



The Holy Family Catholic High School Newsletter December 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week we have marked the end of term with a variety of festive activities including a community coffee morning, events to showcase the talents of our students, celebration and reward assemblies for their hard work, three Christmas dinner sittings(!) and a liturgy to remind us of the true meaning of Christmas. It has been epic!

Our advent appeals have been very well supported and we thank you again for your kind donations.

As we reach the end of the term we reflect on what we have been through this term as a community. I am so proud of you all for everything you have done to support our students and staff. It is humbling to witness the love for Holy Family from our community and beyond.

We have some students leaving the school at different points now and in January. All our love and prayers go with them. We give thanks to all the schools who have opened their doors and their hearts to our young people.

In the New Year, we will continue our timetable and curriculum, working with the receiving schools on transition activities for our remaining students.

We will start to plan our final events for the summer term and invite members of our community, former students, staff and parents to help us celebrate the legacy of our wonderful school and community. Personally, I would like to thank you all for your kindness and compassion. These are virtues that are at the heart of our school and you have shown them in abundance.

'A Merry Christmas to us all; God bless us, everyone!'

A Christmas Carol, Charles Dickens

D Mitchell

Mrs D Mitchell

A very proud Headteacher.



SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Christmas Coffee Morning and Carols!



Christmas Dinner (x3!)



Christmas Appeals

Many thanks for all the donations to our appeals:
(a selection are in the photograph below)

Local food bank items

Mother and baby

Spirit of Christmas — toy donations

There has also been lots of fundraising
events for 'World Gifts' and over £150 has
been raised

A great community effort —
Well Done Everyone!





A FESTIVE WEEK



Last Days of Term

On Thursday we rewarded the good behaviour and attitudes of our students with a Christmas movie and popcorn. They also picked an activity for the afternoon: some decorated some scrumptious looking Christmas logs, some took part in a football tournament, there was lots of Christmas crafts and board games. The most popular activity was BINGO! Our students were exemplary, many thanks to staff for planning and running these great enrichment activities.

This morning, everyone in school gathered together for a Christmas liturgy. This was a lovely, calming event with a focus on the advent wreath and the true meaning of Christmas. The event involved our student musicians who were accompanied by some beautiful singing from the choir.

After break we celebrated the achievements of our students with subject, form and whole school awards. Well done to all our award winners. Please see the attached sheet for the list. We even managed a fun 'whole school' selfie!

Our day ended with some time in forms, a chance for students who are leaving to say farewell to staff and friends, a Christmas quiz and a visit from Santa!



Many thanks to everyone who helped to decorate our school hall this week.

The 'Christmas Tree' in the picture contains the individual, decorated handprints of our students. A lovely legacy and memento of our student community and togetherness.



Staff Farewells and Welcomes

We said farewell this week to Mrs Garbutt and Mr Wagstaff who are both joining Delta, Goole Academy. Some of our students will find them to be familiar faces in their new school.

We have tweaked our timetable to ensure that Mrs Bainbridge is now teaching both Year 11 maths groups, assisted by myself and Mrs Wilkinson (our Deputy Headteacher and Maths specialist). We have added in further Maths and science specialist teacher support from Mr Ditto who joins us after Christmas. Mr Wadsworth will be teaching Mr Wagstaff's GCSE PE group.

We welcome Mr Cox who joins us to teach the lower school PE and ICT groups.

Some tweaks to timetables...

With some Year 9 students leaving, we have moved some students into another group.

We will be printing and issuing revised timetables on Monday 6th January. PE days remain the same.

Please contact us if you want to discuss any of the changes.

We will keep updating you throughout next year!

Diary Dates

Monday 06 January	School open to all Years
Friday 17 January	Y11 Mock Results
Thursday 30 January	Y11 Parents' Evening
Friday 14 February	School closes for half term
Thursday 27 February	Y8 Parents' Evening

Thanks for all your lovely messages to our staff at Holy Family.

We count our blessings every day that we have such dedicated, professional staff who truly care.

It has been an emotional term for them.

We join you in thanking our amazing Holy Family staff and hoping they get a well deserved rest and break.

“Together we step out in faith, knowing Christ is with us and united as a Holy Family”

The staff and governors of our school wish you and your families a safe, peaceful and happy Christmas. We look forward to seeing our students return in January 2025