



# ST MONICA'S NEWSLETTER

THURSDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER

**What a memorable Christmas we have had at St Monica's. It has been lovely to welcome so many families into our school and share the joy of Advent together. Our Christmas Newsletter will take time to celebrate these special moments. From all of us here at St Monica's, we wish you all a wonderful Christmas.**

## **Nativity: Camelamadingdong**

This year, our Year 1 and 2 combined to create a memorable Nativity called 'Camelamadingdong'. Great performances, wonderful songs and touching moments combined to tell the unforgettable story of the Nativity. Year 1 and 2 can be proud of their hard work and this brilliant production.



## **Year 6 Christmas Carol Concert**

Year 6 shone in our traditional Carol Concert at our church on Monday evening. Pupils filled the church with beautiful singing and reverence as they told the story of the coming of Jesus through a heartfelt performance. The evening was a credit to all involved.



## **Sky Sports and Jack Grealish Visit**

Everton and Sky Sports have released the video from their surprise visit to our school. The video showcases Jack's visit to St Monica's to visit a very special and brilliant pupil, who will be a mascot in the Everton game against Arsenal tomorrow. It's going viral! [Watch Here](#)





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## Year 1 Visit to the Parish Centre

Year 1 visited St Monica's Parish Centre to spread festive cheer among our local pensioners and care home residents on Wednesday. The children sang hymns, shared smiles and spent time chatting with guests, creating a truly heart-warming atmosphere.

The visit clearly meant a great deal to those who attended, and I have since received several lovely emails expressing thanks and appreciation to the children and staff. **Well done to Year 1 for representing our school so positively within our parish.**



## St Monica's Christmas Music Performance

Last night, we held our first ever Christmas Music Performance. It was a production to remember, with over 70 children showcasing confidence, commitment and musical talent. Pupils performed across a dazzling range of instruments, from the violin to the trombone, and demonstrated the progress they have made in our new music curriculum. The standard of performance was extremely high and a joy to see.

It is wonderful to see our music curriculum starting to flourish, adding a rich extra dimension to school life and giving pupils the chance to develop, hone and celebrate their musical ability.

**We will be hosting another performance in the Summer Term so more children can showcase their skills - so keep practising!**





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## Staff Goodbyes

Mrs Morgan and Miss Lavelle are leaving St Monica's today, as they take up new roles as Family Support Workers in different areas of Sefton. Both have been superb members of staff at St Monica's, making significant and lasting contributions to our school community. I thank them sincerely for their dedication and hard work, and we all wish them every success and happiness in their future careers.



## Mrs Hulligan's Funeral

Thank you to all who contributed to the fundraising for the family. The Book of Condolences contains wonderful, heartfelt messages that will bring comfort and joy to the family. We raised well over £1000 for the family, proving again that we have the most generous and caring families around. We have a message of thanks from Mrs Hulligan's family:

***"Marie was so proud to be part of St Monica's, and we thank each and every member of the school family for your prayers, support and love. It means the world to us."***

**The funeral will be held in St Monica's Church at 12pm on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> December.**





## Nursery - by Miss Byrne



Our Nursery children delighted us with a joyful Christmas Sing-Along this Christmas. They showed wonderful bravery as they stood proudly before parents and carers.

From the first note, their cheerful voices, bright smiles and actions filled the hall with festive magic. Each song was performed with such excitement and confidence that the Christmas spirit quickly spread to everyone watching.

**We are incredibly proud of every child for their effort, courage, and joy. They truly put us all in the perfect mood for the celebrations ahead.**



## Reception - by Miss Andrews and Miss Horder

Reception did a fantastic job in their Christmas Carol concert, filling the hall with wonderful singing and festive cheer. We are so proud of all the children for their confidence and enthusiasm. As a treat afterwards, they enjoyed hot chocolate and a biscuit while watching *The Gruffalo's Child*: the perfect cosy ending to special morning.





## Year 1 - by Miss Hatcher and Miss Tew

### Year 1 Explore the Continents and Oceans!



In Year 1, we have been learning all about the continents and oceans that make up our amazing planet Earth. The children have been busy discovering the names of the seven continents: Africa, Antarctica, Asia, Australia, Europe, North America and South America. We have also been learning about the five oceans that cover most of our world's surface: the Pacific, Atlantic, Indian, Arctic and Southern Oceans. Our pupils have had so much fun building their global awareness and geography vocabulary.

One highlight of our lessons has been singing along to a catchy Continents and Oceans song on YouTube that helps us remember both the Geography of our world!

Click here to enjoy the song with your child:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K6DSMZ8b3LE>



The children loved moving, clapping and pointing to the different places on our classroom world map as we sang together. Ask them to perform the song for you at home, they're becoming real geography experts! Keep exploring and singing: next week we'll be finding out about some of the amazing animals and people who live across the continents!



## Year 2- by Mrs Macdonald, Mrs Chorzepa and Miss Partington



**Our Year 2 pupils shone brightly in this year's Nativity performance**, sharing beautiful songs, confident lines, and plenty of festive cheer. The children worked incredibly hard in rehearsals, and their enthusiasm and teamwork were clear for all to see. We are so proud of each and every one of them.

A heartfelt thank you to all the families who joined us to watch and support the performance. Your encouragement means so much to the children, and it helped make the occasion truly special. We hope you enjoyed the show as much as they enjoyed performing it!



## Year 3 - by Mrs Reardon and Miss Gibbons

Year 3 have been exploring the topic “Animals Including Humans”. As part of our investigation, we wondered whether taller people always have bigger feet than those who are shorter. To help us answer this question, we invited some fantastic helpers from Year 1 and Year 6 and compared their foot sizes and heights with our own. We discovered a strong correlation between height and foot size, although we also found that this is not always the case: some tall people have small feet.



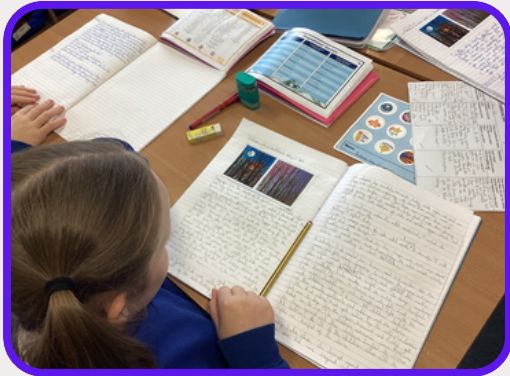
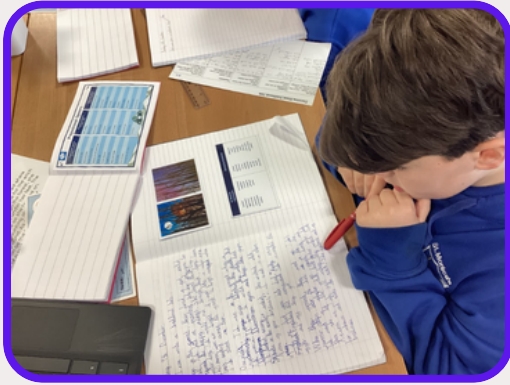
## Year 4 - by Mrs Ware and Miss Thomas

Year 4 had a fantastic time taking part in the United Utilities H2O On the Go! workshop. This hands-on session linked perfectly to our geography topic on rivers and our science work on states of matter. Pupils explored the stages of the water cycle, discovered that water is the only material on Earth that can naturally be found in all three states of matter, and learned that although around 70% of our planet is covered in water, only about 2% is suitable for drinking: reminding us why it's so important to conserve this precious resource. Our pupils also picked up some brilliant everyday tips for saving water. A truly engaging session that brought real world science to life and left our young scientists feeling inspired!





# Year 5- by Mrs Gilbertson/ Mrs Birch and Miss McGuckin



This week, Year 5 have been working hard on their writing, focusing on traditional tales. We have been exploring The Lost Happy Endings and the children have been retelling the story in their own creative ways. They have learned how to develop characters and setting using exciting descriptive language. Inspired by “Jub”, the guardian of happy endings, pupils planned and wrote their own versions of the tale, adding imaginative twists and wonderful detail. Their stories have been full of magic, adventure, and fantastic vocabulary. We are very proud of their efforts and can't wait to edit our writing and publish these for our Writing Lines.



# Year 6- by Miss McGiveron and Mr Lynch

In Year 6 Geography, pupils explored what causes earthquakes and the powerful effects they can have on people and places. They learnt that earthquakes happen when the Earth's tectonic plates suddenly shift, releasing energy that travels through the ground as seismic waves. Children investigated how this movement can cause the land to shake, split, or rise, and how these events can lead to real-world impacts such as damaged buildings, landslides, tsunamis and disruption to communities.

