



St Ann's Church of England Primary School



Together, we aim high; with God's love, we can fly!

Value of the Half Term

Trust

Newsletter Issue 13

Friday 8 December 2023

Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the LORD our God.

Psalm 20:7

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CURRICULUM & CULTURAL VISITS

Not only is it a busy time at St Ann's with Christmas coming up, it is also a busy time because we have a number of exciting visits taking place for some of our year groups next week! See separate letters for further details, but here is a reminder.

Y3	Shakespeare North Playhouse	Tuesday 12th December
Y6	World Museum (inc Egyptian Workshops)	Wednesday 13th December
Y1	Panto at the St Helens Theatre Royal	Thursday 14th December



KIDS GET THEIR SUPER POWERS BY
**ATTENDING SCHOOL
EVERY DAY** ⚡

BE AN ATTENDANCE
SUPERHERO!

Whole school attendance year to date <i>Whole School target 96%</i>	96.53%
Whole school attendance week ending 1 st December 2023	95.75%
Class with best weekly attendance	3H – 99.66%

Attendance Expectations

Children are expected to be in school **every day** unless they are unwell. All other reasons will be unauthorised. If your child is going to be absent, contact school and let us know before 9.20am. Children not in school may receive a phone call home or home visit. In line with our Attendance Policy, we are committed to supporting families in improving their child's attendance, before taking legal action.

**Number of pupils
with 100% attendance
this week**

342

Punctuality

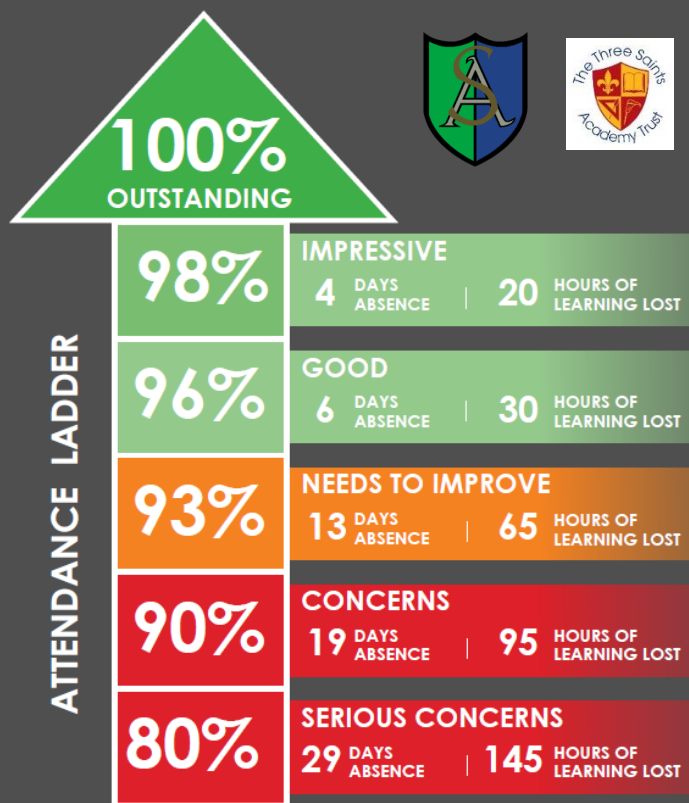
School starts at **8.50am**.
Lessons start at **8.50am**.

School gates open at 8.40am.

Children arriving after 8.50am will need to use the main entrance. Children who enter school via the main entrance will be registered as late. Regularly missing the beginning of lessons has a negative impact on a child's progress and wellbeing.

EVERY DAY COUNTS!

School and **future success** starts with good attendance!



Remember - your education is important - **don't miss out!**

A SPOTLIGHT ON CHRISTIAN VALUES



Over a two-year period we study 12 Christian Values. This means children encounter each value at least three times during their primary education, allowing for values to be revisited at a deeper level as the children grow older. The values are often a focus for Collective Worship. Class RE Reflection Areas reflect the value currently being studied. Children are rewarded with Dojos for living out our Christian values, some children have even been invited to Hot Chocolate with the Headteacher!

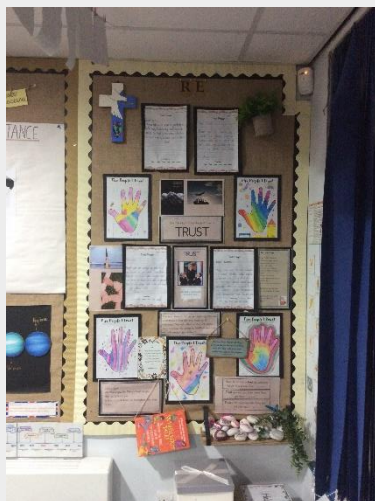
Here are the Christian Values we focus on at St Ann's.

Our Christian Values

Over a two-year period we study 12 Christian Values. This means children encounter each value at least three times during their primary education, allowing for values to be revisited at a deeper level as the children grow older. The values are often a focus for Collective Worship. Class RE Areas reflect the value currently being studied.

Compassion	Endurance	Courage
Justice	Thankfulness	Trust
Peace	Service	Wisdom
Forgiveness	Friendship	Hope

This half term's Christian Value focus is Trust. Here are some examples of our class Reflection Areas.





School Admissions Calendar: 2024-2025 School Year Intakes

	Closing Dates for Applications	Letter/Email to Parents
Secondary (portal opened 4th September 2023 closes 31st October 2023)	31 October 2023	1 March 2024
Primary (portal opens 18th September 2023 closes 15th January 2024)	15 January 2024	16 April 2024
Nursery Autumn 2024 Intake (portal was open 12 June 2023 -21 July 2023)	21 July 2023	22 September 2023
Nursery Spring 2025 Intake	19 July 2024	20 September 2024
Nursery Summer 2025 Intake	19 July 2024	20 September 2024

For further information please contact the School Admissions Section on 01744 671035 (Nursery and Primary Allocations), 01744 671030 (Secondary Allocation) and 01744 671027 (In Year Transfers).



ADMISSIONS ARRANGEMENTS

St Helens Council has a duty under the [School Admissions Code](#) to consult on the admission arrangements of Community & Voluntary Controlled schools and the Co-ordinated Admission Scheme at least once every seven years, even if there have been no changes during that period.

The last full consultation on admission arrangements and co-ordinated schemes took place in December 2016, for the 2018/19 academic year. Last September St Helens Council contacted all schools, governing bodies and diocesan boards with capacity (SCAP) information, and to ask for any details of any changes to be made to admission arrangements prior to formal consultations taking place. Two primary schools are making changes for 2025/26.

Please find a link below to the proposed admission arrangements and proposed schemes for the 2025/26 academic year... [Pupil place planning and schools organisation - St Helens Borough Council](#)

Comments or suggestions about the proposed arrangements and schemes can be made to schooladmissions@sthelens.gov.uk by **Friday 19th January 2024**.

MESSAGE FROM MELLORS SCHOOL MEALS

On the final day of this term (Friday 22nd December), instead of Mellors serving their usual Friday menu, the children will be served with Christmas party food. *Should you have any queries about this, please do not hesitate to get in touch.*

PARENT FORUM

We have Parent Forum Rep vacancies in the following classes and keen to fill them.

EYR, 5B, 5D & 6A.

If you are interested in being a Parent Rep, please contact school on stannsce@three-saints.org.uk

CHRISTMAS PARTIES



It's nearly Christmas Party time! Dates and times can be seen below. On the day of your child's Christmas party, they should

wear their party clothes to school (bearing in mind that we will still be outside at playtime and lunchtime), and bring in one Christmas party snack e.g. a packet of crisps or chocolate bar (all nut free and no hard boiled sweets).

Y2	Wednesday 20th December
EYs, Y1, Y3 & Y4	Thursday 21st December
Y5 & Y6	Friday 22nd December

FAMILY WORSHIP



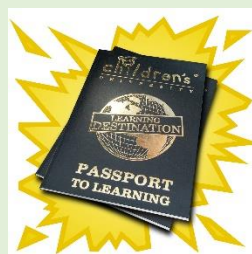
Well done to 4C for their Family Worship all about International Day for Disabled Persons.

On **Friday 19th January at 9am 3E** will lead their Family Worship in the hall all about World Religion Day. Please wait at the back of school by the hall door ready to be let in.

AUTUMN MENTORING CONVERSATIONS

Mentoring Conversations will take place week commencing **Monday 11th December**. Here we will discuss your child's progress and attainment. *Please see separate letter for further information.*

CHILDREN'S UNIVERSITY PASSPORT BANK



Week commencing **18th December** all children with a Children's University Passport should bring it into school so that the extra-curricular hours they have completed can be logged. New passports can be purchased from the school office.



CHRISTINGLE WORKSHOP & SERVICE

This year the Christingle service is on Sunday 17th December at St Ann's church. This is a family service and during the service the congregation light a Christingle orange to represent the light of the world.

Before the service all children will be able to make their own Christingle Orange in school. Making Christingle Oranges will take place on Wednesday 13th and Thursday 14th December. Children in Years 2 to 6 will make their Christingle Oranges in class with their teacher.

We will be holding Christingle Workshops for children in EYFS and Year 1. During the workshop a parent/carer will be able to come along and make a Christingle orange with your child. The timetable for workshops is below.

YEAR ONE CHRISTINGLE WORKSHOP – WEDNESDAY 13th DECEMBER (workshops to take place in the Studio. Parents to enter school via the Base Door)	
9.15am	1T
2.15pm	1M

EYFS CHRISTINGLE WORKSHOP – THURSDAY 14th DECEMBER (workshops to take place in the Studio. Parents to enter school via the Base Door)	
9am	Up to 12 parents may attend each session. Confirmation of allocated slots have been sent out previously.
10am	
11am	
1pm	
2pm	

We look forward to seeing you at the workshops and at the service on the 17th December.

COMING SOON... ST ANN'S HAS GOT TALENT SHOW

Watch this space!



A SPECIAL VISITOR TO EYS & KS1



EYs and KS1 were incredibly lucky today to receive a visit from Father Christmas! The children enjoyed seeing Santa on his sleigh and receiving a early christmas present.

YEAR 3 CHRISTMAS SERVICE

Y3 will lead this year's Christmas Service at St Ann's Church on Friday 22 December @ 9.30am.



Everybody welcome!

UNWANTED TOYS & GAMES

We are looking to update the games and toys that our Base children play with. If you have any age-appropriate toys and games that are in good condition (all pieces in tact) and that are no longer wanted, why not consider donating them to school? Simply send them into school via the office. Many thanks in advance of receiving any donations 😊

CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

This Sunday 10 December @ 6.30pm, there is a Christmas Carol Concert at St Ann's Church. Our whole community is invited. Why not come along to celebrate Christmas?

Our choir are performing! (*Choir members to referre to separate letter sent out from Miss Thomson*)

Do come and join in!

CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

Rainhill Community Choir Jubilate Choir

with St Ann's School Choir

Sunday December 10th 6.30pm

St Ann's Church
Warrington Road
Rainhill L35 0NS

GIFTS THIS CHRISTMAS

We are very aware of the financial pressures on families at Christmas, and indeed all year round.

With this in mind, we would like to remind parents/ carers that there is no expectation for gifts or vouchers to be bought for our staff – at Christmas or any time of the year. Our staff are in full support of this, and would like to relieve families of the worry this issue may cause. As a church school, we understand the true meaning of Christmas – a time of hope, peace, joy and love. Our staff will be talking to the children about this, but you may wish to follow this up at home as well.

EPIPHANY SERVICE

On **Thursday 11th January at 2.15pm**, some classes will participate in the Epiphany Service at St Ann's Church led by Reverend Alan and Rev David.



Everybody welcome!

School closes for Christmas
on Friday 22nd December
2023 at the usual time.

School re-opens in the new
year on Tuesday 9th January
2024.



WINTER HAF PROGRAMME

St Helens Borough Council has just released their wide range of activities for the Holiday, Activities and Food Programme running from 27th Dec - 5th Jan.

Any primary or secondary children or young people who are eligible for benefit related free school meals, are in receipt of a support plan from Early Help, is a Child in Need or a Child We Look After, has an EHCP or receives additional funded hours can access these activities free of charge.

They include many different activities with many including a free lunch or tea.

Parents will need to book online with the providers from 2pm on Tues 12th December and can be made via the link [booklet](#) or with the providers.

A POEM ABOUT ANTI BULLYING BY SOFIA AND ANASTASIA (Y5)

A	Always tell a trusted adult
N	Never let bullying bother you
T	Talk to someone that you know
I	If bullying ever bothers you, stand up for yourself!
B	Be a strong person
U	Understand what you have to do
L	Let an adult know
L	Listen to an adult's advice
Y	You need to speak up!
I	In every occasion tell a friend
N	Never deal with it yourself
G	Get up, speak up and don't be small!



TERM TIME DATES FOR 2024-25

Term	*Open On:	*Close On:
Autumn term 2024	4 th September 2024	25 th October 2024
	4 th November 2024	20 th December 2024
Spring term 2025	6 th January 2025	14 th February 2025
	24 th February 2025	4 th April 2025
Summer term 2025	22 nd April 2025	23 rd May 2025
	4 th June 2025	22 nd July 2025

Easter Bank Holidays:

Good Friday: 18th April 2025

Easter Monday: 21st April 2025

Bank Holidays during term time:

May Day: Monday 5th May 2025



SAFEGUARDING TOP TIP #13

Helping your child to make friends

Work together to grow their friendship skills

Talk to your child about what makes a good friend, and practice friendship skills such as listening, sharing, compromising, and negotiating. Sit together and explore examples in everyday life and from TV and books. This will help your child think about what makes a good friend and feel less worried about friendship issues.

Help them to gain confidence

If your child is shy, this can make it feel more difficult to make and keep friends. Give your child lots of opportunities to connect and communicate with you in whatever ways you feel comfortable for them. Practising with you will give them more confidence to connect with others.

Model positive and healthy relationships

Happy relationships between parents and significant adults lead to better mental and physical health for all involved. Children thrive emotionally when they see and are involved in warm and caring relationships where they are respected and valued.

Reassure them that it's natural for friends to fall out sometimes

Children's friendships often change and can look different depending on your child's age and stage of development. While having friends at school is important, it is perfectly ordinary for your child to have difficulties with their friendships. Let your child know that being friends doesn't always mean agreeing or getting along with others all the time.

Talk the talk

Sometimes children can find it difficult to know how what they can say when talking with their peers. You can help your child by practicing what they can say to introduce themselves to someone new or to make a new friend. Help children to think of questions they can use to make connections with friends, such as:

Would you like to play football or something else during break?

Can I sit next to you in class?

Do you want to play catch?

SUPPORT WITH CHILDCARE COSTS

From 2nd January 2024, eligible working parents can apply for 15 hours of childcare for their two-year-old. Parents have until 31st March 2024 to apply for a code, with mid-January to the end of February being the optimum time to apply in case they need to provide further information to support their application.

To apply for a childcare code each parent needs to be working and earning the equivalent of 16 hours a week at national minimum/living wage and under £100,000 adjusted net income per year. This means that each parent needs to earn from just over £8,600 per year to be eligible for 15 hours a week of childcare during term time.

There is more information on the childcare support available to parents on the [Childcare Choices](#) website, where they can explore the early education entitlements and other government help with childcare costs.

URGENT WINTER WATER SAFETY MESSAGE



RLSS UK offer safety advice for winter water safety, with simple steps to keep safe during the winter:

1. Never go onto the ice to play, to retrieve an object, or a pet
2. Never enter the ice to rescue somebody, call 999 and ask for the Fire and Rescue Service

What to do if you fall through the ice:

- Keep calm and shout for 'help'
- Spread your arms across the surface of the ice in front of you
- If the ice is strong enough, kick your legs to slide onto the ice
- Lie flat and pull yourself towards the bank
- If the ice breaks, work your way to the bank-breaking the ice in front of you anyway
- If you cannot climb out, wait for help and keep as still as possible. Press your arms by your side and keep your legs together. Keep your head clear of the water
- Once you are safe, go to hospital immediately for a check up

What to do if you see someone fall through the ice:

- Shout for assistance and phone the emergency services – call 999 or 112
- Do not walk or climb onto the ice to attempt a rescue
- Shout to the casualty to 'keep still' and offer reassurance to keep them calm
- Try and reach them from the bank using a rope, pole, tree branch, clothing tied together or anything else which can extend your reach
- When reaching from the bank, lie down to avoid being pulled onto the ice
- If you cannot reach them, slide something which floats, such as a plastic bottle or football, across the ice for them to hold onto to stay afloat whilst help is on the way
- If the casualty is too far away, do not attempt to rescue them. Wait for the emergency services while calming and reassuring the casualty

<https://www.rlss.org.uk/winter-water-safety>

[Winter water safety](#) | [Staying safe on our canals](#) | [Canal & River Trust \(canalrivertrust.org.uk\)](#)

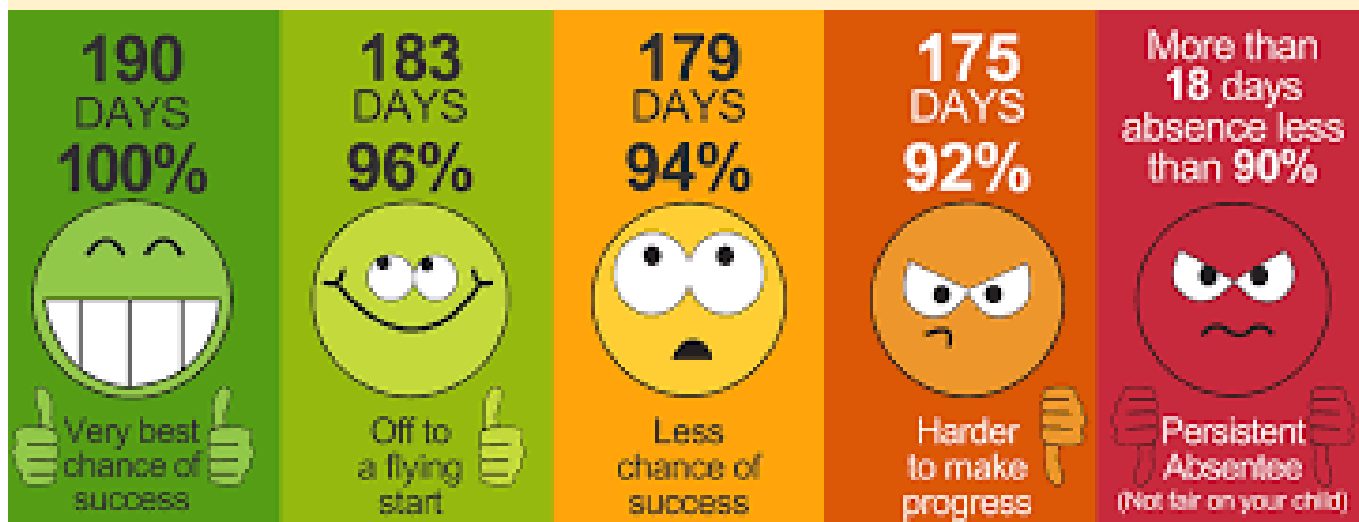


ATTENDANCE REWARD RAFFLE

At St Ann's we are relentless in our focus on attendance because we want the best for our pupils. The research speaks for itself, children with strong levels of attendance, fulfil their full potential and develop the skills and personal qualities required for a happy and fulfilled life.

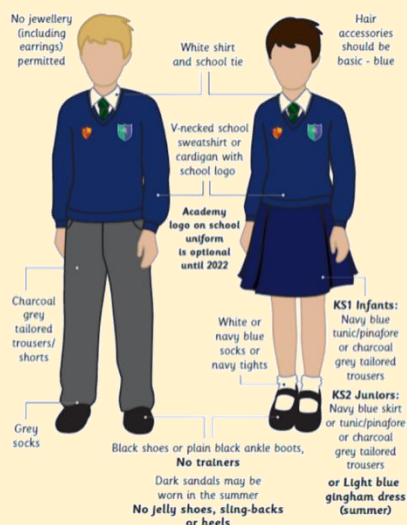
Prize £50 Amazon Voucher

All children with **96%+ attendance**, and who have not taken a holiday during term time, by Friday 22 December will be entered into our first ever Attendance Raffle. **GOOD LUCK** 😊



GENERAL INFORMATION/REMINDERS

SCHOOL UNIFORM REMINDERS



**Please note, it is no longer compulsory to wear items of clothing with the school and Trust logos on. Children may wear plain navy-blue items of school uniform.*

SCHOOL SHOES REMINDER



TOAST YEARS 1-6

If you would like your child to have Toast at breaktime for Spring 1 (9th January 2024 – 9th February 2024) please ensure that your Arbor Toast account has a balance of at least £6.00 by 19th December. If your account is not in credit by at least this amount by this date we will issue a reminder by In-App message. If payment is still not received by the date stated in the reminder we will be unable to provide your child with toast for the ensuing half term. The current balance on your Toast account can be viewed by accessing your Arbor account.

EARLY YEARS SNACK

Foundation stage children receive Snack on a daily basis. We would be most grateful if you would make payment on Arbor of the following amounts by the due dates:

- Autumn 2 - £10.50 as soon as possible if not already done so
- Spring 1 - £7.20 by 19th December 2023
- Spring 2 - £8.70 by 31st January 2024
- Summer 1 - £8.40 by 20th March 2024
- Summer 2 - £11.10 by 15th May 2024

TERM DATES

Term	Open on	Close on
Autumn Term 2023	5th September 2023	26th October 2023
	6th November 2023	22nd December 2023
Spring Term 2024	9th January 2024	9th February 2024
	19th February 2024	28th March 2024
Summer Term 2024	15th April 2024	22nd May 2024
	3rd June 2024	23rd July 2024

PURCHASING SCHOOL ITEMS

If you wish to purchase a school item this can now be done through Arbor. If you make a purchase please email the school office at stannsce@three-saints.org.uk so that arrangements can be made to issue the item. Current prices are as follows:

- School Bag £10.00
- Junior Tie £4.00
- Elasticated Tie £3.50
- Children's University Passport £5.00
- Replacement Home School Diary £5.00

Courtesy
Care
Concentration



St. Ann's Church of England Primary School

View Road, Rainhill, Merseyside, L35 0LQ

Tele: 0151 426 5869

Website: <http://www.rainhillstanns.co.uk>

Email: stannsce@three-saints.org.uk

Twitter: [@RainhillStAnns](https://twitter.com/RainhillStAnns)

Headteacher: Mrs Laura Rynn

‘But those who trust in the Lord, they will find new strength.
They will soar high on wings like eagles’ **Isaiah 40:31**

Parents' Suggestion/Comment Slip

DATES FOR DIARY AUTUMN 2023

DAY	DATE	EVENT
Tuesday	12 th December 2023	Y3 @ Shakespeare North Playhouse
Wednesday	13 th December 2023	Y6 @ World Museum
Thursday	14 th December 2023	Y1 Pantomime @ The Theatre Royal
Monday & Tuesday	18 th / 19 th December 2023	KS1 Nativity Performances
Wednesday	20 th December 2023	Y2 Christmas Party EY's Nativity - 9.30am for RP parents 10.30am for RR parents
Thursday	21 st December 2023	EY's & Y1 Christmas Party Y3 & Y4 Christmas Party
Friday	22 nd December 2023	Children's University Passport Bank Y5 & Y6 Christmas Party Y3 Lead Christmas Service @ Church 9.30am
Friday	22 nd December 2023	School Closes
Tuesday	9 th January 2024	School Open

TOAST

YEARS 1-6

If you would like your child to have Toast every half term please see below for the amount due each half term and the date the amount is required by. Payments should be made to your Arbor Toast account. Payments can be made in advance of these dates if you wish and the credit will be used once the due date arrives.

	Amount Due	Date Toast Account to be in credit by
Autumn 1	£9.50	13th July 2023
Autumn 2	£8.75	18th October 2023
Spring 1	£6.00	19th December 2023
Spring 2	£7.25	31st January 2024
Summer 1	£7.00	20th March 2024
Summer 2	£9.25	15th May 2024

Total for year £47.75

Christmas Appeal

We're appealing for school children to cheer up our patients this Christmas by drawing a lovely Christmas picture or making a card to brighten their stay.

You can either post your pictures/cards to the below:



Patient Experience Team
PALS Office
Level 1
Whiston Hospital
Warrington Road
Prescot
L35 5DR



Or email to patientexperienceandedi@sthk.nhs.uk

Please send all artwork submissions including name
and address by Tuesday 19th December



St Ann Rainhill **December 2023**

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME AT ANY OF
OUR SERVICES**



Sunday 3rd December

10:30am Advent All Together for Worship



Sunday 10th December (Advent 2)

**10:30am Platform 2 contemporary worship
in St Ann's Centre**

6:30pm Community Carol Service



Sunday 17th December (Advent 3)

4pm Christingle Service

Sunday 24th December (Advent 4)

Christmas Eve

4pm Carol and Crib Service

11:30pm Midnight Communion

25th December Christmas Day

10:30am Family Communion



Each SUNDAY 8.30am BCP Holy Communion

**10:30am Common Worship Communion
(except 3rd Dec)**



Sunday 31st December Christmas 1

10.30am Holy Communion (CW)

& Platform 2 contemporary worship in St Ann's Centre

**Midweek Holy Communion 9:30am Thursdays
(except 28th)**