



Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you all enjoyed a lovely break from the school routine over half term and found time to appreciate the beauty of this autumn season — even as the days start to feel a little chillier and darker!

This coming half term is a favourite for many, as it marks the beginning of Advent — a truly special time in school when we reflect on how we can follow Jesus' example and prepare to celebrate His birth. There is so much to look forward to, including charity events, performances, retreats and celebrations.

As we continue to walk together as Pilgrims of Hope, we pray that each day is filled with joy and a sense of achievement in all that we do.

Warm regards, *Anne-Marie Bell*



### Whole School Dates for your Diary

Thurs 6 November	Y5 attending The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe performance
Fri 7 November	<b>Heart of the Week - postponed</b>
Mon 10 November	Anti-Bullying Week – Power for Good
Fri 14 November	<b>2:30pm Heart of the Week celebration – sharing Anti-bullying Week work</b>
Fri 21 November	World Youth Day and Pilgrims of Hope Celebration
Sun 23 November	Feast of Christ the King – 10:15am Mass at Church – children reading prayers Enrolment Mass for children wishing to make their First Holy Communion
Thurs 27 November	Y5 and Y6 will be supporting Tesco's foodbank appeal
Fri 28 November	Aspens are hosting a Fruit and Vegetables tasting session in F2
Fri 28 November	<b>2:30pm Heart of the Week Celebration</b>
Mon 1 December	<b>Advent Day of Reflection - £1 non-uniform for Missio</b>
Tues 9 December	9:30am and 2pm EYFS Nativity
<b>TBC</b> Thurs 11 Dec	Children's School Disco
Fri 12 December	9:30am School Mass – celebrating Advent
Tues 16 December	9:30am and 2pm KS1 Christmas Performance
Wed 17 December	4pm KS2 Christmas Carols
Thurs 18 December	Christmas Dinner and Jumper Day
Fri 19 December	1:45pm Christingle Service in Church – all welcome

### Feast of Christ the King

**10:15am Sunday 23 November**

The school will come together with the parish to celebrate this special feast. All children who are signing up to make their First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion must be there!



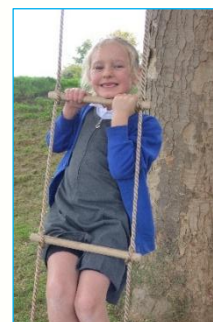
School children will be taking part in the offertory and reading bidding prayers. Let's make this a special occasion.

### OPAL Playtimes

At Sacred Heart, we are continuing to develop our outdoor provision. We have a sandpit due to be built soon, we have a new strap line, new swings and ladders, we are moving our quiet area onto the astroturf, while adding a new shelter, seating, activities and board games.

#### DONATIONS

We would appreciate any donations e.g. tarpaulin sheets. **Please see our request list on the final page.** If you know any construction companies who may be able to help donate, please let the office know.



## October – Month of the Rosary



Children met regularly during their play times during October to pray a decade of the Rosary. We prayed for people across the world who are seeking love and comfort, especially those where there is war and unrest.

## Following Poppy - 'Putting those in Need First'



CAFOD Catholic Social Teaching



**Harvest Collection** – a large collection of food you donated was taken to Emmanuel House and a second load was delivered to the local Food Bank. Thank you!

**Macmillan Coffee Morning** – Thank you to those who attended, it was a lovely gathering. We raised £70, including money from selling the cakes Year 6 donated. Well done everyone. The money has been transferred to Macmillan Cancer Research.

## In November, We Remember - Poppy Appeal 2025

This November, we're proudly supporting the Poppy Appeal — a chance for our school community to come together and make a real difference. Many veterans face tough challenges after their time of service, and every poppy worn and every pound raised helps provide them with the care, connection, and support they deserve. Let's show our gratitude by getting involved, donating generously, and wearing our poppies with pride! Poppies will be on sale on the playground at the start and end of each day, where possible. Together, we can honour their courage and bring hope to those who have given so much for us.



## Anti-Bullying Week – Power for Good

Anti-Bullying Week begins on 10th November. It's a special time for schools across the country to shine a light on bullying and remind everyone that unkindness has no place at any time. Please join us on Friday 14th November at 2:30pm to hear all that we've learned and how we can use our power for good!

### Chocolate Sweet Tubs

Miss Owens is collecting sweet tubs between now and 9<sup>th</sup> January. She will take them to Greene King who will donate 5p for each tub to Macmillan Cancer Research. So, if you needed an excuse to get eating large boxes of chocolate... here it is.

**Drop the tubs into school as and when you can!**







We'd really appreciate your help by donating any of the following items or similar to support OPAL play at Sacred Heart



Plastic dinosaur and animals



Wooden /decking planks



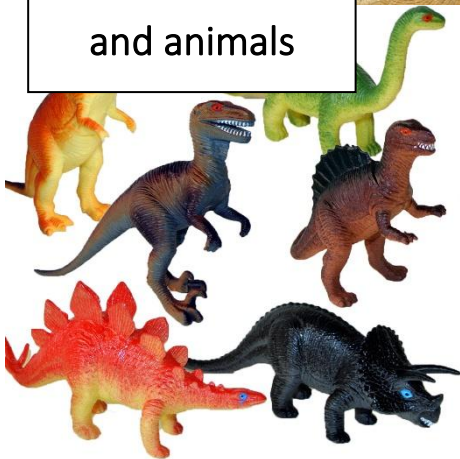
pushchairs



Action hero figures



Baby dolls and clothes



Small world play



Toy cars and vehicles



Wooden building blocks



Bottle / milk crates

Tarpaulin sheets



Guttering