

'Where charity and love are, God is there'

Newsletter 10.01.25– Term 3 -Week 1

Reflection:

Welcome back to all our wonderful families at St Nicholas of Tolentine! It's been an absolute joy to see your smiling faces as we return from the break, ready to embark on another exciting term of learning and growth.

As we settle back into our routines, I'm thrilled to share that our classrooms are already buzzing with enthusiasm. Our dedicated teachers have wasted no time in immersing our pupils in captivating lessons across all year groups. It's heartwarming to witness the eagerness and curiosity shining in our children's eyes as they dive into new topics and challenges.

This week, we've been focusing on the feast of Epiphany, exploring its significance and the rich traditions associated with this important celebration in the Christian calendar. Our pupils have engaged in thoughtful discussions and activities, deepening their understanding of this special time.

Looking back to the end of last term, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to everyone who contributed to the success of our Christmas fair. Your generosity and community spirit helped us raise an impressive £560! This fantastic sum will go a long way in supporting our school initiatives and enhancing the learning experiences we offer our pupils.

As we move forward into this new term, I'm filled with optimism and excitement for the journey ahead. The dedication of our staff, the enthusiasm of our pupils, and the unwavering support of our families create a truly special environment here at St Nicholas of Tolentine. Let's continue to work together, celebrate our achievements, and inspire one another to reach new heights. Here's to a term filled with discovery, growth, and shared successes!

Generous God, we give thanks for all that you have given us. Open our hearts to follow you so that all that we do may be guided by your love. We make this prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen



Epiphany Mass

As we welcomed the new term, our school community came together to celebrate the Epiphany Mass, reflecting on the precious gifts bestowed upon us. It was a joy to witness our Chaplains reading with such poise and confidence, their voices carrying the message of hope and wonder. The whole school singing was truly a highlight, filling the air with harmonious voices and creating a sense of unity and celebration. These moments remind us of the special talents within our school family and the importance of nurturing them.

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Welcome to Miss Ashwin (Vice Principal and SENDCO)

This week we welcomed Miss Ashwin to our school family. She will be covering Mrs Barker whilst she is on Maternity. Miss Ashwin comes with a wide range of experience and is going to be a great asset to our school.

Some of the children have already started getting to know her. Over the next few weeks, she will be available for parents who would like to discuss anything regarding their children's learning needs. I am sure everyone will make her feel welcome.



Attendance

It has been lovely to see our wonderful children back in school. We have noticed some lateness this week, it is a shame when children arrive late as they miss the start of the day with their peers and teachers.

Our attendance target is 96.1%, we started the year off with great attendance and we have slowly started to slip. We fully understand that children are unwell and may need to stay home from school, however some illness is very sporadic in occurrence. If you need any help with improving your child's attendance, I am always available to help.

Attendance

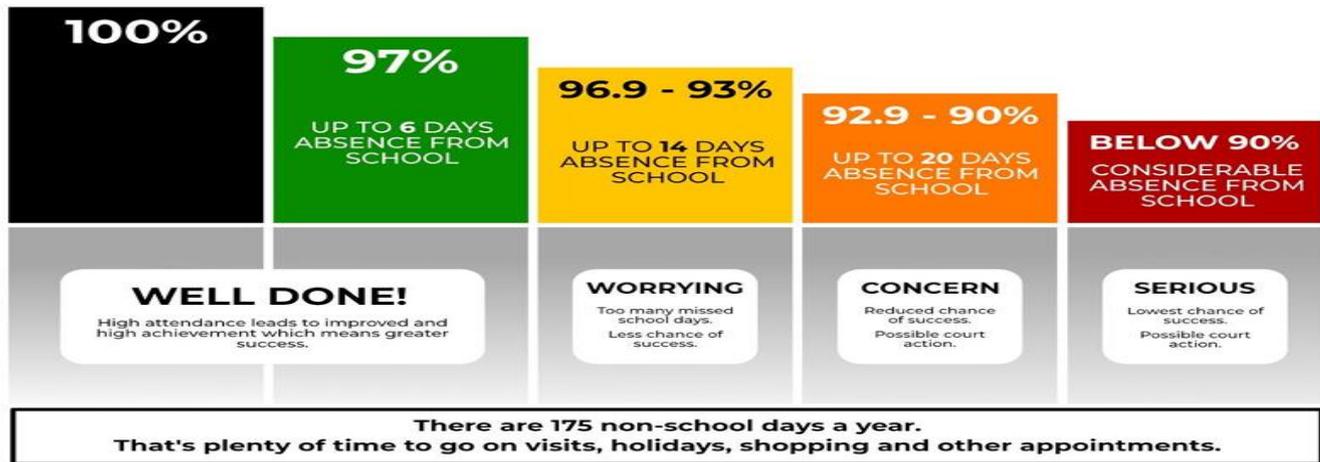
Thank you to those children who attend school regularly and on time. We will continue to monitor closely, if attendance continues to be a concern, we will send out an earlier letter than the end of term. The target for all pupils is set at **96.1%** and any figure below is a concern.

Any classes who achieve a 100% attendance for the week will be able to have a non-school uniform day the following week.

Class	Yearly Attendance	This week's attendance	Late sessions this week
Diamond Class	90.39%	88.28%	7
Emerald Class	95.65%	95.83%	6
Ruby Class	96.1%	92%	14
Amethyst Class	94.36%	97.2%	3
Sapphire Class	96.3%	95.8%	5
Topaz Class	93.91%	95.11	4
Total	94.45%	93.89%	39

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WHAT IS YOUR ATTENDANCE?



Thank you to those who attend regularly. Please remember to phone the school office if your child is going to be absent. If we do not hear from you, we will ring you and then may also make a home visit if we are unable to contact you. Thank you to those who arrive on time. Remember, children can go straight to class from 8:40am or attend breakfast club from 8am if necessary. There is also access to the walking bus if required. If your child is constantly late to school this can affect their self-esteem and they could be missing out on valuable reading, phonics or Maths activities and interventions.

Thank you for your continued support

Mrs R James