



We've made it to the end of what has been one of the longest terms in my nearly 30 years of teaching. The Autumn term is always the longest in time and the same twist of fate that gave 2020 a leap year day gave us a 15 week term leading up to Christmas. I can only thank and applaud the staff who have continued to step up so magnificently to the many challenges thrown their way this year. They learned how to use SeeSaw and then we made them use Teams. They learned how to record lessons on Teams and then we made them teach remotely. We even took away the crutch of working together on the Christmas play and then made them find a "virtual" alternative. And all the time, they made sure that the children had a broad and balanced curriculum (PE, Music, Tudor houses?) while identifying who might need a little more help or time to deal with all the issue the previous lockdown had brought, while following the myriad rules and one way systems. The poor staff even have to eat separately! We have a wonderful staff and they have done, and continue to do, an amazing job.

I would also like to thank all of you for working with us and trusting us to keep your children safe. I know that it is irksome to follow our rules and systems, but it is by working together that we will continue to get through this. Thank you also for understanding that many of the decisions we have to make have to be in a very short time; yesterday's announcements about remote learning for Secondary schools gives a good example of how it works for us! I would like to say that the worst is over, but I think we all know that the New Year will bring its own challenges and I would ask you all to continue to take as much care as possible in order to keep our infection rate as low as possible.

Thank you to all of you who have sent in such kind words and presents over the last few days. You can't see behind our masks, but we are smiling for a change! It really does boost our wilting spirits when these messages come through.

We wish you all a Happy and blessed Christmas in whatever form it takes this year. Keep safe.

### **Microsoft Teams**

I think we have more or less got the hang of how remote learning is working... Staff will post timetable with some live sessions and some work for the children to do on their own. We almost always remember to record the live sessions so you can catch up with them if you are not able to attend.

Staff are available during the school day (8:30-4:00) to answer questions about work via Teams. Messages which come in after 4:00 will be dealt with the next day.



General questions should still come to the school office.

### **Reporting arrangements for next week**

The senior team will be monitoring the office email account each morning up until Christmas Eve in order to continue our track and trace work. Please refer to the letter we sent out earlier this week for how this works.

## **Please don't forget to pre-order your child/children's lunch for when they return in January 2021**

### **ParentMail**

We use Parentmail for after school club bookings, trips and visits, permissions and any other items that we need parent/carers to approve. If you are having problems registering please contact [office@sacredheart.barnetmail.net](mailto:office@sacredheart.barnetmail.net) as we may not have the most up to date email address for you.

### **After school Club**

The first half of the spring term for after school club is available to book on Parentmail.

After school club bookings MUST be made on Parentmail. If you are a new user and will be paying by Childcare vouchers, please let the office know as soon as possible. There will no longer be any **emergency bookings** so please ensure you book in advance. **You will be able to cancel and make changes to bookings yourselves.**

### **Breakfast Club**

Non Stop Action run breakfast club, bookings can be made via the website [www.NonStopAction.co.uk](http://www.NonStopAction.co.uk) or by phone 0208 446 0006.

### **Parents Association**

### **Christmas Fundraising**

We wish to thank each and every one of you who kindly and generously supported our fundraising. What we have achieved as a school community has greatly



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exceeded all expectations and we are so proud to share that we have raised an amazing....drum roll please..... £9,013.32!

Here are the details of the amount raised by each initiative so you can see for yourself what a difference your contribution makes:

**Christmas Grotto:** takings of £1015 which is a truly amazing amount (the 2019 figure was £705). We could not have done it without the wonderful Emily Grilli who has put so much time and effort into ensuring the children (and parents) remember that in 2020 the magic of Christmas did exist. A big thank you also to the lovely mums who helped wrap the 400 gifts which the children received from Father Christmas.

**Non-Uniform Day:** We asked for cash donations instead of the usual bottles for the "Bottle Tombola" and this raised a great £338.23.

**Christmas Raffle:** You, together with your families and friends, bought an amazing 3589 tickets (2019 figure was £1599). Thank you to the mums who folded the tickets and many congratulations to the lucky winners. A list of winners has been circulated via Class Reps and is on our "Sacred Heart Families" Facebook page.

**Silent Auction:** £1725 (2019 figure £1787) which is simply amazing. We still have a number of items left which include 5 swimming lessons with KS Swimming at Moss Hall in Finchley, Manolo Blahnik wrist cuffs which retail at £185 but you can have them for only £45 and they will make great gifts for a loved one (or for yourself and let's face it, after this year, you deserve it), 4 adult Spanish lessons, the Manchester United signed pennant (another great gift for a fan for only £15) and the 10 hours of Kloned Virtual Assistant which, in our eyes is priceless as who wouldn't want to delegate help when you could be relaxing in front of a TV watching Christmas films with the family or going for a walk in the woods. If you are interested in any of these, please email [sacredheartschoolpaevents@gmail.com](mailto:sacredheartschoolpaevents@gmail.com). A big thank you to all who generously pledged a bid. Winners have been contacted.

**Programme/Banners:** A net profit of £1477 (2019 figure was £1466.20) which again, is incredible in the current climate so a HUGE thank you to all the companies and individuals who placed an advert in the programme, displayed a banner and/or donated a prize for the Raffle/Silent Auction. We really appreciate the support especially with challenges they face at the moment. Without these donations we



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would not be able to hold a Silent Auction and Raffle which make a massive difference to our fundraising. If you can, it would be lovely to show our appreciation by putting some business their way. A big thank you again to Rachel Spraggon who coordinated all three initiatives which was not easy in a global pandemic.

**Christmas Catalogue:** A net profit of £295.70 (2019 profit on the Christmas Stocking stall was £83.94). A big thank you to Adriana Farrar for launching the idea and making it happen (and of course her mum who had to store all of the items in her house and didn't complain once, well, not that we know of anyway!).

**Secret Gift:** A net profit of £137.43 (2019 £139.58). Thank you to Elf Angela Togher who has been busy all week delivering in person the gifts purchased by your lovely children for you or your loved ones to open on Christmas morning.

**Christmas Cards for Schools:** £751.59 (2019 £481) which again was wonderful. Thank you to Andrea Chang who coordinated the project which was not an easy task with orders and payments not being able to be made in the usual way.

A big thank you also to Gabrielle Price who organised the snacks and drinks for the Children's Christmas Parties this week. Sadly, many of the children could not be at school but we hope those who were able to come enjoyed the special treats and had lots of fun.

Unfortunately, we cannot name all those involved in the above projects but we want you to know that your help, particularly this year, has been invaluable and we truly appreciate all that you have done, going the extra mile to help make these projects work.

The Parents Association team would like to wish you all a relaxing Christmas, hoping you are able to make special memories with the children, despite the restrictions in place, and let's look forward to a better and brighter 2021. Best wishes, Angela Soave & Angela Togher.

Newsletter



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This is a public health poster from the NHS. It has a dark blue background. At the top left is the HM Government logo, and at the top right is the NHS logo. The main text in yellow reads 'We must keep on protecting each other.' Below this are three circular icons: a pink circle with hands being washed (labeled 'HANDS'), a light blue circle with a face mask (labeled 'FACE'), and a light green circle with two people and a double-headed arrow between them (labeled 'SPACE'). At the bottom, a yellow banner contains the text 'STAY ALERT CONTROL THE VIRUS SAVE LIVES'.