



St Ursula's Convent School

The Ursuline News

Week Ending
10 December 2021
Issue Number 07



Dear Parents/carers,

As we enter this last week of the term, I want to thank staff for planning some really lovely activities to ensure that we all enjoy this holy and festive season together at school. We have a Carol service, Christmas door competition, Christmas jumper day and dinner, achievement assemblies, quizzes, Secret Santas ... and we will also mark the end of term with a Christmas Mass celebrated by Fr Kevin.

During this season, we are contributing towards CAFOD's World Gifts in order to support those who are less fortunate than us. If you would like to contribute, do use our ParentPay app. It is an extremely worthy cause.

I would also like to signpost how you can easily support FOSTUR raise further funds for our school. To do so, click on the link below – if you haven't yet signed up, this will get FOSTUR an extra £5 when you sign up:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friends-of-st-ursulas/?invite=GMXPC4&referral-campaign=c2s>

For those that have already signed up, here is the link: [Friends of St Ursulas Fundraising | Easyfundraising](#). This is a quick and easy method of fundraising for our school.

Due to the success of the trial, I am pleased to announce that we will continue to permit students to bring their mobile phones to and from school. Students are not permitted to use mobile phones on the school premises, and anyone in breach of this will be subject to a sanction. Our school behaviour policy will be updated next term to reflect this change.

While on the Christmas break, do continue with twice weekly testing and follow any further guidance issued by the government. Please do keep those members of our community who are suffering due to the pandemic in your prayers at this time, in particular those who are unwell or recently bereaved.

Thank you for your ongoing support at this time; it is essential that we continue to work in partnership for the benefit of our students and our community. Wishing you all a happy and holy Christmas.

God bless,

Kathleen M Faherty - Headteacher



St Ursula's Convent School

The Ursuline News

Week Ending
10 December 2021
Issue Number 07



WELLBEING AND SAFEGUARDING TEAM



Dear parent/carers,

Although this year has proved a rather productive one for our department, we are truly blessed that our students have found confidence in seeking the support of the SWO (safeguarding and wellbeing officers) team, when needed. We do hope such confidence among our students will long continue.

As the Christmas season is upon us we would like for our students and their families to know access to support services is still very much available; please see below some links to online resources:

Wishing you all a restful and wonderful Christmas season

text SHOUT to 85258 and chat by text.

Samaritans. call 116 123 (free from any phone), email jo@samaritans.org

Call Mind Infoline: [0300 123 3393](tel:03001233393)

Childline: Call 0800 1111 www.childline.org.uk

Kooth: www.kooth.com – downloadable App



Kooth information session for Parents and Carers

Find out how Kooth can help your child
with their Mental Health and Wellbeing.



Kooth run regular monthly information sessions for parents & carers. Please see the link below for parents/carers to sign up to the free webinar:

Tuesday 14 December 2021, 6pm-7pm

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/discover-kooth-parent-carer-information-sessions-tickets-164152609875>



UPDATE FROM THE JLT



Hello,

It's been a while since our last section in the newsletter, since we have been busy with important exams, but we're back now!

It's finally the Christmas season, and the school is looking magical. On the morning of Wednesday 30th December, Dolapo, Eli, Mariae, Kemi, Chiebuka and Ibitola helped to decorate the Christmas tree with shining silver baubles, and a star the colour of each year group. Next to the tree is a miniature nativity scene - altogether the foyer is really getting everyone in the Christmassy mood!

This week's candle on the advent wreath represents hope. This has been of significance as we all hope that the new Covid variant will cause no harm to our loved ones, and as students we hope that our education may not be disrupted even more than it already has been. Therefore, it is essential that we all do everything in our power to prevent those around us getting ill, by simple acts such as using hand sanitizer when needed and wearing our masks in the corridor. Additionally, the JLT finally received their badges last Friday! With a miniature rewards ceremony after school, all the leaders and ambassadors within JLT experienced a standing ovation; rooted in hope and high expectations to see all of us do well within our roles! We urge all JLT members who were unable to attend the ceremony to meet with Mr Mandalos and collect theirs in their own time. The badges are a symbol of our role and status within school - showing that Serviam is fully intertwined with our school lives, as well as allowing people to recognise us if they ever require our assistance.

On November 27, year 9 went to see & Juliet at the Shaftesbury Theatre, a musical telling the story of Juliet if she had survived after Romeo's death. Endowed with music from the noughties and an ultimate plot line of female empowerment, they had an amazing time exploring this enthralling concept.

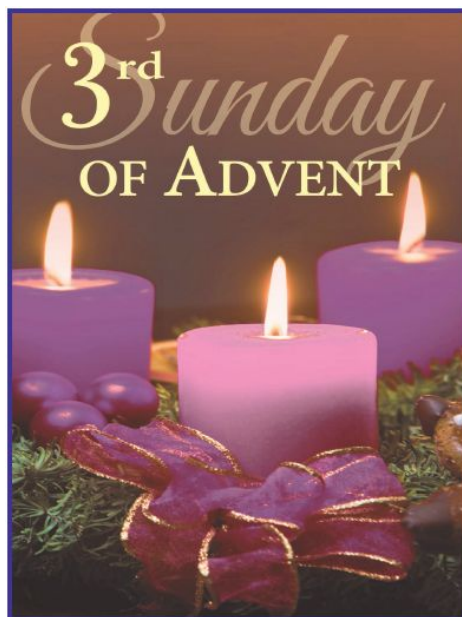
Wednesday the 30th was St Andrew's Day (commemorating Scotland's patron saint) as well as Guru Nanak Jayanti (one of the most sacred festivals in Sikhism). We wish a happy St Andrew's Day and a happy Guru Nanak Jayanti to anyone celebrating this week.

The JLT



Third week of Advent: The Gift of Joy

Gaudete Sunday



The third week of Advent is the candle of joy. Also known as the "**Shepherd candle**", it is in this third week of advent that we rejoice for the coming King. The shepherds experienced joy at the good news of the birth of the Messiah.

During this third week of advent, this Sunday celebrates the passage **Philippians 4:4-5**, its verses extolling readers to "rejoice" for "indeed the Lord is near."

Advent Week Three Scripture for Reflection:

"He will be a joy and delight to you, and many will rejoice because of his birth"

Luke 1:14



A Prayer for Joy this Advent

Heavenly Father,

This third week of Advent, let us remember that the good news of Jesus' birth has the power to bring us great joy this Christmas season. Our joy isn't dependent on what is going on in our life, in our world, or the people that we are with. It doesn't depend on the gifts we give or the gifts we find under the tree. No earthly thing can ever give us complete joy. Our joy comes from you. That joy that flooded the hearts of the shepherds, the angels, the wise men, the hosts of heaven, and Mary and Joseph is the joy that still has the power to overwhelm our hearts with rejoicing.

Amen

Merry Christmas



May this festive season be filled with the sweet sound
of the laughter of loved ones in your home
and the beautiful hymns that are pleasing to God
and His angels up above.



Exam Invigilators required

Scale 1 / Point 2 / £11.52 per hour

We are looking to recruit Exam Invigilators to work on a *supply/bank basis* during the school's examination periods, which take place in November, March, May and June.

Previous experience is not necessary as full training will be given. This role offers flexible working arrangements.

- Main Activities:**
- To uphold the integrity and security of the examination/assessment process.
 - Provide support to the examinations process in accordance with the Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) rule and regulations.
 - Prepare the examination rooms prior to each exam session.
 - Distribute papers, exam materials and stationery correctly.
 - Ensure no communication or malpractice takes place.
 - Report any disruption/incidents.
- Dress Code:**
- Collect and collate exam papers ready to be posted.
 - Smart
- Special Conditions:**
- There is a confidentiality component to this role and the post holder needs to undertake the duties of this role in a strictly professional manner.

St Ursula's Convent School is committed to safeguarding and protecting the wellbeing of children and young people and expects all staff to share their commitment. An enhanced DBS is required for all successful applicants.

An application form can be found on the school website www.stursulas.com or for further details please contact Luisa Element (Head's PA lelement@stursulas.com). Please note that we are only able to accept fully completed school application forms; stand-alone CVs will not be accepted.

Closing Date: Friday 28th January 2022

Suitable candidates may be interviewed before the closing date and the School reserves the right to withdraw the position if an early appointment is made. Applicants are therefore encouraged to apply early.

Interview Date: TBC (applicants may be offered an interview before the closing date)



St Ursula's Convent School

The Ursuline News

Week Ending
10 December 2021
Issue Number 07



Merry Christmas



Design by:
Josephine Leng - 7 Ursula

START OF TERM ARRANGEMENTS - SPRING 2022

Tuesday 4th January 2022:

Weds 5th January

Thurs 6th January

Fri 7th January

INSET Day - students not in school

Academic Review Day - students not in school

COVID testing in school (more information to follow)

First day of school