

# St Martin de Porres Primary School

## December 2024



Dear Parents/Carers

### Fundraising Activities

A big thank you and congratulations to Year 6 for their outstanding effort in organising the Advent Activities once again this year. Their hard work and dedication raised a total of £230. In addition, £404 was raised through the school disco, and further contributions were made through our 'Buy a Star' campaign. Together, these initiatives have generated a total of **£858**, which will be used to enhance the outdoor environment for the children.

### Carol Service

A big thank you to all the parents who joined us for our Carol Service on Thursday, December 12th. As always, it was a wonderful evening. Congratulations to the choir for their beautiful singing, and to the readers who reminded us of the true meaning of Christmas. We also want to express our gratitude to Miss Taylor and Miss Clarke for leading the choir and preparing the readers. Many thanks to Mrs Dye for her support during the choir sessions.



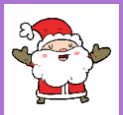
### Reception and Nursery Nativity

The Reception and Nursery Nativities truly got us into the Christmas spirit. The children were incredible and celebrated the birth of Jesus in a really special way. We would like to extend a huge thank you to all the staff in Reception and Nursery for their dedication in preparing the children so beautifully, and for everything they have done with the children since they started in September.



### Christmas Lunch

On Wednesday, the children and staff enjoyed a wonderful Christmas lunch. It was lovely to see the children wearing their Christmas jumpers, and they enjoyed the celebration. A big thank you to Grace and the kitchen staff for preparing such a lovely meal. Thank you to Father Christmas for taking time out of his busy schedule to visit the KS1 & EYs children.



### Pantomime

On Tuesday, the children were treated to a performance of the pantomime *Jack and the Beanstalk*. They thoroughly enjoyed it, and a great time was had by all... Oh no it wasn't! Oh yes it was!

### **Medication in School**

In line with our medicines policy, medication can be administered at school if it needs to be taken four times a day. Medication prescribed for three times a day should be taken at home. If medication must be given at school, an indemnity form must be completed at the school office beforehand.

### **School closure**

We will always make every effort to remain open, but the safety of our children and staff is our top priority. If the school needs to close due to poor weather conditions, we will inform you through the following channels. The most important of these is Parentmail, so please make sure your contact numbers and email addresses are up to date with us.

- Parentmail text and email: If you are not yet registered, or if your contact details have changed, please contact the office as soon as possible.
- Message on the school website: [www.stmartindepordesluton.co.uk](http://www.stmartindepordesluton.co.uk)
- Message on the LBC website: <http://www.luton.gov.uk/schoolclosures>

**Please do not call the school on the morning of a closure**

### **Christmas Masses**

Please find below details of mass times at St Martin de Porres Church over the Christmas period

Tuesday 24th December: 4.00pm 1st Mass of Christmas (Family Mass)  
12.00 Midnight Vigil Mass (carols from 11.30pm)

Wednesday 25th December: 9.00am & 11.00am

Thursday 26th December: 12.00 Noon

Wednesday 1st January: 12.00 Noon

### **Late Collection Policy**

Please take some time to read the 'Late Collection Policy' that was sent to all parents via ParentMail on 12th December. We have noticed an increasing number of children not being collected on time at the end of the school day. This situation not only causes distress for the children waiting to be collected, but it also presents a challenge as we do not have staff available to supervise children once the school day has concluded.

We kindly ask that you do not assume staff members in the office or teaching staff can remain with your child while waiting for collection, as this is not possible. Playtarium, a third-party company, provides after-school care for children whose parents are unable to collect them at the usual time. However, please be aware that you will need to contact Playtarium directly to arrange for registration and to confirm availability, as they operate within staffing ratios and cannot accommodate last-minute requests. Playtarium is an independent service and all arrangements must be made directly with them, not through the school.

If you are unable to collect your child on time, please ensure you have alternative contacts available to collect your child on your behalf.

## Dates for next term



Date	Event
6.1.2025	Pupils return to school Feast of the Epiphany
29.1.2025	Year 1 Candlemas Prayer and Worship 9.10am
7.2.2025	Shine Bright, wear Bright – non uniform day
10.2.2025	Internet Safety workshop for parents 5-6pm
14.2.2025	<b>Break up for half term</b>
24.2.2025	Children return from half term

*'What can I give Him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;  
If I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; Yet what I can I give Him: give my heart.'*



We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Governors, Parents, Staff, and children for all their support throughout the last term. We wish you a holy and peaceful Christmas and look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Monday, 6th January 2025.

Kind regards

*A. Barnaville. H. Gallagher*

Mrs. A. Barnaville & Mrs. H. Gallagher

Co -Head Teachers

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2024

