



05/12/25

Dear Parents, Carers, Students, Staff and Friends of the School



My thanks to all parents and carers who filled in the Catholic School's Inspection Survey. 363 responses ensured we had a representative sample. Although I am not privy to your feedback, from what I was told we were well supported in what we are trying to achieve as an inclusive Catholic school. The inspectors told us from the start that they wanted to celebrate all that was good within the school. We genuinely felt that this approach brought the best out in staff and students, who were all excellent! I hope to share the report with you in full before the Christmas holidays.

Thank you to those students who attended the Rosary club this week. This will occur on Tuesdays during Advent from 8.20am in the Chapel. Please encourage your child to come along. We will teach them the pattern of the prayer as we go. Rosary beads will be provided. In other news the CAFOD Club's cake sale raised £296 for the Sudan Crisis Appeal. Well done to all those who baked for us.

Just a reminder, if you are attending the school site, only attempt to enter via convent drive, and use the video intercom. Once you are buzzed in, sign in at reception. You will need to be escorted at all times.

With two weeks until the Christmas break we can begin to look forward to Christmas in this wonderful season of advent. If you can, please do come and support the young musicians and crafters at the fayre and concert.

Best wishes,

Tom Pinnington – Headteacher

Key Dates

- **Tues. 16th Dec.:** Christmas Lunch for Years 7-9
- **Wed. 17th Dec.:** Christmas Lunch for Years 10-13
- **Fri. 19th Dec.:** Advent Service, Non School Uniform. School closes at 1:45pm
- **Tues. 6th Jan.:** School opens to students

1st Week of Advent

God of Hope
Your son Jesus,
is your greatest gift to us.
Help us to become beacons of
hope
in the lives of those who need
our support.
Amen

There will
always be a
tiny glimmer
of HOPE in
the deepest
darkest
nights

Advent Hamper Appeal

Advent is a time when we reach out to others to give them the gifts of Hope, Peace, Joy and Love. This year more than ever, lots of people in our local community need our support.

We have selected four charities that support local families and individuals over the Christmas period.

Please look at the list of items that each Form are collecting for their allocated charity. **NO ALCOHOL** or alcohol filled chocolates, this includes mouth washes and cleaning products. Please ensure food items are well within sell by date.



YEAR 7	YEARS 8-9	YEARS 10-11	YEARS 12-13
SVP Local Families	SALVATION ARMY Local Families	LEEWAY Victims of Domestic Abuse	ST MARTIN'S TRUST Homeless People
Deadline: Thurs. 18 th	Deadline: Mon 15 th	Deadline: Thurs 18 th	Deadline: Wed. 17 th
packet & tinned food instant noodles/pasta tea/coffee/hot chocolate long-life drinks/juices Christmas foods cakes/Mince pies/biscuits Toiletries hairbrush/comb toothpaste toothbrushes shower gel shaving gel/foam shampoo/ conditioner deodorant/ body spray hand gel/cream lip balm Christmas Items Gifts for each member of the family especially for the adults hats/gloves/scarves thermal Mugs Christmas crackers books/puzzle books/colouring books craft sets pens/colouring pens/pencils pack of cards/board game	General hair combs/brushes sweets/chocolates gloves and hats thick socks thermal cups cereal bars long life drinks/juices tinned/ packet food toiletries lip balm deodorants/body sprays hand cream pocket tissues toothpaste/toothbrushes shower gel shaving foam/gel shampoo conditioner hand gel female hygiene products Christmas items chocolates especially selection boxes sweets gifts for women gifts for men Christmas crackers puzzle books colouring books pens colouring pens/pencils mince pies small game/pack of cards books	Food/Drink long life milk & Juice packet & tinned food pasta & noodles coffee/hot chocolate chocolates/Sweets (selection boxes) Clothes/Shoes/Bags women, children, babies Household Items towels single duvets bedding sets single crockery, pots & pans Toiletries women/children female hygiene products nappies baby wipes lip balm hand gel/cream pocket tissues Christmas Items toys - No weapons, guns swords, or anything similar books craft items e.g paint, pens, stickers etc. gift sets puzzle books/colouring books colouring pens/pencils small game/pack of cards	Food pasta noodles tinned foods crisps sweets/chocolates especially selection boxes Toiletries deodorant/body sprays combs/brushes toothpaste toothbrushes shower gel/body wash shaving gel/foam shampoo conditioner hand gel lip balm hand cream Christmas Items small game/pack of cards colouring pens/pencils gifts for women gifts for men puzzle books/ colouring books

NDHS CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Thursday 11th December
In the Sports Hall
4:30 - 6pm Christmas Fayre
6-8pm Concert

Tickets on the door
£3 per person
or £10 for a family of 4



Our NDHS ensembles have been rehearsing hard all term and are excited to invite you to the Christmas concert on Thursday 11th December.

Tickets are available on [ticketsource](#) at £3 per person or £10 for a family of 4. [Christmas Concert Tickets](#)

Tickets can also be purchased by cash on the door. The PTFA will be providing a wide variety of

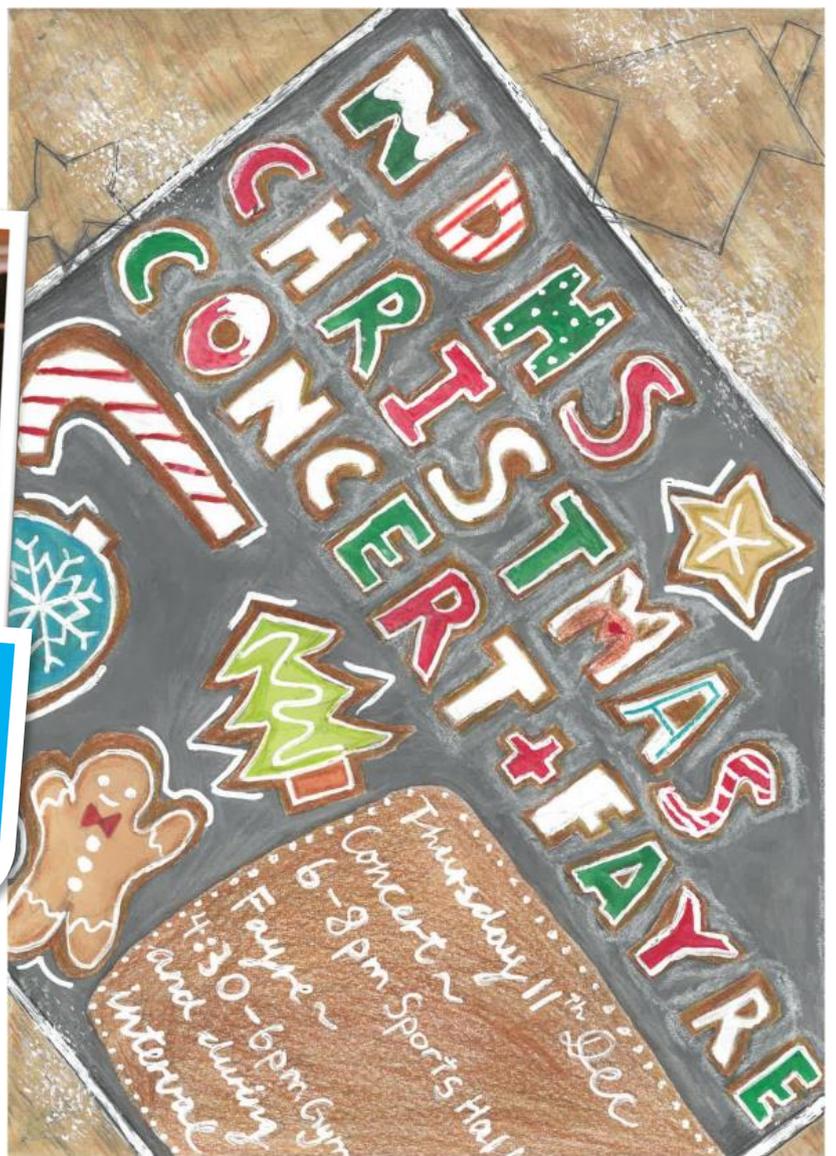
refreshments including mulled wine, mince pies and will be accepting cash or card payments.

This year we are going to try something new and hold our popular Christmas market in conjunction with the Christmas Concert.

There will be a small selection of stalls in the gym open from 4.30pm until the start of the concert and then again during the 30 minute interval.

A great opportunity to pick up some last minute treats or that extra special stocking filler while supporting the concert at the same time.

If you are a crafter and would be interested in having a stall please contact Mrs Miller at cmiller@ndhs.org.uk



Library Notices

Take part in Stranger Sagas creative writing competition! Submit a 100 word story before the 19th of December for the chance to win a £100 Amazon gift card and have your story published! Speak to Miss. Fielding in the Library for more details on how to enter.

We are holding a festive book swap on Thursday 18th of December, simply wrap up a book with the genre written on the front and bring it in at lunchtime to swap it for something new.

Lastly, if you have any overdue library books, please bring them back in so that we can replenish our shelves!

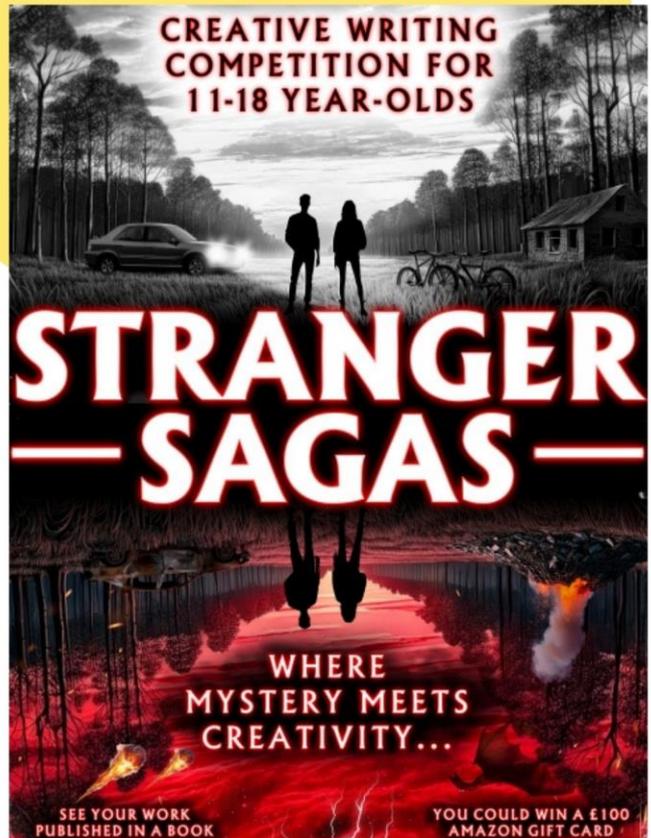


Festive Book Swap

Wrap up a book
Write the genre and a brief summary on the front
Swap it for something new!

Thursday 18th December - Lunch Time

The graphic features a festive theme with a Christmas tree, books, and a wreath. A central green circle contains the instructions for the book swap. Below the instructions, a wreath holds several books with handwritten labels: 'Sci-Fi', 'Exploration of good + evil on a new planet', 'Free Verse', and 'Charming classic story of...'. The background is decorated with snowflakes and autumn leaves.



CREATIVE WRITING COMPETITION FOR 11-18 YEAR-OLDS

STRANGER SAGAS

WHERE MYSTERY MEETS CREATIVITY...

SEE YOUR WORK PUBLISHED IN A BOOK

YOU COULD WIN A £100 AMAZON GIFT CARD

The poster features a dark, atmospheric scene with a car on a road at night, two silhouetted figures, and a house. The title 'STRANGER SAGAS' is prominently displayed in large, white, outlined letters. The background is a mix of dark blues and reds, suggesting a mysterious or suspenseful theme.

There are currently 882 books out on loan!

If you have a Library book at home collecting dust, please bring it back so someone else can enjoy it!

No judgement on how long you have had it for

If you can't find the book, it's okay! just come and tell me so I can mark it as lost!



Volunteers Sought to Support School Admission Appeals

The Diocese of East Anglia Schools' Service is seeking volunteers to serve as school admission appeals panel members, helping ensure parents' rights are upheld when a child is not offered a place at their preferred Catholic school.

Panel members play a vital role in considering cases where parents wish to challenge a refusal of admission. Each hearing typically lasts between 20 and 30 minutes, although some may take longer depending on their complexity. During the busy summer term, multiple appeals may be scheduled on the same day, and volunteers may occasionally be asked to sit for two or even three consecutive days. Importantly, panel members are always able to decide their own availability, making this a flexible opportunity suited to those available during school hours.

Appeals may be heard in person or via video conferencing, and volunteers can express a preference for the type of hearings they are comfortable with. All panel members will receive training from the Diocese.

To ensure a balanced and fair process, each panel is made up of both lay members, people without professional involvement in education, and education members, people with experience working in or understanding schools. Individuals cannot sit on panels for schools with which they have a personal connection, for example being a parent, governor or staff member.

Anyone interested in volunteering or finding out more is invited to contact Helen Bates, Assistant Director (Schools' Service), at the Diocese of East Anglia, 21 Ugate, Poringland, Norwich, NR14 7SH, by email at ssc@rcdea.org.uk or by telephone on 01508 495509.

ST NICHOLAS

CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR

SATURDAY 6TH DECEMBER

CATHEDRAL OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST,
NR2 2PA

 **VISIT THE GARDEN CAFE FOR FESTIVE FOOD AND DRINKS**

 **A VISIT FROM ST NICHOLAS**

 **HANDMADE CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR FRIENDS AND FAMILY**

10:30 TO 14:30
FREE ENTRY


The Cathedral of St John the Baptist