



Holy Family Catholic Primary School.

Friday 13th December 2024



What a lovely week we have had in school. Our Reception and KS1 children were fabulous in their Christmas production. Our Y5 & Y6 choir sang beautifully at Argyle Park Nursing and we had lots of fun on Christmas Jumper day.

Going for Green!

GOOD ACHIEVEMENT:

Raiya, Alma, Year 2, Conor, Gabriella, Layla, Vinnie, Oliver, George, Florence, Darcie, Mina, Lily-Iris, Daniel, Casey, Willow, Isabella, Rachella, Maddie & Gracie

GOOD ATTITUDE:

William, Liga, Year 2, Leo & Jacob

LUNCHTIME AWARD:

Georgina & Leo

Primary School Admissions:

The closing date for primary applications for September 2025 is 15th January 2025. Applications to be via Sefton County Council : <https://www.sefton.gov.uk/childrens-services/schools-and-learning/school-admissions/starting-primary-or-secondary-school-in-september-2025/>

If you know anyone who would be interested in our school, then please let them know to contact school to arrange to come and look around!

Our Christmas Tree is a beauty but unfortunately it needs to come down next Thursday and go to a new home. If you would like it or know someone who does, please contact the School Office. It will need to be collected on Thursday 19th at about 1.30pm.



The Religious Life of School

If anyone is able to help to transport chairs to and from Church for the Carol Service please see Mrs Watkins in the School Office. We would be very grateful.

Y3 & Y4 Class Mass: Thank you to Father Kevin for a wonderful Mass on Monday and to every one who attended.



Christmas Mass times at Holy Family Catholic Church:

Dec 24th 6.00pm and 8.30pm

Dec 25th 10.00am

Dec 26th 12.00 noon

Carols at the end of term.....



Next Friday, weather permitting, our KS2 children will be singing carols on the yard at 1.10pm, everyone is welcome to come along! It will be a lovely festive ending to the term.... fingers crossed for no rain!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Monday 16th December:

Wednesday 18th December:

Thursday 19th December:

Friday 20th December:

KS2 Carol Service - 6pm

Well-being Wednesday (own clothes)

Christmas Party Day – **Party clothes**

Own clothes day

1.10pm: Carol Singing on the playground

End of term 1.30pm finish.

For more dates see our School App & Google Calendar
<https://www.holyfamilyprimary.com/diary/grid/2024/10/>

We had a fun-filled and busy day on Thursday:
Christmas Jumper Day, Christmas Lunch and
carol singing!



Our Shining Stars



Well done to our spectacular swimmers this
week, Rosie, Cobie-Jay and Alice all have
swimming certificates.

Don't forget to follow us on

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61569084964120>

and Twitter @HolyFamilyCP

Attendance & Punctuality:

Year 1 and Year 3 will have to share Joy the lion
this week as they both have 100% attendance!

The classes with the best punctuality this week are
YR, Y3, Y5 & Y6 – well done!



We have a new dedicated email address for
reporting absences. Please contact
attendance.hfp@schools.sefton.gov.uk

Happy Birthday to you.....



Building work.....

During the last week of term we are having a
ramp built at the exit of the Y3 class room.
This area will be fenced off. Please take care
around it.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators SAFETY OVER THE FESTIVE SEASON.

The holiday season, marked by Christmas and New Year, brings joy and togetherness but also presents unique safety challenges for children, families and educators. From busy holiday shopping, traveling and family gatherings to managing digital activity during school breaks, staying safe during this period requires heightened awareness. This guide offers practical tips to help families and educators maintain a more secure and fulfilling festive period.

1 MONITOR DIGITAL ACTIVITY

Children spend more time online during school holidays, increasing exposure to potential dangers such as cyberbullying, inappropriate content and online predators. Balancing screen time, avoiding harmful websites and ensuring children engage positively online can be difficult without proper monitoring tools. Set clear boundaries, encourage open discussions about online safety and use parental controls to manage content exposure and screen time effectively. Regular check-ins and positive reinforcement around digital habits encourage safe online behaviour.

2 PRACTICE FIRE SAFETY PROTOCOLS

The incidence of house fires increases during Christmas due to greater use of candles, cookers and electrical decorations. Open flames, electrical overloads and the need for quick response plans can make fire safety challenging. Ensure smoke detectors are operational, keep fire extinguishers on hand and teach children how to respond in case of a fire emergency. Avoid leaving cooking unattended and use fire-safe candles to prevent mishaps.

3 CREATE TRAVEL SAFETY PLANS

More families tend to travel during the holidays, resulting in busier roads, increased traffic accidents and weather-related hazards. Weather conditions, road rage, fatigue and busy airports can all compromise travel safety. Pack emergency kits and adhere to seatbelt laws. Plan routes in advance and allow extra travel time to avoid rushing and mitigate risks on busy roads.

4 BEWARE OF ALLERGIES

Holiday meals often involve many foods that may contain allergens. Cross contamination, unclear labelling and lack of allergy-friendly options can lead to severe reactions. Communicate any allergy needs to hosts, provide safe food alternatives and carry necessary medications like antihistamines or EpiPens. Teaching children how to advocate for themselves and recognise dangerous foods also contributes to safer celebrations.

5 PREVENT THE SPREAD OF ILLNESS

Cold weather and seasonal socialising can increase the spread of viruses like flu and COVID-19. Crowded gatherings, schools out of session and frequent travel can lead to higher infection risks. Emphasise hygiene, encourage vaccination, disinfect surfaces and isolate symptomatic individuals. Communication with children about proper hygiene practices is essential to reduce the spread of illness.

6 STAY VIGILANT ON THE ROAD

Increased holiday traffic heightens the risk of accidents for both drivers and pedestrians. Distracted driving, pedestrian safety and inclement weather can complicate road safety. Encourage pedestrian safety practices, avoid distracted driving and never drive under the influence.

7 MAINTAIN SAFE DECORATIONS

Festive decorations such as Christmas lights and candles can pose electrical, fire and choking hazards if mishandled. Frayed wires, toppling Christmas trees, small ornaments and open flames can be difficult to control, especially in busy households with children. Inspect and maintain decorations, secure Christmas trees, place fragile or small items out of reach and ensure candles are never left unattended. Testing smoke alarms and using flame-retardant decorations can significantly reduce risks.

8 SET BOUNDARIES FOR GIFTS

Some toys and gadgets can present choking, sharp-edge or safety risks, particularly for young children. Ensuring that gifts meet safety standards and are age appropriate can be complex with so many options available. Inspect all toys carefully and ensure any tech devices have parental controls. Setting expectations around safe gift use and discarding packaging that poses a risk also helps to prevent accidents.

9 ADDRESS STRESS & FATIGUE

Holiday pressures can lead to burnout, which affects both physical and mental health. Overpacked schedules and a lack of downtime can cause stress and fatigue, leading to accidents or poor decision making. Incorporate rest, maintain regular routines and seek support to reduce stress. Encourage activities that promote relaxation to create a healthier, happier holiday experience for everyone.

10 DRINK RESPONSIBLY

Alcohol is commonly present at holiday events, raising concerns about safety and supervision. Excessive alcohol consumption can lead to accidents, impaired judgment and lack of supervision for children. Designate responsible adults, limit consumption and provide transportation alternatives for guests. Teaching moderation and modelling responsible behaviour in front of children ensures that celebrations remain positive and secure.

Meet Our Expert

James Whelan is a chartered health and safety consultant with 10 years of experience in promoting family and community safety. Specialising in risk assessment and preventative strategies, he has worked with educational institutions, public health agencies and community groups to deliver safety education and training.



The
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Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/safety-over-the-festive-season>

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SEFTON



Winter Challenge 2024

Activity 1

Take part in the winter Reading Challenge by reading at least 3 books and registering online. Send a picture of your certificate and you will receive 3 credits.
wintermini.org.uk

Activity 2

Have a go at some indoor games. Check out the link below that has lots of ideas...you could do animal yoga, balloon volleyball, or pillow jumping.
<https://curiosityuntamed.com/31-indoor-pe-activities-one-for-everyday-of-the-month/>

Activity 3

Have a go at doing a Christmas themed Science experiment at home. There's lots to choose from...but check out the link below for ideas.
<https://gosciencegirls.com/christmas-science-experiments/>

Activity 4

Visit one of our Learning Destinations and write a 50 word review with some pictures. You can search for Learning Destinations by going on our website.
<https://www.childrensuniversity.co.uk/activity-search/>

Activity 5

Complete the Christmas Emoji song challenge. You can find the challenge on the below website
<https://www.happinessishomemade.net/printable-emoji-christmas-songs-game/>

Activity 6

Get baking!
Have a go at some Christmas themed baking. Take a look at the website below where there are lots to choose from.
https://www.bbc.co.uk/food/collections/kids_at_christmas

Activity 7

Get creative and make some decorations out of recycled materials. Check out the link below for some ideas. You could make a twig star, or a dried orange garland.
<https://www.wildlifewatch.org.uk/how-have-eco-christmas>



Collect extra Children's University credits during the Christmas holiday by completing this challenge. Each activity is worth 1 credit unless stated otherwise. Send evidence of your activity to SeftonCU@elevate-ebp.co.uk This could be a photograph, video, a work sheet, or writing about what you did. Remember to include your name and the school you attend!