



# ELLEL ST JOHN'S CE Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs J FitzGerald



## Ellel Newsletter

ADVENT

**'Loving, living and learning in the light of Christ'**

*Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven. ~ Matthew 5:16*

**Issue No 8 - Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2023**

We've made it to the Christmas holidays after a very long and exhausting term! The children and staff alike will be going into the holidays tired but very happy. We have thoroughly enjoyed celebrating all the things that make this time of the year so special. A big well done to the children and a huge thank you to the staff for all their hard work in putting together and performing the Christingle services and the Big Little Nativity – your support and encouragement at both these events was greatly appreciated. On behalf of myself and all the staff, thank you so much for the many cards and gifts that we have received; we are all extremely grateful! I wish each of you and your families a happy and restful Christmas and New Year and hope that you all enjoy a truly magical time with your loved ones. We look forward to welcoming the children back into school on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January. Merry Christmas! Mrs FitzGerald

### Friends of Ellel

A huge thank you to the Friends of Ellel for all their hard work this term in organizing and running so many fundraising events for school: Film Nights; Surprise Room; Christmas Raffle and for the lovely Christmas gift that each child received today. We are so grateful to each of you for your hard work and dedication!

### Stay and Watch Afternoon

We would like to invite you into your child's/children's class on the afternoon of **Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January, 1.30 – 2.45** for a 'Stay and Watch' session. You are welcome to drop in or stay for the whole session. We hope that lots of you are able to make it.

### Primary School Places

**Reminder:** The deadline for Primary School Applications is **15<sup>th</sup> January 2024**. Applications must be made online on:

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/chil-dren-education-families/schools/apply-for-a-school-place/apply-online-for-a-school-place/>

### St. John's Ellel Family Crib Service

Fun for everyone at this wild and joyful family service. Dress up in your Christmas jumpers with mince pies and mulled wine afterwards:  
**24.12.23, 4:00pm**

### St. John's Midnight Mass

A powerful candle-lit Eucharist service on the eve of Christmas. Before the chaos of Christmas Day, reflect in the peaceful Church atmosphere drenched in candle-light singing traditional carols.  
**24.12.23, 11.30pm**

### St. John's Christmas Day Service

Join the celebration of Jesus' birth with the Christmas Day celebration and communion. A brief liturgical service including seasonal carols to start the Christmas festivities.  
**25.12.23, 10.30am**

### School Meal Payments

We have been approached by several parents asking for the school meal cost for each term, so they may credit their ParentPay account accordingly. The cost of school meals for Spring Term is as follows:  
£135.00 for the full term. This will cover meals from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January until Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March.

£62.50 for the first half term until Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February

£72.50 for the second half term until Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March.

We are aware that family circumstances change. If you think you may be eligible for Free School Meals, we urge you to make an online application via the Lancashire County Council website. The application is quick and easy to complete, and you will only need your national insurance details to hand.

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/free-school-meals/?page=3>

### Outstanding Payments

Please can you make sure that any outstanding payments to school are made by the end of term - today. Many thanks for your support with this.

### FORTHCOMING DATES

January	
Mon 8 <sup>th</sup>	Start of spring term
Tues 9 <sup>th</sup>	Football Tournament at Moss-gate – Y5&6
Mon 15 <sup>th</sup>	Rec and Y6 heights and weights
Tues 16 <sup>th</sup>	Stay and Watch afternoon
Mon 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Chinese New Year Day
Tues 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Kids Club Meeting – 4pm
Fri 26 <sup>th</sup>	Oak Class Assembly – 2.15pm
Mon 29 <sup>th</sup> and Tues 30 <sup>th</sup>	Acorn Class Go Velo Cycle Training
February	
Fri 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Eucharist Service led by Willow Class
Tues 6 <sup>th</sup>	Governors Committee Meetings, 4-6pm
Wed 7 <sup>th</sup>	Oak Class Young Voices
Fri 9 <sup>th</sup>	Close for half term