

St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter – Friday 30th November 2018

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*Happy are those who hear the word of God
and keep it' Luke 11:28*



Dear Parent/Carer,



This week we have entered the period of Advent. Together we talked about the Advent wreath and how special it was. The circle represents Gods love and is never ending. The green represents new life and Gods everlasting love and each candle has a special meaning for us too.

Our first purple candle symbolises 'Hope'. We celebrate Gods love and look forward to the special time of Christmas together.

The Year of the Eucharist



On Wednesday we marked the start of The Year of the Eucharist with a special service of 'Adoration'. Deacon John brought a beautiful Monstrance across from Church to School and put the Host inside. We talked about how Jesus was present and shared some silent prayer. Each class has also prepared some Monstrance art work. "We are all super proud of our children, who were respectful and reverent throughout our service. We managed a full five minutes in silent adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. They sang beautifully too!" Mrs Shoulder

Advent Service, Christmas Light Switch on and Bingo - 3.12.18

On Monday 3rd of December we have our annual Advent Service and Christmas Light switch on. All pupils have brought home an individual letter with all timings and arrangements.

After the Service the FOSM have organised Christmas Bingo. If you are able to help on the night a jobs signing up sheet is in our School Office and we would be most grateful of any extra pairs of hands!!

Family Mass and Christmas Raffle

Next Sunday, 9th of December we will share our Family Mass together during this special time of Advent. You are warmly welcome to join us for Mass and afterwards refreshments in the school hall. Whilst in the Hall we will draw the annual Christmas Raffle. Thank you to everyone who has supported the raffle. Very kindly the Parish of St. Mary's will share the monies raised from the raffle. Half will go to CAFOD and half will be given to School to benefit all pupils.

Author reading – Roisin Pelan – Shiny Happy Horace

On Thursday, Key Stage 1 had a visit from author Roisin Pelan. Roisin shared she has been writing her whole life but it wasn't until a recent recurrence of Breast Cancer that she decided to make her dream come true and she has now written her first Book " Shiny Happy Horace". This story has a lovely positive message and the children thoroughly enjoyed reading it!!



To find out more or order the book visit <https://roisinpelan.wixsite.com/roisinpelan-author>. Monies raised from the sale of the book will support Cancer research.

Colder weather – Coats in School

Can we ask that as the weather has taken a much cooler turn all pupils have a coat in school for break and lunchtimes. We still have quite a number of children who do not have a coat in school. Thank you for your support.

Monies and reply slips

Could we ask for your support when returning reply slips and monies to the School Office. **All slips and monies must be in an envelope labelled with your child(rens) name and class** and should indicate what the money/ reply is for. As you will appreciate with lots of events such as Pantomimes, Discos and Christmas Lunches etc. many replies and monies come into the office and if not labelled it can be very difficult to ensure all monies are correctly allocated. Your support is appreciated.

Bethlehem is Buzzing – Class 1 and 2 Nativity

Our Key Stage 1 Nativity "Bethlehem is Buzzing" takes place on Thursday 13th of December and tickets are now available from the Office. They are priced at £1.00 for adults and 50p for

children. For health and Safety reasons tickets are sold on a first come first served basis so come along early to avoid disappointment.

Due to the GDPR regulations and consents families cannot take video recordings/ photographs of all children. Individual opportunities for photographs will be provided at the end of the performance. All the monies raised will go back to the children.

100 Club Winners

Congratulations to the winners of the November 100 Club Draw:

1st Mrs C Lofthouse 2nd Mrs C Kennedy 3rd Mrs N Moore

Packed Lunches

We ask for your continued support in ensuring St. Mary's School is a healthy School, helping our children to make healthy lifelong choices. We promote fitness through our numerous clubs, coaches and activities as well as encouraging healthy food choices.

For those choosing to have packed lunch we ask that these reflect our School policy. Children may not bring fizzy drinks into school and we ask that lunches are balanced – healthy with an occasional treat. We will encourage children to make the right choices. Lunches with chocolate, sweets and high sugar items not only cause damage such as tooth decay but do not provide the children with the energy they need for the school day. Could we ask that all children bring a drink. Our School Nurses provide a leaflet on healthy choices which we are happy to share with you . This has been sent home in addition to our newsletter.

Supervision on the Yard

Just a reminder that Staff are always available on the School Yard from 8.45 am each day. Before that time School staff do not provide supervision and pupils are under the care and responsibility of their own parents/carers. School staff are not responsible for any accidents/incidents prior to 8.45 am.

At the end of the school day, staff members will bring pupils out and see that they are collected by their parent/ carer or named adult. We do remind all adults that, for Safety reasons, pupils must be collected from inside the School Grounds and pupils will not be allowed to leave the school gates to meet family members. As you will appreciate we are close to a busy road and this is a very busy time of day. This is to ensure the safety and well being of all our pupils which is of paramount importance and we thank you for your continued support.

On many occasions families choose to stay on the School grounds after school has closed, from 3.15 pm. After this time pupils are the responsibility of their own parents/ carers.

Big School Adventures – Every Thursday

This is a free session for pre-school children aged 3 and above and is an invaluable opportunity for children to come along and experience school life. It has been very successful and has really grown over the last few years. It has had a very positive impact on the pupils who have joined reception class enabling a very smooth transition into school. **Sessions are now taking place every Thursday from 1.15 pm.** Please ask if you need any further information.

Christmas Food Market – Coming Soon!! – 20.12.18

This holiday we are running a new initiative called “ **Holiday Markets**”. Lots of Schools are taking up this fantastic initiative with 50% of families sharing the market and it has made a big impact on their holiday budgets.

Holiday Markets take place before each school holiday and are open to ALL families. Families can choose as much or a little as they want!! We will have a ‘shop’ set up in our School library.

You can pick up a great variety of foods such as yogurts, fruit, Baby Bell cheeses etc. and you simply “ **PAY AS YOU FEEL**” . There is no fixed cost/ charge, simply a donation as you see fit. You do not hand cash over to an adult, simply put whatever you feel into a donations bucket.

All you need to do is bring along a carrier bag and come and shop on **Thursday 20th of December at 2.45 pm!!**

Dates For Your Diary

Every Friday 2.45 p.m.	-	Celebration Assembly, everyone welcome
4th December 2018	-	Advent Service, St. Anthony’s Church 6.00 p.m.
7 th December 2018	-	Christmas Jumpers £1.00 for School
9th December 2018	-	Family Mass 9.00 a.m.
13th December 2018	-	Nativity 2.00 p.m. & 6.00 p.m.
14th December 2018	-	Pantomime
14th December 2018	-	Christmas Disco
19th December 2018	-	Christmas Lunch
20th December 2018	-	School closes for Christmas

Celebrations Awards

	Achievement Award Winner	‘EAT’ Award Winner Explore, Active, Think creatively
Class 1	Harry Bass	Eden Heslop
Class 2	Penny Robinson	Olivia Leigh
Class 3	Sebastian King	Mikey Skeffington
Class 4	Oliver Moyes	Jenna Eland
	Welfare - Lunch Time Award	
	Key Stage One	Key Stage Two
	Chloe Moore	Maizie-lei Barton

At St. Mary's School we

*“Live our lives as Jesus taught us,
Work hard together to achieve our best,
Respect each other and the world around us,
Have fun and enjoy learning!”*

Friends of St. Mary's

CHRISTMAS FAMILY BINGO

ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

MONDAY 3rd DECEMBER 5pm

(Following Christmas tree lights switch on)

Free Mince Pies and Mulled Wine

(Courtesy of Lea and Cottam Parish Council)

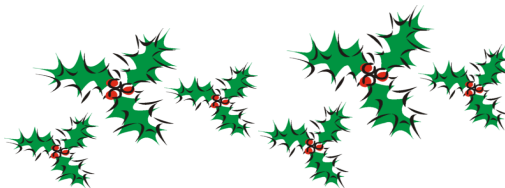
Following this we have Bingo - Raffle

On sale throughout the evening

Tea/Coffee – Hot Chocolate -Juice

Biscuits and Hot Dogs

Please help FOSM to raise funds for school



Important dates for your diary.

30th November. PJ DAY. Please bring a chocolate donation for Bingo!

3rd December. Christmas light switch on at 4.15 p.m. followed by family bingo

*14th December. Christmas Ball KS1 ** Time Change ***

Hannah Reid- Chair of FOSM