



St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter – Friday 4th December 2020

Tel: 01772 729881 www.lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk

E-mail head@lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk

Head Teacher: Mrs. A. Brogden



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

Dear Parent/Carer,



We approach the second Sunday of Advent as think about our second Purple candle which symbolises "LOVE" with think about those we love, those that are special to us, those who are with us and those in Heaven.

As we cannot light our candles together in our usual celebration assemblies we will share this special tradition in school as part of our virtual assembly.

This week Class 3 share with us a prayer they have written

Dear God,

During Advent we pray for those not as fortunate as us.

Please help anyone without a home to find a safe place to stay.

As we count down the days to Christmas and light our Advent

wreath, help us not to forget Jesus,

the light of the world.

Amen.

Safety Information – Tier 3

As you will be aware after the period of National Restrictions we will enter a Tier System Preston will enter Tier 3. The infection rates remain high and we MUST continue to work hard as a school community to keep each other safe. The safety and wellbeing of the pupils, staff and families continues to be my top priority.

Please read the guidance below so we can continue to work in partnership. It is only by adhering to guidance and following rules that we will halt the spread of the virus and continue to be able to keep school open. We all have to work together to make this possible.

Please continue to maintain Social Distance and refrain from gathering at drop off and collection times.

<https://www.preston.gov.uk/article/2915/FAQ-on-local-restrictions-what-you-can-and-can-t-do-in-Preston>

Further useful guidance are shared in the links below:

Social Bubbles

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/making-a-support-bubble-with-another-household>

Car sharing

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-safer-travel-guidance-for-passengers>

FOSM – Guess the name of the Elf

Thank you for contributing to our Guess the Elf...We raised £17.50. The Winning Elf's name was "Nicky". Next week a new friend will arrive from the North Pole...this will be 50p a guess too as we know many people were still keen to guess the name.

FOSM – Virtual Christmas Raffle

Just a reminder that our Christmas Virtual Raffle is open. Tickets are £1.00 each and you will be sent a 'number' rather than receiving a ticket. Full details can be found on our previous newsletters. Please send monies in an envelope marked VIRTUAL Raffle with your child's name, class and number of tickets you require.

Christmas Cards - St. Mary's Alternative

As you will be aware we have worked hard to reduce any contact between home and school as part of our Risk Assessment in order to keep everyone safe. Measures already in place include no schools bags, online newsletters, virtual raffle to name just a few.

Typically in previous years pupils have shared Christmas cards with both their class and to staff and other pupils. As you will appreciate, logistically this would be very difficult

and would require periods of quarantine for the cards, crossing of Bubbles for delivery etc. To this end, this year instead of sending school Christmas cards we will hold a charity collection in each 'Bubble' and invite you to contribute whatever you may typically have spent buying cards e.g. £1.00. The pupils themselves can then vote how they would like to use this ..for example buying a CAFOD world gift, or donating to their preferred charity. Once again thank you for helping to keep us all safe.

Christmas Singing – Key Stage 1

If you haven't already signed up to watch our signing session with all the additional measures in place as shared on our previous Newsletters.

Our Plan.....

Class 1 – Session 1 (Max 12 places) 17.12.20 – 9.15 am
Session 2 (Max 12 places) 18.12.20 – 9.15 am

Class 2 – Session 1 (Max 12 places) 10.12.20 at 9.15 am
Session 2 (Max 12 places) 11.12.20 at 9.15 am

Children are welcome to bring in 'Christmas clothes' such as Christmas Jumper, Santa hat, tinsel etc. to wear for the mini performance should they wish to do so.

If you would like to book a place to come along and watch please call school on 01772 729881. Thank you for your continued support.

Parent App "Seesaw"- Trial- Class 2

Thank you to the many that have signed up to the 'See Saw App'. We have received a great deal of positive feedback, with many sharing they are enjoying being able to see a little of the fantastic learning that takes place in the day. Many positive comments such as *"We really have enjoyed getting to see some pictures that showed how much the children are enjoying their day. Thank you for taking the time to put the updates on there. It is very much appreciated"*

We will now offer this to Class 1 families so all of Key Stage 1 can share their learning and hope to be able to offer this to Key Stage 2 soon.

Parent App "Seesaw"- Trial- Class 1

We would now like to offer this same opportunity to Class 1 families following the success of the App in class 2.

As we aren't able to communicate in the usual way and share learning as perhaps we have done before such as through 'Wonderful Work Weeks' or Assemblies we will be trialling an App "*Seesaw*" with Class 2. This will enable us to see how it works and take feedback before hopefully offering this to the whole school.

The purpose of this is to give you an insight into your child's learning. It may be simply a shared photograph or a mini blurb of what pupils have been up to.

It WILL NOT be a means of communicating with staff and is not to be used for this purpose. Staff will not respond to questions or comments raised via the app but are, as ever, available via telephone and /or email.

We would ask that it is treated and celebrated as a way for you to share your child's learning journey and ask that families respect confidentiality and are reminded of GDPR.

Obviously Class Photographs may be shared and as such will have other pupils as well as your own child on. Parents are once more reminded to treat these images appropriately.

To sign up please email Jennings@lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk

Please email simply stating either that you wish for your child to be included or you do not wish for your child to be included.

Christmas Dinner

Christmas Dinner will be served in each Class Bubble on Thursday 17th of December. Whilst we cannot share our Christmas Dinner as a whole school it will still be very special. Classes will have Christmas table cloths and Crackers and a full traditional Christmas dinner. Please see the separate flyer to order your child's lunch.

Christmas Pantomime - Lowther Pavilion – Streaming in School - 17.12.20 – Jack and the Beanstalk

Each year we have a special tradition of going to see the Pantomime as a whole school! This year of course we know that things are very different and going would provide many challenges- crossing Bubbles, transport challenges etc. We are excited to say we will still watch the Pantomime....Oh no we won't.. Oh Yes we will!!!!

We have booked a stream of the Panto that we can watch in our Bubbles. We even get a special personalised greeting by the cast!!! As we are watching this in school the cost is greatly reduced and charged at just £1.00 per pupil.

Please send £1.00 per child in a sealed envelope marked Christmas Pantomime with your child's name and class. The Friend's of St. Mary's will be kindly funding a drink and treat to make this an extra special experience for all our pupils!

Friend's of St. Mary's – FOSM - *Mission St Mary's.*

Mission St Mary's is back from the 23/11/20 – 14/12/20 and once again we want to help as many families as we can. This year we are asking for new or unused gifts for both boys and girls aged 4-12. Donations can be left in the foyer of school or the blue box in the bike shed around the back. In these difficult times any donations make a huge difference to someone's Christmas. As with the food parcels if you do need any extra support please contact school on 01772 729881 or email head@lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk.

Thank you as ever for all your support. Stay safe. Your FOSM team.

Blue Peter Badge Winner

Well done to Jack Spickett, Class 3 for achieving a Blue Peter Badge for making a fantastic Volcano model!!



Admissions September 2020

Do you have a child due to start school in September 2021? Or do you know someone who has? The application for school places is now open and can be found on the Lancashire County Council Website

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/apply-for-a-school-place>

Choosing the right school for your child is of great importance and we understand the value of finding the right environment for your child. As you would expect, safety is of paramount importance to us and to this end we are not able to hold our traditional 'Open Evening'.

Why not check out or share our Virtual Tour on the school Homepage.
<https://www.lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk>

Diary Dates:

14, 15, 16.12.20 – Bikeability Sessions Class 4

14.12.20 – Class 1 – Disco Party – Class 1 ONLY wear Party clothes

15.12.20- Class 2 – Disco Party – Class 2 ONLY Wear Party clothes

16.12.20 – Class 3 – Disco Party - Class 3 ONLY Wear Party clothes

17.12.20- WHOLE school Christmas Jumper Day (£1) and Christmas Dinner

- Hopefully followed by a '*Socially distanced*' wave and gift from a Special Visitor!!

18.12.20 – Class 4 – Disco Party - Class 4 ONLY Wear Party clothes

****** The Discos are FULLY funded by FOSM so we ask for a £1.00 contribution from wearing party clothes to help towards these costs ******

18.12.20 – School Closes for Christmas

	<u>E.A.T Award</u> <u>Explore, Be Active and Think</u> <u>creatively</u>	<u>Achievement</u> <u>Award</u>
Class 1	William Barton	Freddie Reid
Class 2	Noah Foxall-Holmes	Annie Nelson
Class 3	Ella Mullarkey	Teddy Abram-Jebb
Class 4	Mylo Sanderson	Sebastian King

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!"

