

Cardinal Langley's VOICE

Inspired by Faith, Education Leads to Progress



Celebrations Galore

Welcome to our Christmas edition of the Voice. It's been a busy start to this academic year which has been filled with celebrations, success stories and achievements. There has also been a huge amount of wonderful work going on that we need to celebrate.

Firstly, congratulations to our outstanding PE teachers who were nominated for both the North West Educate Awards and the Rochdale Awards 2025 for their ongoing *Commitment to Sport*. Being nominated for two awards for the academic year 2024-25 shows the level of hard work and dedication the team delivers every day.

November also saw the Raising Rochdale Awards 2025 take place at the Town Hall. This saw staff from schools across the borough come together to celebrate the achievements of inspiring individuals and schools. Cardinal Langley were nominated for a number of awards, and we were delighted that Mrs Peak and Mrs Farrell won in their respective categories - *Secondary and Post-16 Support Stars*. We also received runner-up prizes for: Commitment to Sport, Cultural Education, and Mental Health & Wellbeing. Mrs Abbott was the runner-up in the Lifetime Achievement Award category.

Finally, we were in the top 25% of secondary schools for attendance in 2024-25.



Christmas Came Early for Year 7

As well as enjoying their Savio House retreat at the start of the year, Year 7 have settled in to life at Cardinal Langley with a celebration Mass and early Christmas dinner.

Over the past week, students and staff enjoyed marking the beginning of Advent and the Christmas festivities by enjoying an informal evening in school with food, crackers and a Christmas themed quiz.

Thank you to the kitchen staff for all their help making these evenings a wonderful success.



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Cardinal Langley's Charity Efforts

We are amazed, once again, at the school community's generosity as it has been another great term for our fundraising in which we support numerous local charities. This is made possible by all our families who donate so generously. Thank you for all your efforts and continued support.



Advent Calendars

Each year we aim to ensure that every child in Middleton has an Advent calendar. Once again, we had an amazing number of donations - 780! **The Lighthouse Project said: "Massive thanks and praise for your generosity Cardinal Langley. There's going to be some really happy children looking forward to Christmas with a chocolate treat."**



Teens' Toy Appeal

Every year, Oliver and Lucy collect toys as part of **Rochdale's Giving Back campaign**. This year, they collected 430 gifts meaning hundreds of local children will receive presents they may not otherwise get. Well done to the charitable siblings; you amaze us every year!



Sixth Form Charity Collections

Students and staff in our Sixth Form have been busy all term raising money for worthy causes. As well as a Santa Dash, they gave up their time on a cold Friday night to take part in the **OAP Christmas Fundraiser**. This year's annual collection saw **£648.24** being raised to help in our mission of providing Christmas Hampers to local care home residents by spreading some festive cheer.

Earlier in the term, Sixth Form students held a bake sale for Macmillan. They raised £362 and Mrs Riley won the Best Cake competition. Congratulations also to Amber who was the runner-up. Thank you to Mrs Farrell and her team of helpers for organising.



Cardinal Langley's Cultural Celebrations

We are proud to celebrate our cultural diversity here at Cardinal Langley and hold regular events where we welcome guests and the wider community into school.



Caribbean Cuisine

Each half term, the wonderful Kitchen team prepare a themed dinner from around the world for staff and students. This term saw a Caribbean Calypso theme, featuring delicious chicken, rice and desserts.



Cultural Celebration Day

Thank you to Mrs Farrell and her team who created a wonderful event filled with music, food, traditional dress and competitions during our Cultural Celebration Day. It was great to see lots of staff and students try new foods and learn about cultures from around the world.



Allyship

Earlier in the term, we were delighted to welcome Nicky Ignila and Ola Cole from 'Caring and Sharing', along with the President of Oxford Union - Anita Okunde.

Students engaged in interactive workshops focusing on how to be allies for each other. They also listened to motivational speeches from our visitors. Thank you to all who attended and took part; we are proud to host such inspiring individuals in school.



Updates from the Creative Arts Department



It's been a busy term across the Creative Arts department. Not only have students been busy rehearsing for the school show (Annie), they have produced some fabulous artwork and enjoyed learning outside the classroom.

Last week, the Music department held their Christmas Music concert in a sold-out school hall. Performing acts included: the school choir, guitar group, a number of student rock/pop bands and some excellent solo numbers. Well done to all involved!

Students from the Sixth Form also visited London, where they enjoyed some sightseeing and visiting art galleries, museums and the West End to watch Moulin Rouge.

Students have also been busy creating reflective Lasallian artwork, thinking about peace, love and caring for each other.

Thank you to all the staff who help to make these events happen.



Updates from the PE Department

The Autumn term has been very busy (and successful!) in PE with lots going on. Our teams (including football and netball) have made a great start to the year in all competitions and a number of individuals have shone in their respective fields:

- *Girls Football* - our under 12s team won every game to become the Indoor Football Champions. They also didn't concede a single goal and Nella was our top goalscorer!
- *Boys Football* - despite a tough 2-0 loss for the Year 7/8 team, they showed incredible effort, determination, teamwork and real grit.
- *Basketball* - the Year 7 Ballers won three games and drew one in the Rochdale Basketball competition whilst the Year 10 team won 3 out of their 4 games. Fantastic results all round!
- *Netball* - our two Year 10 teams competed in the Rochdale Netball Tournament with the red team coming second in the Cup.
- Nathan represented Great Britain at the *World Martial Arts Championships* in Norway and earned a silver medal. Your hard work, dedication and heart shone through in every fight...well done!
- Isla-Rose also competed in Norway for Team GB and became a *World Champion Fighter*, winning 1 Gold, 5 Silver and 3 Bronze medals. We are so proud of you, Isla-Rose.
- Lexi has recently been accepted on to the *British Cycling* pathway and achieved a ranking of 5th in the world at Copenhagen over the summer. She will now be working hard as part of her Olympic development as we look forward to seeing her represent Team GB in Australia next summer. We are very proud of you, Lexi!



End of Term Arrangements

School will break up for the Christmas holiday on Friday 19th December 2025 at the earlier time of 1:30pm, after lunch. Please be aware that the school buses may not run at this time and there may not be a school crossing patrol. Lessons will run as normal periods 1-4 on this day and students should be wearing full school uniform.

Students will return to school on Monday 5th January 2026.

Christmas Services

	Christmas Eve 24 th December	Christmas Day 25 th December
Our Lady of the Assumption RC Church Bowness Road, Middleton, M24 4HN	5pm Vigil Mass	10:30am Mass
St John Fisher RC Church Boarshaw Road, Middleton, M24 1PF		9:15am Mass
St Peter's RC Church Taylor Street, Middleton, M24 1BQ	6:30pm Vigil Mass	9:30am Mass
St Thomas More RC Church 102 Mainway, Middleton, M24 1PP	4:30pm Family Vigil Mass	11am Mass

Staying Safe

At this time of year with everyone in such a rush and winter drawing in, please take this opportunity to remind your children about staying safe over the Christmas holiday - and to keep other members of the community in our hearts and minds. We appreciate that Christmas is not always a joyous time for everyone. If you do feel alone, depressed, overwhelmed or unable to cope, please ask for help. The Samaritans are there round the clock, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. You can contact them free on 116123 anytime. Please visit <https://www.samaritans.org/> for more information.

Childline counsellors are there for young people 24 hours a day, every day of the year. Young people can get confidential advice, help and support with any issue they're going through, no matter how big or small.

Please contact Childline free on 0800 1111. If you are concerned about the safety and wellbeing of a child over Christmas, please contact the NSPCC helpline on 0800 800 5000 or contact the Police if it is an emergency.

More information can be found at <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/services-and-resources/childline/>. If you are concerned about an older person, Age UK offers free, independent advice 365 days a year. Their advice line is open from 8am to 7pm every day, including bank holidays. Please call 0800 055 6112 or visit: <https://www.ageuk.org.uk/>. If you are worried about homelessness, you can get help and advice locally through Rochdale Borough Housing – <https://www.rbh.org.uk/homelessness/> or through:

- Petrus - <https://www.petrus.org.uk/>
- The Salvation Army - <https://www.salvationarmy.org.uk/homelessness>
- Shelter - <http://england.shelter.org.uk/>

Parking and Road Safety

As always, we urge parents and carers to take care when dropping off or collecting their child from school by car. Please do not park on pavements, or in bus bays or the **cycle lane, or blocking neighbours' drives, or anywhere** you might be causing an obstruction.

Please do not use the visitor car park as a drop off and collection point, unless you require it for disabled access, as this is causing congestion on the school grounds and adding to the problems on Rochdale Road.

Please be aware that the Scout HQ building next to school is private property and is not part of the school grounds. Please do not park there or use it to drop off or collect your child.

If you are considering public transport as a better option **for your child's journey to and from school**, details of school bus services can be found on the school website: <https://www.clrchs.co.uk/parents-students/school-bus-services/>

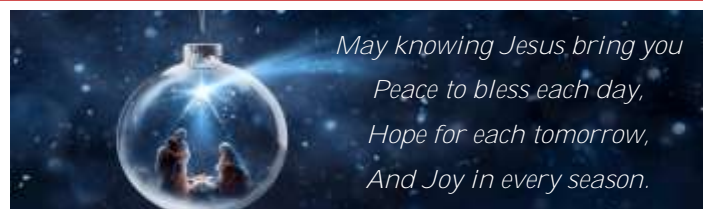
Please help us make the local area safer for all of our pupils, as well as members of the public.

Middleton Foodbank

Middleton Foodbank is based at the Lighthouse Project: S6b/c Middleton Shopping Centre, Limetree Road, Middleton, M24 4EL. Tel: 0161 643 1163 or visit their website: <https://middletoncentral.foodbank.org.uk/>

There are similar foodbanks in Rochdale: <https://rochdale.foodbank.org.uk/> Tel: 01706 713701

If you need *help accessing information online*, please visit your local library where you can use their computers and get free internet access. You will need to apply for a library membership card if you do not have one already: <http://www.rochdale.gov.uk/library-services/pages/computers-in-the-library.aspx>



*May knowing Jesus bring you
Peace to bless each day,
Hope for each tomorrow,
And Joy in every season.*