



St Monica's Catholic Primary School

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Thursday 4th December

Dear Parents/Carers,

Everton FC and Jack Grealish visit

You may have heard that Everton FC and Jack Grealish visited our school yesterday - well, the rumours are true. We had to keep this one under wraps!

A Y4 pupil was selected by Everton from more than one thousand entries they received in a Christmas Superstar competition. It is fair to say this pupil thoroughly deserves this accolade and is a true representation of The St Monica's Way.

We told the children that Ofsted were visiting to record a lesson as the Sky Sports cameramen set up for the surprise. Jack arrived and was both humble and generous. He was a true gentleman who had time for everybody and treated all with a smile and great respect. It was his day off and he had specifically asked Everton if he could work closely with the local community. He created lifetime memories for the pupil and for the wider school community. Jack even began visiting other classrooms when this was not part of the itinerary - to the absolute delight of those classes.

Everton and Sky Sports will show the videos and interviews before the Arsenal game on 20th December. Do tune in to watch the wonderful moment Jack walked in to surprise class 4W. It was magical, and you will also see our pupil as a mascot before



the game. After Jack left, a pupil in Mrs Ware's class then asked, "Are Ofsted coming in now?"

Mrs Hulligan: Book of Condolences in our Foyer

We have placed a Family Book of Condolences in our Foyer should you wish to write a simple message, or even just sign the book for Mrs Hulligan. The book will be in the Foyer until the final day of Term, Thursday 18th December.

Jack Grealish brought in an amazing bouquet of flowers from Everton FC, which was a lovely touch and recognition of her unwavering support and loyalty over the decades.



Pantomime Tomorrow: Friday 5th December

Chaplins are coming in tomorrow to deliver a world class panto to our children in the morning and afternoon: The Legend of Dick Whittingham. Pupils will come home full of energy and the delights of a panto. Children do not need to bring anything in for the performance.

Christmas Jumper Day - 10th December

Christmas Jumper Day is next Wednesday, 10th December. Pupils can wear a Christmas jumper on the day over their uniform or PE Kit. As a sign of support for Mrs Hulligan's family, we will collect donations on this day. Staff will also donate and all proceeds will go towards Mrs Hulligan's family at this sad time.

Finally, if you have any old or spare Christmas jumpers, please pass them into the office and we will ensure they go to a good home: they always come in very handy!

Christmas Dates 2025

Please find our plans for the Christmas period outlined below. Christmas is a magical time in our school and we want to make sure Christmas 2025 is full of special memories for our pupils, families and staff.

Event	Date	Key Information
School Pantomime	Friday, 5th December	It's Panto Time! Dick Whittington, children do not need to bring anything into school.
Advent Mass in St Monica's Church at 9:30am	Sunday 7th December	Father Ged will host the Advent Mass for the second Sunday of Advent.
Dance performance		
Dance performance	Tuesday 9th December, 4pm	For parents - text to be sent out
Christmas Dinner	10th December	For children and staff - a delicious Christmas dinner.
Christmas Jumper Day	10th December	All staff and pupils can wear a Christmas Jumper for the day
St Monica's Nativity - The Big Performance	11th December, 10am 2pm	10:00am performance - Year One parents 2:00pm performance - Year Two parents Tickets will be sent out on Monday, thanks.
Christmas Reception Performance	Friday 12th December 10am	Children will go home with 2 tickets for families to the Christmas performance in their bag tomorrow.
Christmas Nursery Performance	Friday 12th December 2pm	Children who do not attend Nursery on a Friday should come to Nursery at 1:30pm so they can take part in our performance.
Gymnastics Display		
Gymnastics Display	Monday, 15th December, 3:20pm	Our multi sports club will put on a performance for parents in our hall.
Y6 Christmas Carol Concert	Tuesday 16th December 6pm	St Monica's Church at 6pm; refreshments after in Parish Hall, letter to follow.
Santa Dash	Tuesday 16th December	Children can wear Santa hats and Christmas jumpers if they wish. 15 minute run for KS2 classes. Count the number of laps per class and winners gain extra play time the first week back. 10 - 15 minute run for EYFS and KS1.
Rocksteady Christmas Concert	Wednesday 17th December, 2pm	Wednesday groups only (Thursday groups will do a concert later on in the year) Letters with ticket information has already been sent out
Y1 Performance at St Monica's Parish Hall	Wednesday 17th December, 2pm	Y1 will sing at St Monica's Parish Hall for Old Person's Home

		No parents thanks. Children can wear festive accessories for the performance - with full school uniform to be worn.
Music Christmas Concert	Wednesday 17th December, 4:30pm	School Hall: Letter with ticket information has already been sent out to those participating
Christmas Raffle	Thursday 18th	Live draw with Mr Gouldbourne and all classes
Christmas Parties with special visitor	Thursday 18th	Christmas Jumpers can be worn.
Friday 19th, School is closed to pupils for a staff INSET training day		

Christmas Raffle

This year we have decided to hold a Christmas Raffle. There will be four luxury hampers to be won across our phases: **Early Years (Nursery and Reception), KS1 (Years One and Two), LKS2 (Years Three and Four) and Upper KS2 (Years Five and Six)**. The staff have also been gathering lots of Christmas Selection boxes that can also be won.

The money raised from this raffle will be split between the next phase of our Wellbeing Garden and a cause very close to our school, Alder Hey Hospital. Tickets will cost **£1** per strip and will go on sale from **Monday 8th December** with the winners being selected on **Thursday 18th December**.

We would like you to use this opportunity to purchase raffle tickets for a good cause, but please let this take the place of buying gifts for staff. Please save your money in this regard, a lovely card with a handwritten message or picture is what teachers treasure.

We feel that this season brings a lot of pressure for families and we would like this to be a way of reducing the necessity of additional spending on gifts and hopefully you have the fun opportunity to win a lovely gift. Everybody loves a raffle!

Yours sincerely,

Mr. James Gouldbourne

Mr James Gouldbourne
Headteacher