



# Newland St John's

CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY

**Living Together, Learning Together and Shining Together in the Love of God.**

*'...Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds  
and glorify your Father in heaven.'* Matthew 5:16

## Newsletter - December 2025

### A message from Mrs Brett

As we reach the end of the year, we want to thank you for all your support. Thank you for supporting us in gathering food for Hull Foodbank; thank you for supporting the charities- Children in Need and the British Legion. Finally, and most importantly, thank you for your support and kindness in helping us to offer the best education we can for your children.



### December Highlights

December has been an extremely busy month in our school year. It has been a time of preparation (preparing for all the Christmas events) but also a time of expectation and joy.

Our Foundation stay and play was a highlight of the term. It was wonderful to see so many parents and grandparents join Dormice in their festive activities. Thank you for all your support.

Our **Choral Choir** had the wonderful opportunity to take part in the **Festival of Carols** concert which, this year was one of the 'Princess of Wales Christmas Concerts' to be held across the country.

It was also a delight to watch Foundation Stage and Key Stage One children retell the **nativity**.

Another highlight of the year was **Year 5** Leading our Christmas Service. It was fascinating to learn about different Christmas celebrations around the world and, both Year 5 and the choir sounded absolutely beautiful. A huge thank you should be given to the children who worked so hard to give us the opportunity to reflect on the meaning of Christmas.

## Justice and Responsibility

This year, building on our previous work on courageous advocacy, and in order to teach our children to become agents of change, the children in each year group will become a voice for others. Each class has been asked to choose a cause that they would like to represent and raise awareness of within this academic year. This advent, our **Year 3** children raised awareness of the work Hull Foodbank does in our local community.

Our **Year 3 children** used the idea of windows, mirrors and doors to teach us about the importance of **helping others who do not have enough to eat this Christmas.**



Windows- the children looked at the experiences of others: reflecting on the fact that there are times in our lives when things are difficult financially and not all families will have enough to eat this Christmas.



Mirrors- the children then reflected on how this made them feel and thought about what practical steps they could take to help families in this situation.



Doors- the children promoted Hull Foodbank within the community- creating a reverse advent calendar which gave suggestions of food that could be donated on each school day in December.

This was a huge success and we would like to thank all members of the community who donated food. It has now been delivered to the Foodbank and we hope that it will make a real difference to people in Hull this Christmas.

## Free School Meals

Our financial circumstances change all the time. In order to apply for free school meals (if you have access to public funds) you must be in receipt of one of the following benefits -

- income support
- income based jobseeker's allowance
- income related employment and support allowance (ESA – IR)
- universal credit if the household is earning less than £7,400 per year
- asylum seekers receiving support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of state pension credit
- child tax credit with an annual income of no more than £16,190 as assessed by the Inland Revenue. If also in receipt of working tax credit you will not be eligible
- working tax credit run on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for working tax credit

**The Department for Education has permanently extended free school meal eligibility to children in all households.** This includes households with No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF)\*, subject to maximum income thresholds. To do so register on the My School Portal and complete the online form. You can apply using the portal: [Free school meals | Hull](#)

If you are interested in applying or are just not sure about how the system works, please do not hesitate to call the school in confidence and speak to Wendy Palmer, who is based in the school office, and she will be able to support you through the application process.

## Safeguarding

### Our Safeguarding Team:



### What to do if you have a concern about a child:

#### During School Hours:

- Contact the school and speak to either Mrs Brett or another member of the safeguarding team, via the main office on 01482 305740.
- Contact the Access and Assessment team for Hull on 01482 448879

### **Out of school hours and during school holidays:**

If your concern is urgent and there is an immediate risk of harm, then contact the police via 999

If your concern is less urgent but you are worried about the welfare of the child then contact the Early Help and Safeguarding Hub on 01482 448879 or the Emergency Duty Team 01482 300304 (After 5pm and weekends)

For more information, click on the link: [Worried about a child | Hull](#) Please remember that if a child discloses anything that is worrying them, we may need to speak to parents and carers. This is part of our duty of care.

## **SENDCo Spotlight - Miss Jones**

### **We want to hear from you!**

At NSJ, we're always looking for ways to improve our SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) provision. Your feedback is vital in helping us provide the best support for your child.

Please take a few minutes to complete our online feedback form and share your thoughts on how we can enhance our SEND offer. [Parent/Carer SEND Voice](#).

Your opinions matter and your input will help shape a more inclusive and supportive environment for all our students.

Thank you for your time and support!

### **Where can I get SEND advice?**

- **Hull Local Offer** [The Hull Local Offer website](#) is where parents, carers, children and young people up to 25 with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) can find information, advice and guidance about support, services and activities that are available to those living in Hull.
- **SENDIASS (Special Educational needs Independent Advice Service)**  
Telephone: [01482 467 541](tel:01482467541) Email: [hullsendiass@kids.org.uk](mailto:hullsendiass@kids.org.uk)



If you have any queries regarding this update, or would like to speak to the SENCo about anything to do with your child, please do not hesitate to email [hello@nsj.hslt.academy](mailto:hello@nsj.hslt.academy) for an appointment.

## Key Dates - Spring 2025

Date	Event
Tuesday 6th January	School opens to children
Friday 9th January	Aspirations Day
Monday 9-15th February	Children's Mental Health Week - activities in school
Tuesday 10th February	Safer Internet Day
Wednesday 25th March	Year 6 trip to the Yorkshire Wildlife Park
Monday 11th May- Thursday 14th May	Year SATs week

*\*Further dates will be confirmed in the new year*

## Clubs Spring 2025

Day	Time	Club	Led by	Year Group	Cost
Monday-Friday (daily)	8:00-8:45	Breakfast Club*	Staff	All	£1 per session
Monday-Thursday (daily)	Lunchtime	Lunchtime crafts and games	Mrs Williams	All	Free
Monday	8:30-8:45	Yoga session	Coach Rachel	Breakfast club	Free
Monday	Lunchtime	Scooter skills on the playground	Coach Rachel	All	Free
Monday	3:15-5:15	NSJ Youth Theatre*	Hull Truck (Miss Dulian)	Y5	Free
Thursday	3:15-4:15	Choral Choir*	@choralhull (Mrs. Kirk)	Y4&5	Free

*\* Booking essential. If there are no places available, your child may be added to a waiting list.*

*\*\*All other Sports Clubs will be confirmed in the new year- please look out for details.*

## Help for Families

Help for Families - a reminder the cost of living crisis is having an impact on all families in our community. We would like to signpost some sources of support that may help.

Food Banks:

[Hull Foodbank](#)

[Hull Vineyard Church](#)



## Reflection

**Here is a lovely reflection taken from the Church of England website for the Christmas Break**  
**[Dark nights & starry skies | The Church of England](#)**

It gets dark so early this time of year – the longest night and shortest day is 21st December. Cold nights can be very clear, so it's a good time to see the stars. It's a wonderful way to let children experience awe and wonder.

Why not go for a walk on a clear evening so you can look at the stars together? When there's no cloud, it's amazing what you can see in the sky at night. In cities, the light from streetlamps can mask the view of the stars. If you have the chance to see a night sky in the countryside, you'll see even more.

These are some suggestions for explaining the night sky to your child  
You could use google sky to learn which star is which, and find the planets, or you might look for the International Space Station passing overhead!

There are far too many stars to count – try it with your child. The universe is bigger than we can possibly imagine, and we are so small – yet God still notices and loves each one of us.

Tell or read the story of the wise men who followed a star to find the Christ child. You can find it in the Bible in the gospel according to St Matthew (chapter 2, verses 1-12)