

ST THOMAS BECKET CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Becket Way, Kettering Road North, Northampton, NN3 6HT

HEADTEACHER Mr Paul McCahill BSc (Hops) NPQH MA StE

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Dear families

Re: 14 Days – Advent Attendance Challenge

This term, we have focused on breaking down the barriers that affect school attendance by listening to families, offering tailored support and working with external partners. Thanks to your input and collaboration, we have made real progress. We have seen a significant improvement to our whole school attendance this year compared to last. To celebrate these efforts and keep the momentum going, we are excited to launch our 14 Days of Advent Attendance Challenge to finish the term on a high.

What is the 14 Days of Advent Attendance Challenge?

Starting on Monday 1st December, we will be marking each of the final 14 school days of this term with recognitions, encouragement and festive fun to celebrate excellent attendance.

Here is how students and families can take part and be rewarded for their efforts:

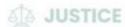
- Daily Recognitions Each day a student attends, they will be recognised in a positive way
- Daily tutor group prize draw The tutor group who makes the most improvement in attendance from the previous day will have the chance to open one of the advent bags to win a tutor group reward. E.g. non uniform day, free lunch, jump the queue pass, double positive points for the day, etc.
- Finish strong Friday all students who attend on a Friday receive a raffle ticket to be entered into a prize draw to win a Christmas Hamper. Also, double class charts positive points!
- Grand Prize Draw Students who achieve 100% attendance will be entered into our prize draw to win a 'Just Eat voucher' to celebrate with their family.

While the excitement of various prizes it adds a fun element to this attendance challenge, however we want to highlight something even more valuable: the power of intrinsic motivation. This challenge is not just about external rewards; it is about helping students discover the pride and determination that comes from consistent effort and commitment in school.





















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By choosing to come to school every day, students are demonstrating incredible character traits such as:

- **Resilience:** Pushing through when it might be easier to stay home.
- Responsibility: Understanding the importance of their education and their role in it.
- **Consistency:** Showing up and putting in the hard work.
- Self-Discipline: Making the choice to prioritise their learning, even on colder, darker mornings.

These are not just traits that lead to good attendance, they are qualities that will serve them well throughout their academic journey and into their future lives. The real reward of consistent attendance is the knowledge gained, the friendships made, and the confidence built from knowing they are giving their best. We hope that the pride your child feels from being present and engaged will be the greatest prize of all.

Join the Daily Elf on the shelf challenge!

To add a twist of fun, we will also be hiding our very own 'Thomas the elf' around the school for some seasonal cheer. So, do not forget to keep an eye out for Thomas the elf to be entered into a daily prize draw.

Thank you once again for your continued support. Let's finish 2025 strong with positivity, pride, and purpose! #MissiontoExcellence

Yours faithfully,

Mr P McCahill Headteacher







