Painsley Catholic College

Principal: Mrs R Waugh - BA (Hons), PGCE

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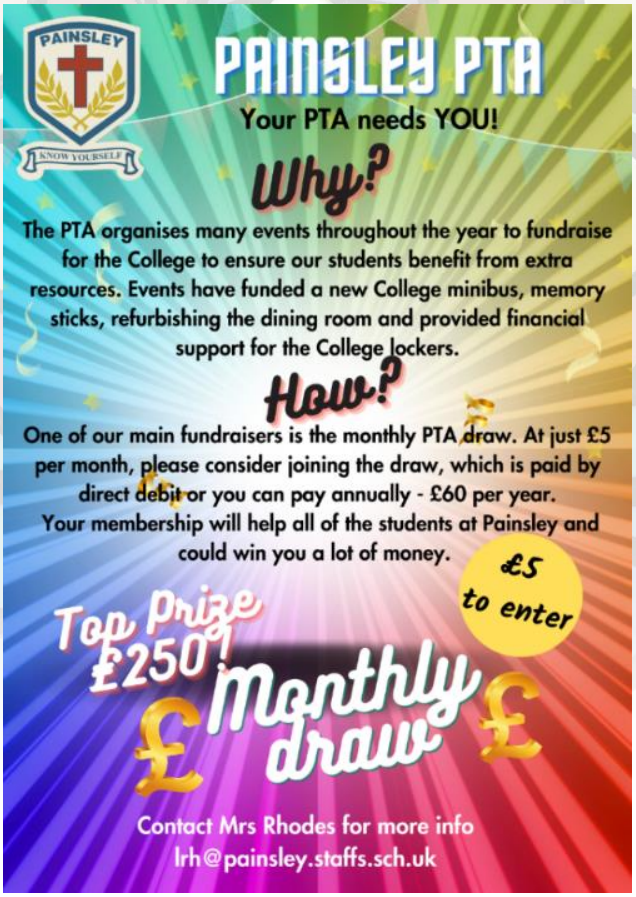
Friday, 5th December 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

As we journey through Advent together, our celebration of the word has focused on the Gospel readings, the Advent wreath has been lit, prayer cloths have turned to purple and the staff posada is on its way. Additionally, students are sharing in the CAFOD Advent calendar throughout Advent, sharing the prayers for the day. Indeed, all Emmaus groups have identified a CAFOD World Gift and are carrying out fundraising activities to support communities nationally and internationally.

We are collating non-perishable food items, including dried foods (such as pasta and rice), sauces, tinned foods, biscuits, crisps and any suitable Christmas food items. The donated food will be used to create hampers for distribution across Fr Hudson's Caritas projects before Christmas. In addition, we are collecting toiletries and clothing of all types. The items will be donated to asylum seekers and refugees within our local CMAT area. Just a reminder that Monday, 8th December is the deadline for the Advent collections to be brought into college so that we can ensure they get to where they are most needed.

On the approach to the season of Christmas, we will be hosting our annual party for the friends of Painsley, hosting our Christmas supper and concert and Christmas dinners will be available in the canteen next week (Tuesday to Thursday). I kindly remind you to return your raffle tickets to college, with the appropriate money. There are further tickets available, should you require more. The annual raffle is the main fundraiser for the PTA, along with the monthly draw. It would be wonderful if more of you felt able to support the PTA, who provide invaluable financial support to the students through additional resources and enrichment opportunities. Please see below a reminder of how to join the monthly draw.



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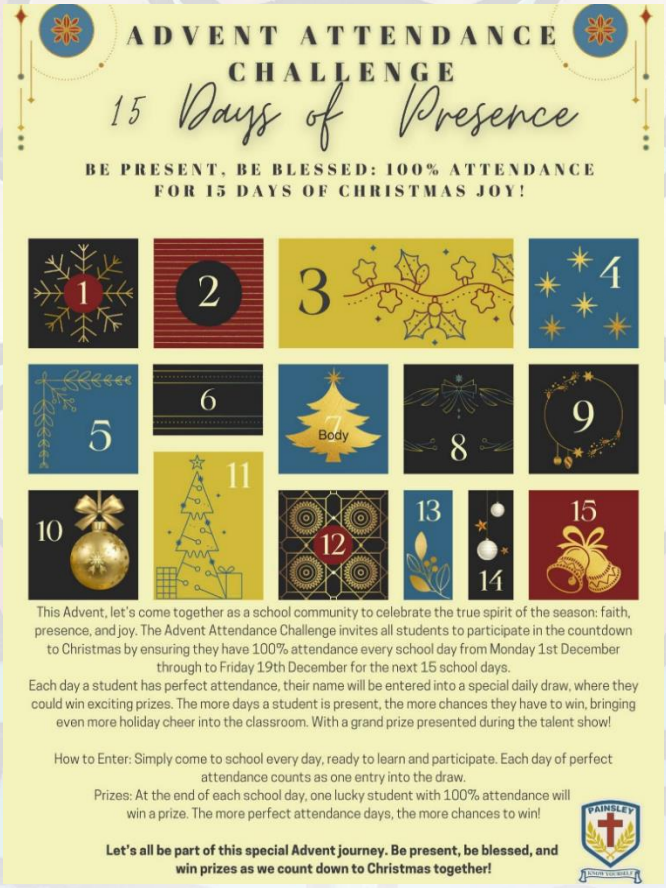
As part of our preparation for the incarnation of Christ, there will be the opportunity to receive the sacrament of reconciliation in college. Year 11 and Year 8 will have an Advent Mass at St Giles' (other year groups will celebrate Mass throughout the college year) and the sixth form will have their annual carol service at St Giles' church.

On the last day of term we will have a non-uniform day, where students are invited to wear a Christmas jumper for the day (should they wish to). There will be the usual talent show and students are requested to bring in £2 for the non-uniform day and entry to the talent show. The money raised will go to CAFOD and Fr Hudson's Caritas. Normal hair, make-up and jewellery rules apply.

As the weather is very changeable at the moment, this is a reminder for students to bring a coat to college. They are asked to remove them in the college buildings but they are required when moving across the site. In a time of year when illness is more rife, I refer you to Is my child too ill for school? - NHS (www.nhs.uk). It is important, wherever possible, that students are in school, gaining all the benefits of learning and being with their friends. Indeed, we have started our Advent attendance campaign, recognising students who are present throughout the Advent season in college.



In the Gospel on Sunday (Matthew 3:1-12), we hear of John the Baptist's call to repentance and it challenges us to consider the scale of our values and whether they are compatible with those of the Kingship of God?

Yours sincerely

R. A. Waugh

Mrs R Waugh