

St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter – Friday 3rd December 2021

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

Dear Parent/Carer,

Another busy week in school as we continue our journey through Advent in preparation for Christmas. In assembly, we lit the second of the Advent Wreath candles and thought about how we could help those less fortunate than us. On this theme, Sebastian in Class 4 shares the following prayer-

Dear Lord,

May those alone at Christmas remember that they are not alone, for you and everybody in the family of God is with them. May we all remember them in our heads and hearts when we are with our families enjoying Christmas.

Amen.



Christmas tree light switch on.

On Tuesday of this week, we shared our annual tree light switch on. It was wonderful to see so many families turn up to support the event. I'm sure that you join me in thanking everyone responsible for organising this, hopefully next year we will be able to have our Festive Bingo as part of it as well!

"I really enjoyed how colourful the lights were when they came on, it made me feel happy and ready for Christmas." Noah Foxall-Holmes in Class 3

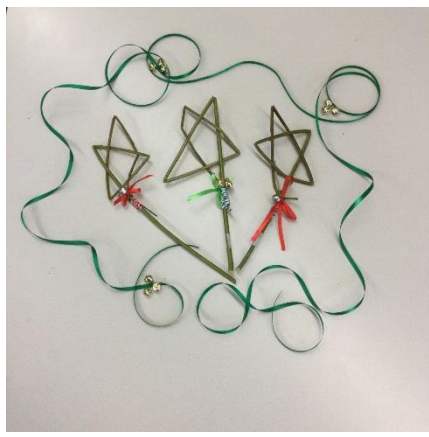


Christmas market

On Friday of this week, we held a Christmas Market in the hall. The children loved the opportunity to do some early Christmas shopping and even enjoyed some festive music! Thank you for all the donations of Bric-a-Brac which were sent in on Monday. We must also thank the members of the Friends of St Mary's for all their help in organising this event. An amazing £150 was raised!!!! Well done everyone!!!!

Forest School Shop

Next Thursday and Friday straight after school the forest school shop will be open. The children have been working hard to create Christmas decorations using their bush craft skills. All money raised will go towards resources for forest school sessions.



Update to Coronavirus advice

In light of advice regarding the Omicron Variant, we ask that all visitors to reception wear a face covering. We also strongly encourage wearing a face covering whilst on our yard due to the number of people around at pick-up and drop-off times. Many thanks for your continued understanding.

FOSM

Please see below some key information from our FOSM group. A booking form for the Funtastic Five Days of Christmas has been sent home!

22.11.21 - FOSM virtual Christmas Raffle - Tickets on sale until 15.12.21. The raffle will be drawn at 12 noon.

w/c 13.12.21 - 17.12.21 - The Funtastic Five Days of Christmas!!

You could either choose to select only the items you wish to join in with or pay £15 for a Funtastic Five Days of Christmas pass and get a special souvenir stamp card!!

13.12.21 - Trip to the Pantomime - Lowther Pavillion to see Sleeping Beauty. £10 per pupil with the WHOLE cost of transport is kindly funded by the FOSM

14.12.21 -KS1 Party day and Disco 3.15 -4.15 pm KS2- Colouring Competition

15.12.21 - KS2 Party day and Disco 3.15 -4.15 pm KS1- Colouring Competition

16.12.21 - Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Dinner

17.12.21 – Christmas Accessory Day. Uniform and either a Christmas hat or head band and hopefully, if his Reindeers are free, Father Christmas will visit

St. Mary's School Virtual raffle

St. Mary's Virtual Christmas Raffle – Tickets are now on sale!!

Each tickets is £1.00 and you will receive a text with you raffle number NOT a physical raffle ticket. All numbers and information will be entered into a spreadsheet.

We have some FANTASTIC prizes including – An afternoon tea for two, Krav taster session, After School Club passes, a one hour house clean, giant craft box - just to name just a few!!!!

Remember you have to be in it to win it.

Please send monies in an envelope marked VIRTUAL CHRISTMAS RAFFLE indicating your child's name, class and number of tickets required or on the sponsor style letter sent home.

Thank you in anticipation for your support!

NEW..... Mindful Moment !



As we have had a difficult period of time throughout the pandemic, we have often talked about the importance of our wellbeing and just as it is important to ensure our bodies are healthy, we must ensure our mind is too. So, each week we will share a Mindful Moment for families, pupils and staff to enjoy!! Feel free to share pictures on See Saw!!

A week of appreciation! As we rush around in our busy lives, it is always easy to overlook those everyday things that we should probably appreciate more. The clothes that give us warmth, the food that nourishes us; all these little thing get taken for granted whilst we yearn for bigger and better things. In the week ahead, keep a checklist of three things to appreciate each day. Try and notice the little everyday things that enrich our lives.

Big School Adventures

Big School Adventures is up and running. To ensure we are being as sensible as possible with numbers we ask that places are pre-booked on a weekly basis.

Uniform

To help make things easier as we move to our new uniform (required from September 2022) we shared that we would have a transition period from January 2022. Pupils who are growing out of uniform items, or those who simply wish to move to our new uniform are able to do this from January 2022.

Please do remember should you require any support or advice please just ask a staff member and/or return either of the slips we have issued. We are here to help and are already working with families so do get in touch.

The uniform letters already issued with the attached slips are also available on our website.

Should you wish to try on or purchase any new items Mr. Kumar from Bang Bang will attend school on Friday 10th of December and Friday 17th December and will bring his mobile shop from 2.45 -3.45. As promised, once further price lists from our other suppliers are available, they will be shared and meetings are now scheduled for next week.

We will make this a regular event too so you are able to shop easily and/or make payment plans.

We hope to also have our Swap Shop set up soon too and items for this have already been ordered. Thank you as ever for your ongoing support.

Dates for your diary:

Mon. 22nd to Wed. 15.12.21 - Virtual Christmas Raffle - Tickets on Sale £1.00

Tuesday 7th December - Nativity Play- 11.30 am and 4.00 pm - Class 2 families

Wednesday 8th December - Nativity Play- 11.30 am and 4.00 pm - Class 1 families

***** Nativity tickets are booked through the Booking forms issued and some restrictions will be in place**

w/c 13.12.21 - 17.12.21 - The FIVE Funtastic days of Christmas!!

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Celebrations Awards

	Achievement Award Winner	'EAT' Award Winner Explore, Active, think creatively	Welfare Award Winner
Class 1	Chloe Brogden	Meredith Holmes	Maisie Wilson
Class 2	Joe O'Donnell	Freddie Reid	Jamie Bass
Class 3	Rowan Hawkins	James Picking	Georgia Purkis
Class 4	Summer-Leigh Whitlock	Joseph Green-Banks	George Stevens

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!”



Frequently Asked Questions

My child has Coronavirus symptoms what should I do?

Telephone the School Office to advise your child will not be attending as they are symptomatic and book a PCR test at a test centre. Once this result is returned share this with school via email. If the test is negative and the pupil remains well they may return to school.

If my Child demonstrated Coronavirus symptoms in school what will happen?

You will be contacted and advised you need to collect your child and book a PCR test. Your child will remain at home until they are fit and well and able to share their Negative result.

We do not have to isolate anymore do we?

Bubbles at school are removed and as such, if your child has been in contact with a positive person at school, the whole Bubble will no longer be required to isolate for 10 days. All 'Close Contacts' will be required to take a PCR test and, if this is negative, they may return to school.

NHS Track and Trace will work with families to identify 'Close Contacts'. I would strongly encourage you to liaise with school so we can support you with this and reduce the spread. As you will appreciate staff will be best placed to identify pupils who have sat together, played together etc. etc.

At present, as we are working with Public Health England myself or Mr. Taylor will call families of Direct Contacts to inform them they need to seek a PCR.

I have a box of Lateral Flow kits at home can I just use this?

No, you would have to have a PCR result

Someone in my household is positive. Can my child attend school?

We would require the pupil to seek a PCR test and share this result with school via email. If the pupil is negative please remember that this is a negative result at the point of the test and your child could still develop Coronavirus within the Isolation period. We would strongly encourage a daily Lateral Flow Test and ask families to reflect upon the risks to other pupils and staff within school. We want to work in partnership to ensure we keep each other safe and are grateful for your support.