



6 December, 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

### Reflection

*"My idea of Christmas, whether old-fashioned or modern, is very simple: loving others"*

### Second Candle of Advent

The second candle (purple) represents faith. It is called the "Bethlehem Candle" as a reminder of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem. It calls you out to prepare the way of the Lord.

### Christmas Party Day.

On Wednesday 15 December, the children have their Christmas parties in the afternoon. Children may come to school in their party clothes on this day. Your child will eat in the afternoon so will not need their packed lunch if this applies. As the children will be eating slightly later than normal, please ensure your child brings a snack (some fruit or veg) to eat at break time. Thank you.

### Christmas Jumper Day

On Friday 17 December, children may come to school in their Christmas jumper with their school uniform below the waist. We would be grateful for a donation of £1 for the PTA funds. Thank you.

### PTA Christmas Raffle

Tickets are going on sale tomorrow for the PTA Christmas Raffle. Tickets will be £1 per strip with all proceeds going to the PTA funds.

There are some AMAZING prizes to be won, including:

- £40 voucher from Lifeofabeautygirl
- £20 voucher from Durham Ox
- Afternoon Tea for 2 from Morley Hayes
- 2 x £15 vouchers for SPUDS
- £15 voucher from Henry George

Not to mention a free Pilates session from Pilates by Ilze, wet-pro Disney brush from Ingleside Salon, gifts from Kardi & White, Bailey Made Gifts, Mabel's and Snuggles & Kisses!

*Tickets will be available to buy this week in school, please send your child into school with the correct money. Tickets will also be available to purchase next week at home time - more details soon. The raffle will be drawn on the PTA Christmas Jumper Day- Friday 17 December.*



St. Thomas' Catholic Voluntary Academy  
Church View, Ilkeston, DE74LF  
[info@tho.srscmat.co.uk](mailto:info@tho.srscmat.co.uk)  
[www.st-thomas.derbyshire.sch.uk](http://www.st-thomas.derbyshire.sch.uk)  
[@stthomasderbys](https://www.facebook.com/stthomasderbys)  
Company Number 7937154



**St Ralph  
Sherwin**  
Catholic Multi Academy Trust



### **Advent Fundraising**

We always try do some fundraising for those in need during Advent. This year, we know we have asked for a lot from families so this will be far lower key.

- We will have a collection in the entrance for local foodbanks. Send in something if you can.
- We would like children to only send 1 card to their class rather than individuals (this also fits with our sustainability goals) and then to send in the money saved and we will use this to buy CAFOD World Gifts for those in need. We will start to build our own virtual village of a St Thomas gift. Please send in donations to class in an envelope. More information about world gifts [here](#)

### **Dates for your Diary**

**Wednesday 8 December:** Christmas Dinner for children- school uniform required but children may wear Christmas headgear/accessories. Please ensure your child still brings a packed lunch if you have not ordered a dinner.

**Wednesday 15 December:** Christmas Party in the afternoon – non-uniform – wear your party clothes!

**Friday 17 December:** Christmas Jumper Day – Full school uniform – but with a Christmas jumper. £1 voluntary donation for the PTA.

**Tuesday 21 December:** Final day of school before the Christmas break.

**Monday 10 January:** Children return to school after the Christmas break.

Thank you for your continued support,

God Bless,

Mr Lobb & Mr Sellors



St. Thomas' Catholic Voluntary Academy  
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[@stthomasderbys](https://twitter.com/stthomasderbys)  
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