kuba	Erin	Levison
Year 4	Artem	Sophie	Zofia	
Year 5	Aadya		Mila	Sasha
Year 6	Maisie	Elias	Connor	Max

Attendance - Autumn Term

Year Group	Present
Year Y1	97.21%
Year Y2	95.34%
Year Y3	96.51%
Year Y4	97.42%
Year Y5	95.27%
Year Y6	96.27%
Year YR	92.58%