



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

'We Pray, We Work, We Play'



Week Commencing 18th December 2017

Dear Parents,

Phew! What a busy week at St. Mary's last week as we countdown to the Christmas holiday. In Worship, for the Second Sunday of Advent, we used a dramatised reading of the Gospel, and a story about the prophecies of John the Baptist to encourage children to think about how they can prepare their hearts for Jesus' return.

Class 5 kept up their busy schedule of carol singing and festive visits to local businesses with some superb singing for shoppers at the Co-op. We also managed to raise over £40.00 for the 'ME Association' charity from kind members of the public who were impressed with the children's singing. This week they will be visiting two local Residential Care homes to deliver some Christmas cards made by Class 1 and sing some more carols. This has been a great success this year and has touched the hearts of so many of the local residents.

Last Sunday, the choir took part in a beautiful service at Church, singing a selection of songs throughout and introducing the Christmas Fayre with more of the same. Massive thanks to Mr Winkley and Miss Sheridan who have worked tirelessly on this and so many of the Christmas events that have taken place – often involving giving up their own time at nights and at the weekend. It is greatly appreciated. This Tuesday we will be holding our own Christmas Service at 11:00 a.m. and it would be great to see you there.

Last Tuesday saw the annual 'Churches Together Concert' at All Saints Church which was attended by members of the choir. This is a chance for four schools to come together and learn and perform a selection of carols with a modern twist. The event was extremely well attended, as was Thursday's Carol Concert at Mount Carmel where our school sang 'Silent Night' amongst other songs to a packed audience.

On Thursday we visited King George's Hall in Blackburn for the pantomime 'Beauty & the Beast'. It was a thoroughly enjoyable show and it was a pleasure to take the children to see it. Their behaviour, as always, was impeccable and they really enjoyed the show. Thank you to our P.T.F.A. who raise money throughout the year to heavily subsidise the cost of these wonderful experiences for the children.

Our infant children are very busy preparing for their Nativity performance 'Lights, Camel Action'. This will take place on the 20th December. There are two shows at 2:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. This year the Nativity is ticket only, no payment will be taken on the doors as our numbers need to be exact for health and safety. Each child is allocated 2 tickets for the afternoon production and 2 tickets for the evening production. Any further ticket requests will be put on a waiting list and any unclaimed tickets will be given out and payment requested the week before. The tickets this year are just £1.00 each which will cover the cost of costumes, script and performance license. At the time of writing, the evening event is completely sold out however there are a handful of remaining tickets for the 2:00 p.m. showing.

Below are the remaining dates for the next fortnight. On Tuesday afternoon we will be holding our very successful Bingo event, please see Facebook and the office window for more information. Please note that on Thursday 21st December, children can come in non-uniform for the Christmas parties and Christmas dinner which can include wearing a Christmas jumper if they so wish. Last Friday was National Christmas Jumper Day which is held in association with the 'Save the Children' charity. Anybody wishing to make a donation can send money into school over the next fortnight or you can find more information via christmasjumper@savethechildren.org.uk.

Tuesday 19th December – 11:00 a.m. – **St. Mary's Christmas Service at Church**

Tuesday 19th December – 2:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. – **Bingo event in the School Hall**

Wednesday 20th December – 2:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. – **Infant Nativity**

Thursday 21st December – 12:00 p.m. – **Christmas Dinner**

Thursday 21st December – a.m. – **Infant and Junior Christmas Parties – NON-UNIFORM DAY**

Friday 22nd December – **No** Celebration Assembly

Friday 22nd December – a.m. – **Team-point winners treat! – NON-UNIFORM DAY FOR THE WINNING TEAM!**

Friday 22nd December – 1:30 p.m. – **School Closes**

So we come to the end of another year at St. Mary's. It began in terribly sad circumstances with the loss of our beloved Head teacher Ms. Nolan. But somehow we not only got through this unthinkable situation but we have managed to enjoy many successes throughout the rest of the year. This is down to the wonderful staff we have here at St. Mary's, the support of our Governing Body and parents and most of all our children who have shown unbelievable resilience in the face of a situation nobody thought they would ever have to face. Can I place on record my eternal thanks to you all – this truly is a very special school and community. Please could you remember Ms. Nolan in your prayers throughout the holiday and I hope you have a peaceful, safe and Holy Christmas. I look forward to welcoming you all back to school on Tuesday 9th January.

Mr M.S.Mashiter





CELEBRATION NEWS



STAR OF THE WEEK

- C1 Cameron & Ayden
- C2 Coban & Evie
- C3 Cristiana & Oliver
- C4 William & Harrison
- C5 Mollie & Isobela

RAINBOW AWARD

- C1 Victor
- C2 Jackson
- C3 Freddy
- C4 Lawrence
- C5 Zain

Pat Quirk Award for

Literacy

Kadieleigh - For outstanding effort in literacy all term

Mr Gallagher Award for

Maths Marcel - Outstanding achievement in mental calculations

Dairy Dates:

19th Dec	Christmas Bingo. Doors open 1.45 p.m.
20th Dec	KS1 Christmas production 2PM 6PM TICKET ONLY
21st Dec	Christmas dinner
21st Dec	Christmas Party Infant AM Junior AM
22nd Dec	SCHOOL CLOSES
9th January	SCHOOL RE OPENS

Thank you to everyone who has donated to the food bank reverse advent calendar which has been very successful and will be a great comfort to someone less fortunate this Christmas. Anyone else wanting to donate can do so this week.



School Nativity on 20th December—Tickets only tickets will not be available on the door. 6 PM showing is fully booked there is some limited space for the 2 PM

ATTENDANCE TED

(week ending 8th December)

OVERALL ATTENDANCE WAS

96.9%



Friday Fund Winner :

Lawrence C

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Birthdays 18th -7th January 2017

Coban, Lincoln, Isobela, Evie F & Evie R

Chloe, Zain, Minaahil, Daisy-Mae.

Class 1 have made Christmas cards for the local residential care home to spread the Christmas joy.



SCHOOL CLOSES 22ND DECEMEBER AT 1.30 PM. THERE WILL BE NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUB