



# St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

## Autumn Term Newsletter 2018

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2018

### WEDNESDAY WORD

This coming Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> December, we begin to celebrate the great season of preparation in hope which is Advent. This week's Wednesday Word is therefore **HOPE**. Please try to make some special family time this week and every week of Advent in order to read through and share the Good News as revealed to us through the Wednesday Word.

### A MESSAGE FROM MR MURRAY

At assembly on Monday all the children in school were told that I have a new role as Headteacher of St Richard's RC Primary School, Longsight, starting on April 29<sup>th</sup> 2019. A letter went out to all parents on Monday too. I would like to say many thanks for all the warm messages that I have received since then. Leaving such a special place was by no means an easy decision to make and my thoughts and prayers will always be with everyone at St Mary's.

### CHRISTMAS EVE VIGIL MASS 2018 AT CHURCH

The children from St Mary's will again have the opportunity to take part in our 'living nativity' at Christmas Eve Mass at St Mary's Church at 6.30pm on the evening of Monday 24<sup>th</sup> December 2018. Please let school know if your child will be attending and would like to take an active part in the Mass. You can pop in to the office to do this or use [comments@st-marys-dukinfield.tameside.sch.uk](mailto:comments@st-marys-dukinfield.tameside.sch.uk)

### OUR NEXT MASS IN SCHOOL

Our next mass in school will be tomorrow, Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November. It will be Year 1's Mass to mark the start of Advent. Mass on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December will be led by Year 3. Our final school mass of the Autumn term will be on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December when we will be celebrating our Year 2 Nativity Mass in school. Parents, carers and friends are all very welcome to attend any and all of our school masses.

### YEAR 3 SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME 2018-19

Year 3's Enrolment Mass for the Sacramental Programme 2018-19 will take place at St Mary's Catholic Church, Zetland Street, Dukinfield at 10.30am on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> December. It is vital that the **registration form** relating to your child's participation in the programme is returned to school by Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2018.

### RECEPTION PARTNERSHIP MASS

Many thanks to our new Reception pupils and their families who were welcomed into the parish family at the lovely Partnership Mass which took place last Sunday at St Mary's Catholic Church. Many thanks to Father Oliver and to the Reception staff who did so much to make this a special occasion.

### THE REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR

Many thanks to everyone who made a contribution to the first week of the reverse Advent Calendar. Foodbank usage is increasing year on year and Christmas 2018 is expected to see a spike in demand. I am certain that your generosity will be very greatly appreciated and all donations will be delivered to the foodbank in order to help those in need over the festive period.

For Week 2 (3<sup>rd</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> December) of the Reverse Advent Calendar we would be very grateful for donations of:

- Powdered Milk (UHT/long-life)
- Instant coffee
- Cordial

Children who bring in items for the Reverse Advent Calendar will receive 10 Family Group Points.

### SAINT MARY'S SCHOOL NATIVITY 2018

Our Nativity will take place in St Mary's Catholic Church, Zetland Street, Dukinfield, on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2018 at 7pm. **We expect all pupils to attend – so please make a note of the event in your diary.**

- Year 2 children will need to come to church at 6.30pm
- All other pupils will need to be at church by 6.45pm

For parents and carers, admission to the Nativity will be by ticket only. This is in order to comply with fire regulations. A letter with an order slip for tickets will be sent home tomorrow. Please order your tickets as soon as possible in order to avoid disappointment.

### DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY WEEK

Next week, almost all the children in school will take part in tasting and making activities as part of our whole-school Design and Technology Week (food). Please make sure that you have returned your consent form to your child's classteacher and that you have informed them (on the form) of any food allergies that your child has. Many thanks.

### GAINING A RECEPTION PLACE FOR YOUR CHILD IN 2019

The online application facility for children who will be starting **Reception class** in September 2019 opened on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2018. The closing date for Reception place applications will be Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2019. Please make sure that you apply on time.

If, prior to your application, you would like to book on a joint visit to look around the school, or you know of any parents who would like to visit, please contact the school office on 0161 368 4824 to secure a place.

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

DATE:	EVENT:
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 1 Mass in school hall at 9am
Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December	Year 3 Enrolment Mass at St Mary's Catholic Church, Zetland Street, Dukinfield at 10.30am
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December	E-safety assembly with Mrs Carlson
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December	CAFOD visit to Y6 to talk about St Oscar Romero (non-uniform day for Year 6 only)
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	No Forest School for Y5 and Y6
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	Final Y3 and Y4 before school Commando Tim Sports Club until after Christmas
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	Meeting for parents registered with before and after-school care club (Bee's Knees) in school hall at 7pm
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 3 Mass in school hall at 9am

### MEETING FOR PARENTS REGISTERED WITH BEFORE AND AFTER-SCHOOL CARE CLUB (BEE'S KNEES)

On Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December there will be a meeting at 7pm in the school hall for parents and carers who have registered for their child to attend the before and after-school care club at St Mary's ('Bee's Knees') from January 2019 onwards. The aim of the meeting is to discuss anything and everything that parents may wish to know about school's taking over the running of the provision.

### CHRISTMAS POST BOX

From Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> December we will have a post box in the central resource area in school. This is where pupils should post any Christmas cards that they want their friends to receive. This helps to cut down on litter in the playground and lost learning time in lessons. It also gives responsibility to our older pupils who act as post sorters and deliverers.

### ELF PUG SOFT TOY RAFFLE IN AID OF SCHOOL FUNDS

We have a wonderful Christmas Pug dog soft toy (dressed as an elf!) on display in the front entrance to school. Raffle tickets are available in school and the winning ticket will be drawn on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December after Year 2's Nativity mass. Tickets are 50p each with all proceeds going towards our school fund-raising drive. Please come in and buy some tickets!

### CHRISTMAS DINNER IN SCHOOL

Our whole school Christmas dinner will take place on **Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2018**. All children are able to have a Christmas dinner from school on this day. For children in the Infants who do not usually have a school dinner this will be free (because of the Universal entitlement to a free school meal in Reception and KS1). Parents of children in Key Stage Two wishing to have a Christmas dinner will have to pay £2.25p. If your child usually has a packed lunch, but would like a Christmas Dinner please inform school by **Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2018**. Payment must also be made on Parentmail by this date. No orders will be accepted after the 4<sup>th</sup> December.

### RESPONDING TO THE NEWSLETTER

We are always happy to receive comments, observations or suggestions about the newsletter or school life in general. These can be emailed to: [comments@st-marys-dukinfield.tameside.sch.uk](mailto:comments@st-marys-dukinfield.tameside.sch.uk)