



The Annunciation
by Henry Ossawa Tanner

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

As we complete what is the longest term in the school calendar and leave to spend two weeks with our families in what will hopefully be warm and peaceful surroundings, I would like to reflect on the Christmas Story.

As a child I was fascinated by the Christmas story and I still am. It is truly magical, starting with the Annunciation by the Angel Gabriel of the impending birth of a baby to Mary, a virgin whose son was to be the Son of God. The stage was set for what has to be one of the most beautiful stories written. There are so many elements within the story, shepherds with their flocks, Kings, bright stars shining in the North and in amongst it all, a vulnerable young woman, most likely in her teens and heavily pregnant, escorted by her husband, Joseph to Jerusalem to take part in a census. On arrival there is nowhere to stay until a kindly Innkeeper offers them refuge in a stable.

Our King of Kings was born in the most humble of surroundings to the most humble of parents and, in there, is a message for all of us. Greatness does not come from the riches we see around us in this life; greatness comes from within. Being kind, respectful and honest, doing and being of your best as much as possible will bring us greatness - not only in this life but in the next too. I have often said that we, as a community, are blessed. We have fantastic students, staff and parents who work together to produce the best

possible outcomes for the children in our care and this continues to be the case. Please keep those less fortunate than ourselves in your prayers, and again give freely of your spirit at this time of year. A smile to someone suffering deep loneliness can make someone's day and is free!

Since my last newsletter, a lot has happened. Last week we were visited by OFSTED for our first monitoring visit following the judgement in September 2018. If I am being honest, I had hoped that they would convert our visit to a standard inspection and that we may have had the Special Measures label removed. However, the Lead Inspector made it very clear that it was unheard of for a school to be taken out of Special Measures on the first visit.

Inspectors were here for 2 days and unfortunately I can't share the specifics of their visit yet as the inspector's report needs to be moderated. I will share that our community pulled together beautifully and that the Inspectors were very pleased with what they saw. I am really looking forward to sharing more details of their findings when the report comes out officially.

On Monday of this week, we invited approximately 40 OAPs from local nursing homes in for afternoon tea. It was a wonderful event and the students and staff who helped to organise it should be very proud of themselves. All of our visitors left full of cake and sandwiches and festive good cheer. A huge thank you from me to all those involved in this event.

This week, I have been talking to our students in Assemblies about our new 5 Star rewards system. This is a structured programme of pupil recognition, taking into account excellent behaviour, attendance and punctuality from our pupils. We have instituted this programme because for some time I have been aware that the majority of pupils go unrecognised for doing and being of their best at all times. Some students have received their first star and are proudly wearing them. In the Year 11 assembly we recognised students who became prefects. They were awarded their golden ties to recognise their success in what was a competitive recruitment process, so again, well done.

This week we have given out 80 prizes to randomly selected children for attending on that day in this last week. On Friday for any child who has been here for all 5 days there will be a special prize draw with prizes of a £50 voucher for Love to Shop and 5 further prizes of a £20 voucher for Nandos.

So, as this year draws to a close, I think back to last Christmas and reflect on how life has changed. Little was I to know that God had laid a path to Wednesbury and our wonderful school with all of its promises and challenges. I am truly blessed to have been offered the opportunity to work with and for you all. God is truly good.

Wishing you all a Happy and Holy Christmas, see you in 2020!

Have a lovely week.
God Bless,
Mrs Morris



YEAR 11

I can hardly believe we have reached the Christmas Break already. On one hand it seems to have flown by but on the other hand, Year 11 have accomplished so much! From their superb behaviour and attainment in the Mock Exams to over 80% attendance at Parents' Evening, it has been an eventful Autumn Term!

As we approach the Christmas Break, Heads of Department have assigned each student a task to complete over the holidays. You can find details of these on Page 5. These homeworks should not be too time consuming as, whilst I want students to do some work, it is important that they have a good rest and come back recharged!

When we return, students will be focusing on preparing for their next set of Mock Exams. Following some thoughtful student feedback, we have taken the decision to extend these so as no student will have to complete 3 exams in one day.

As you can see from the key dates, Monday 6th is an INSET day, however myself and Miss Raindi will be meeting with some students and their parents to see how else we can support them.

Finally, I would like to thank all parents/ carers for your support so far this year. I am truly excited about the next step in Year 11's journey to academic excellence!

Students understand that they should be filling in their Self-Quizzing exercise books each evening.

As always if you have any questions or require support please do not hesitate to contact either myself or Mrs Booker.

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wendy.booker@stuart-bathurst.org.uk

Mr Connolly
Mrs Booker

HOLIDAY HOMEWORK DETAILS

SEE PAGE 3



PROM PASSPORT

Top 3:

AISHA JEEWA - 1225 miles
RAYYAN YAQUB - 1150 miles
BENEDETTA BASSAN - 1150 miles

CLASS CHARTS

Top 3 this week:

SABJOT SINGH
SCOTT DETHERIDGE-HEELEY
AMIRAH KHATUN

Top 3 this half-term:

SABJOT SINGH
RAYYAN YAQUB
MOHAMMED SAJJAD

Top 3 since September:

SABJOT SINGH
KHADEEJAH KARA
AMANPREET KAUR

KEY DATES

Friday 20 December

Christmas break

Monday 6 January

INSET day

Tuesday 7 - Friday 10 January

French Speaking Exams

YEAR 10

On Tuesday 10th December, all Year 10 students took part in the ASPIRE event called 'Making Informed Decisions'. Students had the opportunity to reflect upon what interests them and how this can influence their decisions for the future.

A huge well done to all of Year 10 but a special mention goes to Zubair Mahmood for his contribution to discussions and for being a positive role model to his peers.

Also on Tuesday, 10M delivered an assembly on the topic of 'Immaculate Conception'. The doctrine of the Immaculate Conception teaches that Mary, the mother of Christ, was conceived without sin and her conception was thus immaculate. Mary's sinless conception is the reason why Catholics refer to Mary as "full of grace".

Well done to 10M for your assembly but a very special well done goes to James Terrett, Bailey Atterbury and Lola Roberts who planned the entire assembly. Thank you to all three of you for your amazing efforts!

As we reflect upon a very busy term, the Year 10 team would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Year 10 students for all their hard work. When you return from the Christmas break can we please ensure that we are complying with all standards, uniform is fully in line with the school policy and that we always 'Do and be of our best'.

On behalf of all of the Year 10 team, we wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Miss Adams
Mrs Newell

CLASS CHARTS

Top 3 this week:

SHYANNE ALMEIDA
MUBASHSHIRAH VARACHHIA
CHRISSIE MARTIN

Top 3 this half-term:

ANISA GATER
JULIA CHOJNICKA
CHRISSIE MARTIN

Top 3 since September:

ANISA GATER
AMELIA CLARK
ZAID MOLVI

KEY DATES

03 February 2020

Next Assessment Week

10 February 2020

Work Experience begins

15 June 2020

Year 10 GCSE Mock Examinations



Y11 - HOLIDAY HOMEWORK

SUBJECT	HOMEWORK ACTIVITY
MATHS	Edexcel Practice Set 1 papers on ClassCharts. Solutions will be added on 1st January for students to mark their own papers. 'Two week holiday challenge'
ENGLISH LIT	100 question grid for Macbeth and An Inspector Calls. A BLQ (Big Learning Question) consolidation for Macbeth, Jekyll & Hyde or A Christmas Carol, An Inspector Calls and the Anthology Poetry. A vocabulary bank sheet for Macbeth, Jekyll & Hyde or A Christmas Carol, An Inspector Calls and Poetry A plan for one question from Paper 1 and one question from Paper 2
ENGLISH LANG	MASSIVE SWOOPS and ROAST BEEF & GRAVY charts Key Vocab sheet A plan for a Q4 and a Q5 from a Paper 1
TRIPLE SCIENCE	See ClassCharts for your individual teacher set task.
RELIGIOUS STUDIES	Answer the quick fire retrieval questions on Judaism. Then apply this to the exam style questions. Additional work: create flashcards for keywords; use YouTube - MrMcMillanRevis & BimBam for Judaism; Revise subject content using BBC Bitesize Eduqas.
HISTORY	Past Paper USA Q3,4 and 5.
FRENCH	Complete your tenses revision booklet. Prepare answers for the topic of 'school and future plans.' Write first draft in their speaking exam preparation book. They should revise modules 1, 2, 4, 5 and for Mock Speaking 2. 11 B1-GR-Wed 8th January. 11 A1-DA-Thursday 9th January. 11 B2-DA-Friday 10th January
GEOGRAPHY	Annotate the pre-release exam booklet. Answer the questions for the Resources Knowledge Organiser. Complete the resource management booklet. Revise coasts using Knowledge Organiser.
BUSINESS	Answer the quick retrieval questions on the given topics from Nov mocks. Use the booklet to revise for mini mock first week back. Mrs Mahey - Use the revision guide (on CC) for theme 1 and everything you have done on theme 2
ART	Complete/improve/annotate the preparatory work for your coursework projects ready to hand in when we return.
PSYCHOLOGY	1. Practice the exam techniques we did in class Monday 16th - evidence to be shown 2. Revise Paper 2 ready for your mocks (remember no LTC) 3. Find your year 10 exercise book and rehearse and retrieve the content.
GCSE PE	Mrs Wright - 1. Complete DIRT from Mock exam papers. 2. Self quiz on Kerboodle. 3. Revise all definitions using the new revision cards.
BTEC SPORT	Complete the badminton booklet for Unit 2. You must include 5 skills and 3 tactics.
FOOD TECH	Use your class notes and revision guides to revise the following topics; The functions of ingredients used to make bread; Nutrition, Macro/Micro nutrients; Special diets Sources of energy and required amounts of energy; Food spoilage and Bacteria; Food health, safety and hygiene Food Packaging; Environmental issues
DRAMA	Complete Comp 1 LA A and LA B. You also need to complete Component 2 Learning aim A B AND C.
INTERACTIVE MEDIA	Prepare for your exam which is in January -15 hours. Focus on what we have learnt within units 1,2 and 3.
COMPUTER SCIENCE	Answer the quick retrieval questions on the given topics from Nov mocks. Use the booklet to revise for mini mock first week back.
MUSIC PRACTICE	Complete Component 1 & 2 booklets - on ClassCharts



YEAR 9

Last week the Christmas feeling really started to set in. The year group are clearly excited to be on holiday soon. Our assembly on Thursday was led by Mr Pepper and 9M. We heard about the season of Advent being a time of preparation. 9M helped us to reflect on how we could use the next few weeks to prepare our relationships and friendships ready for Christmas. They encouraged us to bring the gifts of Peace, Love, and Freedom to our family and friends. Congratulations 9M - an excellent assembly.

This week, Year 9 students were central to the delivery of our OAP Christmas Afternoon Tea. Jayden Clarke, Kaydee Jaundrill, Ellie

Hunter, Kieran Harrison, Adrian Goss, Ryan-Enoch Ayree, Lucy Garmston, and Shania Stone, are all to be commended for cooking, baking, preparing food and serving for our special guests. (pictures on page 6). What fabulous ambassadors for our school.

As we head towards the end of term, Miss Newell and I wish you and your families a happy, restful Christmas. We look forward to seeing you in the New Year.

Mr Smith
Miss Newell

CLASS CHARTS

Top 3 this week:

**BEN EASTERLOW
KAREENA DEO
ELLIE SAMMUT**

Top 3 this half-term:

**JONATHAN NALUTAMIO
CRYSTAL STYLES
BRANDON SHAUGHNESSY**

Top 3 since September:

**DESTINI DAVIS-MITCHELL
RALPH CASTRO
CRYSTAL STYLES**

YEAR 8

Last week during assembly I appealed to the year group to help support an animal shelter within the local area. At this time of year they find themselves with a higher than normal intake of stray/unwanted animals. As a charity, they rely on the kindness and goodwill of others, to provide food and supplies. We have had lots of items donated so far. If you have not yet contributed we still need: cat and dog food, small animal feed, toys and treats, grooming equipment, old blankets, towels and duvets (not feather ones) and newspapers. Any donated items should be brought to the pastoral office.

As we approach the end of a long but productive term, the year group should be congratulated for the positive start that they have made to year 8 and for how they have embraced the changes that have occurred during this year. I hope that in January year 8 pupils will return to school refreshed and determined to succeed.

Wishing you a peaceful and restful Christmas

Mrs McCallum
Ms Letford

CLASS CHARTS

Top 3 this week:

**KYLE WILLIAMS
SAVANNA BOUGHTON
SANIA BAINS**

Top 3 this half-term:

**NYAH MARKS
SANIA BAINS
SAFIYYAH BISMILLAH**

Top 3 since September:

**TAKIRA KELDO
GURSIMRAN BAJWA
SANIA BAINS**

YEAR 7

Year 7 had a wonderful week last week, with lots of students taking an active part in Christmas Jumper day and enjoying the wonderful Christmas lunch served by our Kitchen staff and Mrs Morris.

We had our celebration assembly on Friday afternoon. This was delivered by Mr Pepper who focused our attentions on our preparation for Christmas and how we can use our time to be a gift for others. Huge congratulations to all the students who won awards for resilience and hard work within their subjects and also in their homework.

A huge thank you must go out to our excellent form tutors who have supported our Year 7's so well this term.

Year 7 have been given a letter to bring home this week about a theatre trip to the

Royal Shakespeare Company in Stratford to see David Walliams' "The Boy in the Dress" in February. This trip will provide an opportunity to see some of the best theatre on offer for young people.

Year 7 had an extra assembly from the Police on Tuesday morning to remind them of their responsibilities when using social media. Over the holiday period, and perhaps with new technology as presents, students must be mindful that they are past the age of criminal responsibility. Parents should also be monitoring their child's social media use for their own safety.

May we wish you and your loved ones a happy and holy Christmas.

Mrs Pepper
Mrs Bayley

CLASS CHARTS

Top 3 this week:

**MACIE DALE
ISMAEEL SUFYAN
PALIMA SINGH**

Top 3 this half-term:

**HANNAH MAINWARING
PALIMA SINGH
NYASHA BANZA**

Top 3 since September:

**MACIE DALE
MIA PROBERT-RICHARDSON
NYASHA BANZA**



CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

This year, we challenged everyone to a new 'Twelve Days of Christmas' charity initiative whereby you were invited to make a donation of an item that families might need over Christmas - and you did not let us down! We have been very humbled by the generosity of our children, families and staff.

Each day families and staff made donations and this enabled our sixth form team to create 40 hampers of delicious items for our families to enjoy.

To think of others during this Christmas period is what makes us special and has really demonstrated how our students, families and staff really do 'do of their best'! As a faith community there is no greater gift than to care for those in need and it is in giving to others where we have the opportunity to show our faith in action and remind those around us how much they are loved and valued.

We thank you all for your kindness, compassion and generosity and we look forward to future initiatives where we can all do and be of our best!
God bless and have a peaceful Christmas.

Mrs Y Jordan
Assistant Headteacher i/c Sixth Form
& Catholic Life



CHAPLAINCY TEAM UPDATE

A Message from our Chaplaincy Team:

On Tuesday, we held our final chaplaincy meeting of the term, we have had some great commitment from our members. Special thanks to Harrison McCarthy, Freya Keen, Takira Keldo, Cassey Clews, Lewis Parker, Josh Jackson and Jada Small for attending every meeting we have had so far!

Next half term we will be trying to focus on the project given to us at the chaplaincy training course and trying to get that plan into action within our school!
Hopefully, details will follow shortly...

We wanted to leave you with a thought for over the Christmas holidays:

“Christmas is the perfect time to celebrate the love of God and family and to create memories that will last forever. Jesus is God’s perfect, indescribable gift. The amazing thing is that not only are we able to receive this gift, but we are able to share it with others on Christmas and every other day of the year” (Joel Osteen)

Have a great Christmas. Try and help someone this Christmas, it costs absolutely nothing but is the best gift to receive.

Paige Weston
Year 12



OAP CHRISTMAS AFTERNOON TEA

On Monday, we held the OAP Christmas Afternoon Tea where we welcomed some lovely care receivers, along with their carers to enjoy a classic afternoon tea, live performances from our music students and great waiter/waitressing services from Year 9, 12 and 13 students.

It was a day that filled us with such joy, to give back to our community at such an amazing time of the year. We spent the day setting up the tables and prepping the food that would be served out to our guests. I feel extremely privileged to be part of a school that encourages giving back to our community, as it's so important to comfort those who need it; those who are in need of festive spirit, or even just in need of a little company to get them through their day!

I really enjoyed helping out today and hope that everyone enjoyed it as much as we did!



ADVENT WEEK 3

As we keep adding to our “to do” list of Christmas preparations, our thoughts bounce around the changes that have come and how Christmas will be somewhat different this year — good changes, challenging changes, hard changes — the interesting mosaic of life. It’s different for all of us, yet we all share in that changing landscape of life. Sometimes finding joy in the changes is easy. Other times it’s very challenging.

As we ponder the changes in our lives, and in our world, we think about Christmas and the birth of Baby Jesus. Sometimes that manger scene seems so irrelevant and so far removed from day-to-day life. Yet an old verse in the Bible brings freshness to our souls this week as we ponder how the Baby Jesus impacts our lives today. It truly gives new cause for joy — to stop and listen again.

“For unto us a child is born . . .and He will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace” (Isaiah 9:6-7).

Any need you have in life and in the changing landscape of your mosaic can be answered by Jesus. If you need wisdom or strength, He will be your Counsellor. If you need a mountain moved, He is your Mighty God. If you need comfort, forgiveness and gentle healing, He is your everlasting Father;

and if your heart is anxious and troubled, He will be Peace to you. Jesus is our rock and our hope — our cause for joy!

Let your heart pause with thankfulness as you prepare for Christmas. Look at the manger scene with the fresh wonder of all He is to you. Let joy seep into the changes of your life. No need or change that you face will not be met by Him. He is so much more than just a baby! Invite Him into your changes! Let joy fill your soul.

PRAYER FOR ADVENT WEEK 3

Heavenly Father, fill my heart with the fresh wonder of what that first Christmas means for me today. Thank you that today or in the future, any need I have can be encompassed by You, Jesus. Let joy flood into my soul as I lean on You to be my Wonderful Counsellor, my Mighty God, my Everlasting Father, and my Prince of Peace! Help me to look with expectation to what You will do in my life and fill me with Your joy! Amen.

Mrs Jordan
Assistant Headteacher



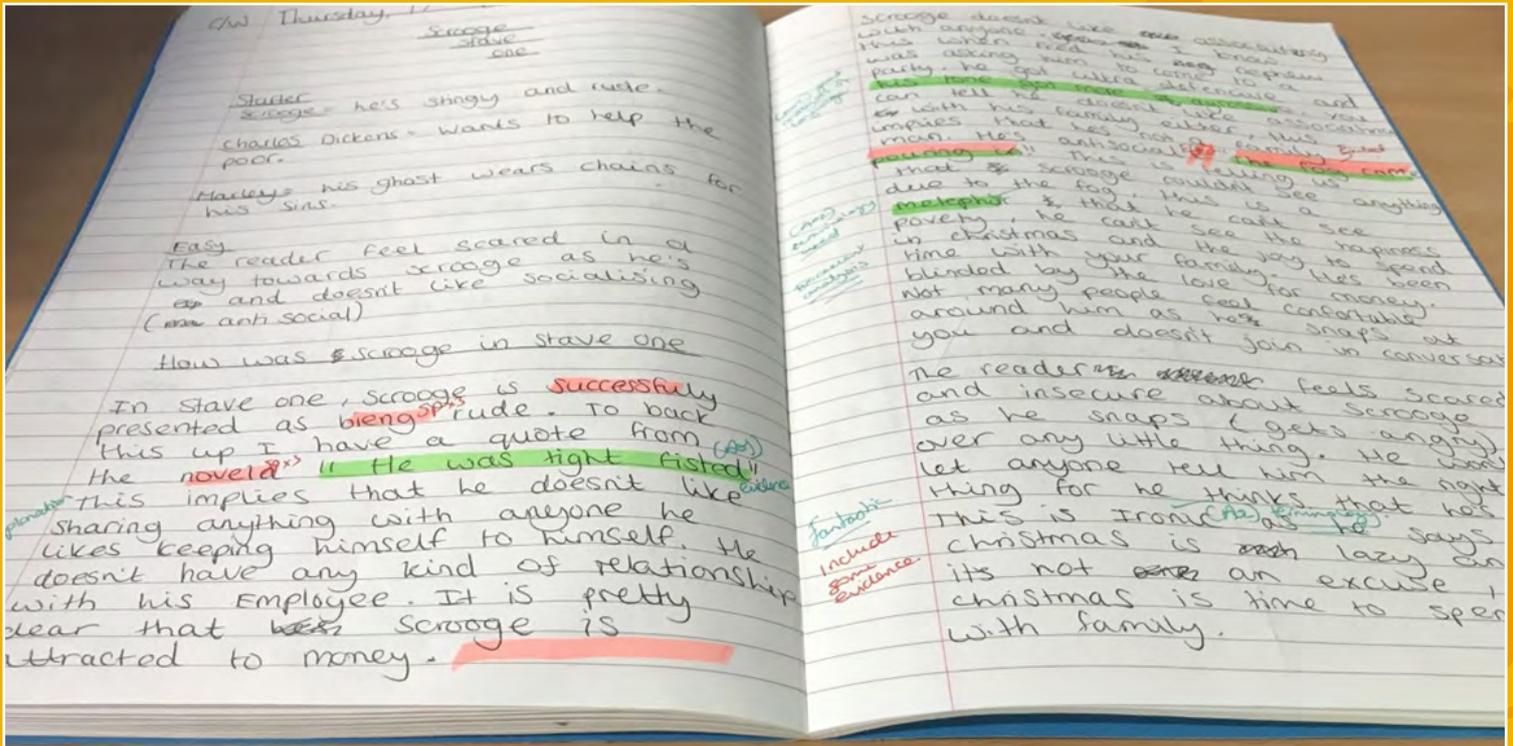
WEEKLY VIRTUES AWARDS

Certificates recognising students’ words and actions.

YEAR 7	FRANKIE DOHERTY SUMMER QUARRY	GRATEFUL & GENEROUS GRATEFUL & GENEROUS
YEAR 8	LILY ANN MELIA OLIVIA MCGUIGAN	GRATEFUL & GENEROUS GRATEFUL & GENEROUS
YEAR 9	SHANIA STONE MACIE GILBERT	COMPASSIONATE & LOVING COMPASSIONATE & LOVING
YEAR 10	JAMES TERRETT LOLA ROBERTS	LEARNED & WISE LEARNED & WISE
YEAR 11	AISHA JEEWA RAYYAN YAQUB	ATTENTIVE PROPHETIC & INTENTIONAL
YEAR 12/13	MUKTI RANA PREETI VIRK	CURIOUS & ACTIVE CURIOUS & ACTIVE



Showcasing Student Excellence



BLACKBELT SUCCESS

Year 9 students, Desianae and Tyrese, recently achieved their blackbelts. Well done to you both!

"I've been training for 3 years but the past three months, I started training for my blackbelt, it was hard but definitely worth it as I passed my blackbelt testing last weekend. The grading was hard and tiring but I carried on going even when I wanted to give up and go home."

Desianae



Y10 ENGLISH

Zubair Mahmood's recent assessment work was nominated by Mr Begley who said, "It was absolutely fantastic and really had a wow factor!"



ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Stuart Bathurst Catholic High School Golden Ticket Attendance Competition



The attendance team are running a competition for one lucky student with 100% attendance for the last week of term – 16th-20th December 2019 to win a £50 gift voucher! You must attend school every day, on time to be in for a chance to win this competition. There will also be some runner up prizes available! The winner will be announced on the last day of term – Friday 20th December 2019. Good luck!



ATTENDANCE

OUR TOP FORM GROUPS THIS WEEK

1: 11D	94.2%
2: 8I	93.8%
3: 9O	93.8%
4: 9I	93.2%
5: 9D	92.3%

WORD OF THE WEEK

Embellish

Make something more attractive with decoration; OR to make a statement more interesting with extra, imaginative detail.

Can you:

Think of a synonym?

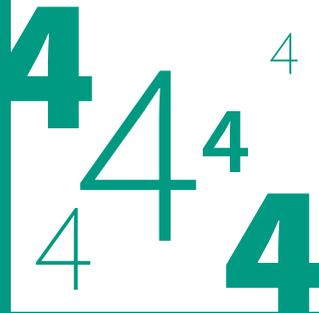
Use this word in a sentence?

Test friends on the spelling of the word?

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY NUMERACY CHALLENGE

Your challenge over the Christmas holidays is to try and make all the numbers between 1 and 40, by forming calculations out of exactly four 4s each time.

You can add, subtract, multiply, divide and even combine (eg to make 44), and the rules of BIDMAS will apply.



As you start to do them, see if you can find any patterns or methods that will help you some more. For example, if you add the final 4, what happens if you later subtract it instead...

Below are three possible solutions to start you off. Feel free not to look at them if you want more of a challenge...

(as long as you use BIDMAS)

$$4 + 4 \times 4 + 4 = 24$$

$$44 \div 4 - 4 = 7$$

$$44 \div 44 = 1$$



Pope Francis ✓
@Pontifex

Faith gives us the ability to look with hope at the events of life, and helps us to accept even defeats and sufferings, in the knowledge that evil never has the last word.

12:30 PM · Dec 14, 2019 · [TweetDeck](#)

7K Retweets 31.1K Likes

SCHOOL RE-OPENS FOR ALL STUDENTS 7 JAN