

ST. DOMINIC'S *Gazette*



Issue 483 - Friday 8th December 2023

*Our SEAL
word of the week
commencing
11th December
is
Kindness.*



Attendance & Punctuality Class of the Week

Congratulations to Class Reception for the best class attendance in EYFS/KS1 this week with 99%. In KS2, congratulations to Class 6A whose attendance was 97%.

Can we please remind parents to inform the school on the first day of any absence and to give an expected return date. GP and dental appointments should be made after school whenever possible.

If your child is not going to be in school please call the office on 020 8985 0995 (option 1) to report their absence. Please do this before 9:00am on each day of absence.



St. Dominic's School - Est 1873!
St Dominic's will be celebrating our 150th Anniversary this year!
The school opened its doors to its first pupils in 1873!

To mark this special occasion, we will be celebrating with an 150th Anniversary Mass on **Wednesday 13th December at 10.30am.**

As the school opened in the reign of Queen Victoria, we are asking everyone to dress in Victorian themed clothing to mark the event. If you do not wish to dress as a Victorian, you should wear your smartest school uniform.

I do hope as many of you as possible are able to join us on 13th December.



Christmas Raffle

Tickets for our Christmas raffle are now on sale at the cost of £1.00 per strip.

Be sure to come along to our school office to purchase your raffle tickets.

Prizes include:

- Coffee Machine
- M&S Christmas Cake
- M&S Christmas Pudding
- M&S tin of biscuits
- Bottle of Prosecco
- Bottle of Jim Beam
- Bottle Of JD

Plus more to be announced!!

You've got to be in it to win it!



The Big Ambition

The Children's Commissioner for England, Dame Rachel de Souza, has launched **The Big Ambition**, a national survey of children and young people across England.

The Big Ambition aims to hear from children across England on what they think is important! In the lead up to the next General Election, the Children's Commissioner wants to take children's thoughts, opinions and ideas to decision-makers, to make sure that the Government hears young people's voices on what they think needs to be done to make children's lives better in England.

The Big Ambition survey will be open until Friday 15th December. The survey takes around **10 minutes** to complete and can be completed on mobile phones, tablets, laptops and computers.

The survey asks for information about the person responding, the child's age, and what school they attend. For more information on how to complete the survey please visit:

<http://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition>



New Year Holiday Camp

OurCamps work in direct partnership with Councils and Local Authority partners to make

attending camp **FREE** for free school meal children.

Camp is being held at St. Dominic's from **Tuesday 2nd January 2024 - Friday 5th January 2024.**

To book your place please follow the instructions on the attached flyer.



Christmas Nativity

Our KS1 Nativity performance will take place on **Friday 15th December** at **2.30pm** in the KS1 hall.

KS2 will be holding their Christmas Nativity Play on **Monday 18th December** at **2.15pm** in the KS1 hall.

All parents and families are warmly invited to join us on both occasions as we celebrate the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ into the world.



Afterschool Club

Please note there will be **NO** afterschool club on **Friday 15th December**.



Class Christmas Parties

On **Tuesday 19th December** all classes will be having their Christmas parties in the afternoon. Children will be able to come to school in their own clothes.



School Christmas Dinners

Our catering team will be serving up a variety of seasonal delights with their special festive menu.

Children will enjoy a traditional Christmas dinner on **Wednesday 20th December**.

If your child normally has a packed lunch but you would like them to have a Christmas dinner, please let the school office know.

FESTIVE FEAST MENU:

MAINS: Roast Turkey or Roasted Vegetable and Cranberry Slice (V)

SIDES: Roast Potatoes, Carrots, Peas, Stuffing, Sausages (Halal Chicken Sausage) or veggie sausage and Gravy

DESSERTS: Christmas Ice Cream



Christmas Holidays

School will close for the Christmas Holidays on **Thursday 21st**

December at **2pm**.

School will re-open for the Spring term on **Monday 8th January 2024** at **9am**.



IMPORTANT: Providing the school with up-to-date details

Can parents please ensure that contact details are kept up to date. It is essential that we have current telephone numbers for at least three adults who we can contact in case of illness, emergency or absence.

If you have changed your contact details recently please advise the school office immediately.



Birthdays at St. Dominic's

Happy Birthday to the following children who will be celebrating their birthdays over the coming week.

Year 1	Yasmine
Year 2	Diamond
Year 4	John Francis
Year 5	Shenice



2ND SUNDAY OF Advent

Second Sunday of Advent

God sent John the Baptist to prepare the people for the coming of his son. The message he preached then, is just as important today, as we prepare ourselves for the coming of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Prayer

Heavenly Father, help each of us to make a fresh start this Advent; to put right what is wrong and to truly live as Jesus showed us.

Amen

People need people,
To walk to, to talk to
To cry and rely on,
People will always need people.
To love and to miss to hug and to kiss.
It's useful to have other people.
To whom to moan if you're alone
It's hard to share when no one is there
There's not much to do when there's no one but you.
PEOPLE WILL ALWAYS NEED PEOPLE.

Benjamin Zephaniah 1958-2023