



Friday 19th December 2025

Merry Christmas

As we come to the end of term, I wanted to take this time to wish you all a blessed and restful Christmas.

May this season be a time of peace, joy, and renewal as we celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Wherever you are spending Christmas, may you feel His presence in your homes and hearts. For those travelling to visit family, we pray for your safety and happy reunions.

We look forward to welcoming all children back on **Monday 5th January 2026**, ready to begin the new term with faith and hope.

*With every blessing,
Sarah Sweeney-McGinty
Headteacher*



Reception Admissions for September 2026

There is still time to apply for a place in St Margaret Clitherow's Reception class for September 2026. The school admission window closes on Thursday 15th January 2026.

We are welcoming all prospective new families to come and visit us when it is convenient for them. Please ask any family members or friends to contact the school office on 0115 9150296 if they would like to come and visit our EYFS unit.

Key dates for September 2026 admissions:

- Apply from: 4 November 2025.
- Closing date: 15 January 2026.
- National Offer Day: 16 April 2026.

If your child is a Catholic or Christian, please fill out a supplementary form (from the school office) BEFORE the deadline with the Baptismal Certificate as evidence. This will ensure your child is placed correctly when we are ranking the admissions.

We cannot rank your child as a Catholic or Christian without receiving their Baptismal Certificate.

APPLY ONLINE AT: WWW.NOTTINGHAMCITY.GOV.UK/SCHOOLADMISSIONS



Advent and Christmas Celebrations

Over the past few weeks, we have spent a wonderful time together as a school community celebrating Advent and preparing for Christmas. The children have truly embraced the season, planning and delivering beautiful Celebrations of the Word and participating in Advent prayer retreats that brought a sense of peace and reflection to our school.

Our annual Advent Mass was a lovely occasion, filled with joy and reverence. The EYFS children delighted us all with their charming Christmas songs, and Key Stage 1 worked incredibly hard to bring their nativity story to life with enthusiasm and care. A heartfelt thank you to all the staff who guided and supported the children in their preparations, and to our parents for helping with lines and songs at home and for joining us to celebrate these special moments. Your support makes these events so meaningful for our school family.



Service this Advent

This Advent, we have been truly overwhelmed by the incredible support of our families as we live out our school value of “Service” and our Mission:

“To make the best use of our gifts to serve God, our church and those who need us.”

Our parish ambassadors have shown outstanding commitment, reading in both of our parishes an amazing three times this half term. We are so grateful to the children and their families for their dedication to serving our church communities.

We have also been amazed by the generosity of our families this Christmas. With the wonderful support of our Chaplaincy Team and the PFA, we have raised funds for both CAFOD and Save the Children, helping to make a real difference to those in need.

Thank you for your kindness and for living out our mission in such a meaningful way.

Christmas Mass Times

Our Lady of Perpetual Succour Church, Bulwell 🌲

Christmas Eve – Wednesday 24th December 2025

Vigil Mass: 5:00 pm

Christmas Carols: 11:30 pm, followed by Midnight Mass

Christmas Day – Thursday 25th December 2025

Mass: 10:00 am

The Good Shepherd Church, Woodthorpe 🌲

Christmas Eve – Wednesday 24th December 2025

Vigil Mass: 5:00 pm

Midnight Mass: 12am

Christmas Day – Thursday 25th December 2025

Mass: 10:00 am

Feast of the Epiphany

Tuesday 6th January 2026



On Tuesday, 6th January 2026, all children in Years 4, 5, and 6 will join pupils from Our Lady of Perpetual Succour School and members of our parish for Mass to celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany. Together, the children will help lead the Liturgy of the Word, prayers, and singing. Everyone is warmly invited to attend!

The Mass will take place at 9:30am at Our Lady of Perpetual Succour Church in Bulwell. We are delighted to share that the church is kindly covering the cost of transport, so there is no charge for this event.

Please log on to Arbor to give your consent for your child to attend.

Children in the other classes will celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany in school with their teachers.

Winter Holiday Scheme Places for Free

FREE FUN AND FOOD

Would your child like to attend a **fully funded holiday scheme** during the Winter holidays where fun experiences, a meal and snacks are all included?

Children in receipt of, or eligible for, **Free School Meals** can attend up to 4 **free holiday activity clubs** in the Winter holidays.

freefunandfood@nottinghamcity.gov.uk

Further information: askion.co.uk/funandfood or scan the QR Code

Questions: freefunandfood@nottinghamcity.gov.uk

Online Safety Tip

Many children will receive phones, tablets, or devices this Christmas.



The UK Safer Internet Centre has great advice on introducing these safely. Follow the QR code for more information.

Lent Term 2026 Key Dates

Date	Year Group	Event
5 th January 2026	Whole School	Welcome back to school – All children return to school
6 th January	Year 4, 5 and 6	Epiphany Mass at Our Lady of Perpetual Succour Church 9.30-11am
15 th January	Year 6	Year 6 Celebration of the Word – Parents welcome – 9.15am
22 nd January	Year 3	Year 3 Celebration of the Word – Parents welcome – 9.15am
24 th January	Year 3	First Holy Communion Enrolment Mass at Our Lady of Perpetual Succour Church 5pm
29 th January	Year 1	Year 1 Celebration of the Word – Parents welcome – 9.15am
5 th February	Year 2	Year 2 Celebration of the Word – Parents welcome – 9.15am
12 th February	Year 4	Year 4 Celebration of the Word – Parents welcome – 9.15am
13 th February	Whole School	INSET DAY – school closed to children
16 th -20 th February	Whole School	February Half Term
23 rd February	Whole School	Welcome back to school – All children to return to school
23 rd February	Whole school	Ash Wednesday Service – All welcome – 1.30pm
25 th February	Reception and Year 1	Dental Survey
26 th February	Year 5	Year 5 Celebration of the Word – Parents welcome – 9.15am
5 th March	Year 6	Year 6 Celebration of the Word – Parents welcome – 9.15am
10 th March	Whole school	Parents Consultation – 3.30-6pm
11 th March	Whole school	Parents Consultations – 3.30-6pm
12 th March	Year 3	Year 3 Celebration of the Word – Parents welcome – 9.15am
17 th March	Whole School	BIG LENT WALK
25 th March	Year 4 and 5	Resurrection Rocks 2pm – Parents welcome
26 th March	Whole School	Mass at Our Lady of Perpetual Succour Church – time 9.30am
27 th March	Whole School	Last Day at school
30 th March-10 th April	Whole School	Easter Half term