St Walburga's Catholic Primary School, a Voluntary Academy

'Putting Others First'

"Let no-one seek his own good, but the good of his neighbour" (1 Corinthians 10:24)

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Headteacher: Mrs E Fearnley

9th November, 2026

Dear families,

Young Voices 2027 – Sheffield, 26th February

I am delighted to be able to share some further information about our exciting Young Voices concert, which will take place in Sheffield on Friday 26th February 2027.

Young Voices is always one of the highlights of our school choir's year, and we are thrilled to be taking part once again. It is an incredible experience for the children to perform alongside thousands of other young singers in a spectacular arena concert, accompanied by professional musicians and performers. The atmosphere is truly unforgettable, and we know that the children will make memories that will last a lifetime!

We now need to confirm arrangements for the children who will be taking part. Please complete the Google Form below to give permission for your child to attend the concert. Please complete this **as soon as possible** so that we can collate final numbers for staffing and transport. The children will leave school to arrive at Sheffield for their lunch and to rehearse in the afternoon. The concert will take place in the evening and they will travel back with us for a pick up at school.

Google Form – Young Voices Permission:
https://forms.gle/PUinQLYS3HquXwUx7

Young Voices Music Room – Practising at home

The children have already begun learning their songs during our choir rehearsals but there is plenty more to learn!

Young Voices provides a fantastic online Music Room, where children can listen to the songs, practise the words and become familiar with the music at home.

Please register your child using the following link:

https://yvmusicroom.com/auth/parent/journey/welcome

We strongly encourage all children to practise regularly at home. Learning so many songs takes considerable time and commitment, and the more confident the children are with the words and music, the more they will enjoy the experience on the day. Mrs Straughton and I will guide the children on which songs to concentrate on each week.

IMPORTANT – T-shirts and concert tickets: Shop closes THIS SUNDAY!

Please be aware that the Young Voices online shop closes this Sunday, 15th November.

This is much sooner than I had anticipated! As our concert is taking place later in the school year than last year's event, I had expected the shop to remain open for longer. I sincerely apologise for the very short notice and any inconvenience this may cause.

Unfortunately, the deadline is set by Young Voices and is outside our control, so if you wish to purchase a Young Voices T-shirt for your child or tickets to watch the concert, please do so as quickly as possible.

Young Voices T-shirts are optional. Children who do not purchase one will be able to wear a plain white T-shirt instead.

Family and friends are warmly encouraged to attend the concert. Watching thousands of children singing together is a wonderful

experience, and it is lovely for the children to have their families there supporting them. However, we are aware that these events are costly and there is absolutely no pressure for anyone to attend - your child can still take part and come with us.

Please do not delay in placing your orders, as **the shop closes on Sunday!**

Arrangements for the day

The children will travel to Sheffield by coach with school staff and take part in an afternoon rehearsal before performing in the evening concert. We will provide further information nearer the time regarding packed meals, clothing, timings and arrangements for collecting children following our return to school.

We are very excited about another wonderful Young Voices experience. Our choir has an excellent reputation, and we are incredibly proud of the enthusiasm, dedication and musical talent of our children. It is a real privilege to give them opportunities such as this, and we know they will represent St Walburga's brilliantly.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support, particularly with helping the children to practise at home. We are looking forward to another fantastic concert!

Children's Mass

Our wonderful choir is asked to sing at our three Children's Masses across the year. The first of these is Sunday, 29th November, which is the first Sunday of Advent. The Mass will be at St Walburga's church at 9:15am. It would be wonderful to have as many of the children there as possible so we can sing our descants. It is something that the parishioners and Fr Keiron really love.

Please complete the Google form to give your permission:

https://forms.gle/nmXKcYLgEx2WTVmX7

Longer sessions

As mentioned in my initial letter, at busy times of year - and when choir is in demand - we need to extend our rehearsal time. From next Monday, **23rd November**, choir sessions will run from 3:15pm-5:15pm each week until we break up for Christmas.

Children are welcome to bring a healthy snack for halfway through the session but biscuits and juice will be provided through school.
If your child is unable to attend for two hours, please let Mrs Fearnley know.

Many thanks for your anticipated support. If you have any questions at all, please do not hesitate to be in touch.

God bless,

Mrs E. M. Fearnley
Headteacher

Mrs E. M. Straughton
School Choir