



Jesus: in our hearts, in our minds, in our living, in our learning.

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Headteacher: Mrs Laura Taylor

5th December 2025



*Congratulations to the pupils who sang at the St Richard Gwyn Advent Service on Wednesday.
You sang beautifully!*

Message from Mrs Taylor

This week marks the beginning of Advent, a special season of hopeful waiting. In our liturgy on Monday, we listened to the Gospel according to Matthew, where Jesus reminds us to stay alert, pay attention, and be ready to welcome Him into our lives. Being ready doesn't mean feeling worried or anxious — it means choosing to live each day with kindness, love, and faith. When we keep our hearts open, we notice Jesus in the people around us and in the small moments of our day. By helping others, forgiving quickly, praying often, and trying our best to follow Jesus, we keep our hearts awake and glowing with His light.

Across the school, children have now started their new science and humanities topics. Nursery and Reception are learning about Winter; Year 1 are exploring All About Me and My World; Year 2 are studying Living Things and Our World: How We Care for Life; Year 3 are learning about the Material World and how matter shapes our lives; Year 4 are focusing on Forces and Energy and how they power our world; Year 5 are studying Life, Matter and Change; and Year 6 are exploring Forces, Energy and the Universe.

A reminder that our first **100 Club draw** will take place on Monday 15th December, with a first prize of £50. You can join the St Joseph's 100 Club via ParentPay.

A huge **thank you** to our Friends and Family Team for organising such a wonderful Christmas Fair, and to all of you for supporting it. It will be a fantastic event, full of festive joy, and we hope everyone who comes along has a lovely time.

This week, pupils have also been working hard on their Creative and Enterprising Christmas Challenge. They have been learning about the roles and responsibilities of running a business, understanding profit and loss, and creating adverts for their products. The Christmas Challenge Catalogue will be emailed to families next week. Products from all classes will be available to purchase at the **Christmas Market on Monday 15th December from 3.00pm to 4.30pm in the school hall**. Pupils may also bring money to buy items from other classes between 2.00pm and 3.00pm. We look forward to seeing many of you there.

Take care and God bless,
Mrs Taylor

Prayer of the Week

Next week is the second week of Advent. During Advent we wait in joy and hope for Christmas. We look forward to celebrating the fact that God loves us so much that he sent his Son into the world to save us.

Light a candle.

Say together:

**Hail Mary,
Full of Grace,
The Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women,
and blessed is the fruit
of thy womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary,
Mother of God,
pray for us sinners now,
and at the hour of our death.
Amen.**



Pupil Profile Virtues



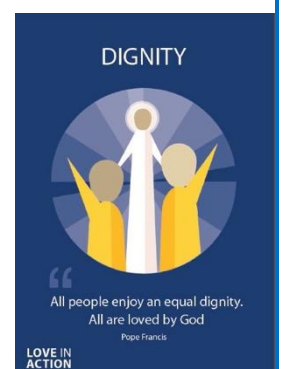
**Pupils in St Joseph's RC Primary School
are growing to be . . .**

learned, finding God in all things; and **wise** in the ways they use their learning for the common good. To be educated is to be learned – to know about God's creation and about people who are part of it. But facts and skills are of little value unless we have wisdom also – the ability to see what is important and what is not.

Catholic Social Teaching – Human Dignity

This half term we are learning about the Catholic Social Teaching principle, **'Human Dignity'**.

You are made in the image and likeness of God. You are special, unique and important to God. Treat everyone with the dignity and love they deserve. Care for each other, help those in need, and stand up for what is right, just like Jesus taught us.



Attendance

Well done to Year 6 who achieved the highest attendance this week and to all families who arrived at school on time.

This week's attendance figures for each class are:

Class	Attendance	Late
Reception	95.7%	1.61%
Year 1	89.91%	0.44%
Year 2	95.88%	0.59%
Year 3	97.67%	0.33%
Year 4	97.24%	0.00%
Year 5	93.67%	0.67%
Year 6	98.06%	0.00%



Visit from Councillor Emma Richards, Town Mayor of Penarth

This week, we were delighted to welcome the Penarth Town Mayor to our school. She spoke to the children about her role in the community and the responsibilities she carries as Mayor.



During her visit, she presented special medals of Pope Leo—brought from Rome—to the pupils who led the prayers and music at her Civic Service in September. This was a wonderful recognition of their service and a very proud moment for them.

The Mayor also met with our School Cabinet, who shared their action plans for the year. She was extremely impressed by their ideas, leadership and commitment to improving our school.

We thank the Mayor for visiting and inspiring our pupils to use their gifts in service of others.

Current RE Learning - Prophecy and Promise



Our current RE branch is **Prophecy and Promise**. In this branch, the children are exploring the Christian understanding of the prophets, who foretold the fulfilment of God's promise in a Messiah, Jesus Christ. They will reflect on the season of Advent as a time of hopeful waiting and consider what this means for Christians today as they prepare their hearts for Christ.

The children will also encounter the nativity story and deepen their understanding of the mystery of the Incarnation—God becoming human in the person of Jesus.

This week, you will have received a Parent Newsletter outlining our focus for this half term in **Religious Education, Catholic Social Teaching, and the Pupil Profile** virtues. It also includes suggested family activities, such as creating "Light of the World" lanterns, to support your child's moral and spiritual development at home.

Dates for the Diary



December

- 9th – Year 1 and 2 Christmas Concert 2pm
- 10th – Year 1 and 2 Christmas Concert 10am
- 11th – Nursery and Reception Christmas Celebration 10am
- 12th – Christmas Choir to sing at Ty Dewi Sant Residential Home
- 14th – **Advent Service (Led by Years 3 and 4 and supported by Years 5 and 6) – 2pm, St Joseph's RC Church. All welcome.**
- 15th – Termly St Joseph's 100 Club Draw – See ParentPay for details
- 15th – Choir to sing at Parkside House Residential Home
- 15th – **Creative and Enterprising Challenge Christmas Market, School Hall, 3.00pm – 4.30pm. Money to purchase one of your children's products can also be sent into school in a clearly marked envelope. Pupils can also bring in their own money to purchase items at the market from 2.00pm.**

December

- 16th – Christmas Dinner and Jumper Day – Pupils are able to bring in items to decorate the dinner table.
- 17th – Reception – Year 6: Christingle Service led by the Chaplaincy Government Group.
- 18th – F&F Christmas Scavenger Hunt
- 19th – Final Day of the Autumn Term – Home Clothes Day
- 19th – F&F Christmas Disco (during school time)

January

- 5th - INSET Day
- 6th – First Day back for Pupils
- 11th – **Joint Youth Mass with St Richard Gwyn High School, St Joseph's RC Church, 9.30am to celebrate the end of the Jubilee Year of Hope.**

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St Joseph's RC Primary School Penarth

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Competitions

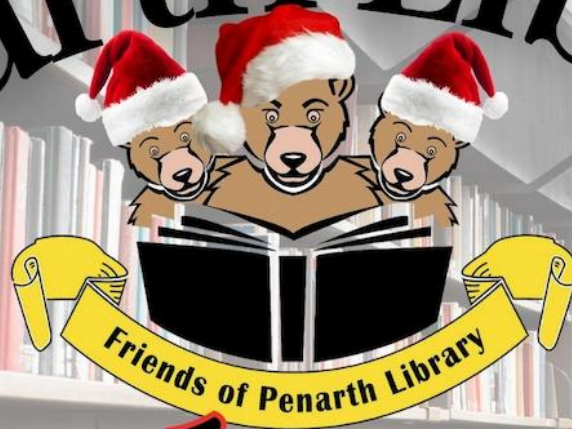


A warm feeling inside!

Over
£60m
raised for UK good causes

£0
extra cost to anyone

Penarth Library



Cake & Craft Sale

Saturday

13th December 2025

10.00-12.00

T:02920 708438



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Contact for more information:

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