



18 December 2024

Dear Parent / Carer

Christmas 2024

'For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, and the government will be upon his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counsellor, mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace' (Isaiah 9:6)

As we write to you at this Christmas time, it is some sixteen weeks since we returned from the summer holidays. We have now finally reached the end of our advent term and we prepare to break up for the Christmas period. Our pupils have been working hard throughout the term and their commitment to their learning has been recognised in Celebration assemblies which are taking place during this last week. We have awarded over 300 certificates for effort and achievement across years 7-13; a wonderful way to end the term.

It has been a very busy time in school, earlier in November, we invited guests from our feeder primary schools and the local community, to share in our Service of Remembrance, where we remembered those who died for our country. Year 11 pupils laid crosses, together with photos of loved ones from our community, who have died in war. It was a beautifully poignant service.

We have had a number of trips away from school. Year 7 and 8 pupils enjoyed the panto, as they went to see Snow White at the Theatre Royal, Lincoln. It was a great way to celebrate the Christmas season. Sixth Form English pupils had the opportunity to visit Stratford, to see a production of Othello, by the Royal Shakespeare company. Some Year 7 pupils took part in the Generation X project, at RAF Waddington, finishing a very impressive third. Lincoln University has also hosted pupils for a number of 'Aspire' days and Sixth Form pupils have enjoyed finding out more about what higher education can offer.

Our Sixth Form team have been very busy with the foodbank and we are grateful to all donations that come in, often via the parishes. We will be helping over 40 families this Christmas, which is a reflection of one of the core values at school, caring for others and looking after all those in need. Year 11 pupils have also been raising money for their prom and Friday breaktime has hosted an array of different ideas from hot chocolate, to bags of sweets and the obligatory bake sale. Charity is an important part of our work as a Catholic School and pupils have been raising money for Cafod and other charities.

Finally, our Performing Arts and Music department have been flat out this term, singing at the Feast Day Mass at St Hugh's church, followed by the First Sunday of Advent mass at St Peter and St Paul's church, the Catholic Schools' Joint Advent service and finally, the wonderful Christmas Spectacular. The Spectacular was a beautiful re-telling of the nativity story, with narration, music and singing – a simply stunning experience to watch.



CATHOLIC MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST

Part of the Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Multi-Academy Trust.

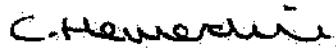
Registered Address: 1st Floor, Loxley House, Riverside Business Park, Tottle Road, Nottingham NG2 1RT. Tel: 0115 851 5454

Registered Company number: 07743523. (A company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales)

As Christmas draws close, we cannot fail to remember the story of the nativity; a child born in a stable to Mary and Joseph, who were very ordinary people but were given an extraordinary task. We reflect on the words of scripture, 'I bring you great news of joy, a joy to be shared by the whole people'. At this time of year, we come together as families, as a school community and as a wider parish community, to share in the birth of Christ and to celebrate with those dearest to us.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a peaceful, holy and joyous Christmas season.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Hewerdine', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mrs C F Hewerdine
Headteacher