



St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

Advent Newsletter 2018

WEDNESDAY WORD

This coming Sunday, 9th December, will mark the start of the second week of Advent. This week's Wednesday Word is PREPARATION. Please try to prepare for Christmas by making some special family time this week and every week of Advent by reading through the Wednesday Word.

CHRISTMAS EVE VIGIL MASS 2018 AT CHURCH

Please let school know if your child will be attending (and would like to actively participate in) Christmas Eve Vigil Mass at St Mary's Church at 6.30pm on Christmas eve, Monday 24th December 2018. You can pop in to the office to do this or email the school at: comments@st-marys-dukinfield.tameside.sch.uk

OUR NEXT MASS IN SCHOOL

Our next mass in school will be tomorrow, Friday 7th December. It will be led by Year 3. Our final school mass of the Autumn term will be on Friday 14th 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

Many thanks to everyone involved in last Sunday's Year 3 Enrolment Mass. It marked a joyous start to the sacramental programme and to the start of Advent. Well done everyone.

THE REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR

For Week 3 (10th – 14th December) of the Reverse Advent Calendar we would be very grateful for donations of tinned sponge pudding (or sponge pudding in cartons), packets of biscuits and/or tinned fruit. Children who bring in items for the Reverse Advent Calendar will receive 10 Family Group Points.

SAINT MARY'S SCHOOL NATIVITY AND CAROLS 2018

Our Nativity will take place in St Mary's Catholic Church, Zetland Street, Dukinfield, on Wednesday 12th December 2018 at 7pm. We expect all pupils to attend. 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. Please order your tickets as soon as possible in order to avoid disappointment. Parents will not be admitted until 6.45pm.

ADMISSIONS POLICY PROPOSED CHANGES

Today we are launching a 6-week long period of consultation relating to proposed changes to our admissions policy for entry to school in the academic year 2020-2021. We would welcome your comments. All the relevant information (as well as how to respond) is on the school website at <http://stmarysprimarydukinfield.co.uk/about-us/policies/>

PARENTING COURSES OFFER

Tameside Council have invested in 3 award winning, quality marked, online courses by the Solihull Approach (a national NHS organisation for parenting approaches). These courses are for ALL parents-to-be, parents, grandparents or carers of any child from the antenatal period to age 18 years. This course is relevant to parents of all children, including those with special needs, autism, ADHD etc. We would encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity. These courses are normally £19-£39 per person, but are FREE with the access codes below to all residents of Tameside. Please take advantage of this fantastic resource while you can. Once you have accessed the courses using this code you will have non-expiring access even after the code expires. Go to www.inourplace.co.uk and apply the relevant access code:

Understanding your child – Access code: **SUNFLOWER**

Understanding your pregnancy, labour, birth and your baby – Access code: **SUNFLOWER**

Understanding your baby – Access code: **SUNFLOWER**

You will be asked to create an account so that you can resume the course where you last left off. You will also be asked to verify that you are legitimately entitled to use the access code by entering your postcode. Personal information supplied by you remains private. Your responses to the monitoring questions are anonymised. You will not receive any marketing emails. You will receive congratulatory emails when you complete a module. The Solihull Approach may very occasionally email you to tell you about updates to the course.

For technical queries email solihull.approach@heartofengland.nhs.uk or ring 0121 296 4448, Mon-Fri 9am-5pm.

Thursday 6th December 2018

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

Tonight, Thursday 6th 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 taking over the running of the provision.

ANY SPARE BOARD GAMES?

If you have any spare, surplus to requirements board games for primary aged pupils with all the pieces and in full working order then school would be delighted to receive them as donations. Please bring them to Mrs Flynn in the school office. Many thanks in advance.

DIARY DATES:

DATE:	EVENT:
Thursday 6 th December	Meeting for parents registered with before and after-school care club (Bee's Knees) in school hall at 7pm
Friday 7 th December	Year 3 Mass in school hall at 9am
Monday 10 th December	Attendance Review Week
Monday 10 th December	Infants at Stockport Plaza for Panto
Monday 10 th December	Final Year 3 swim of the calendar and academic year
Tuesday 11 th December	Reception craft afternoon in the hall from 1.30pm onwards
Tuesday 11 th December	NO MORE BEFORE SCHOOL COMMANDO TIM CLUB UNTIL AFTER CHRISTMAS
Wednesday 12 th December	Behaviour, Attendance and Punctuality Award (separate letter to follow on Monday for those children who have been awarded)
Wednesday 12 th December	8.45am – Y2 pupils to be dropped off at church for a Nativity practice
Wednesday 12 th December	Y6 GD Maths club is on from 3.20pm – 4pm
Wednesday 12 th December	School Nativity and carols in St Mary's Church - Year 2 children will need to come to church at 6.30pm. All other pupils will need to be at church by 6.45pm. Adults admitted by ticket only.
Thursday 13 th December	Coffee Afternoon and social in school hall from 1.30 pm
Friday 14 th December	Y2 (Nativity) Mass in school hall at 9am
Friday 14 th December	Pupil Leadership Team elections
Friday 14 th December	Family Group Point Treat afternoon

HOLIDAY PATTERN 2019-2020

Governors have now approved a finalised holiday pattern for next academic year. It is attached to this newsletter. Please keep a copy safe so that all holidays books are not in term time. Many thanks in advance.

COFFEE AFTERNOON AND SOCIAL IN SCHOOL

On the afternoon of Thursday 13th December parents, grandparents, parishioners and friends of the school are warmly invited to a tea and coffee afternoon in school, organised and run by the pupils who undertake the Junior Award Scheme in Schools. £1 entry gets you a brew and a biscuit...with a chance to buy cakes, mince pies and more drinks once you are here. We might even have a sing-a-long and a game of bingo. Please come along and support us.

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

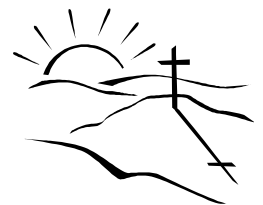
HOLIDAY LIST – 2019 / 2020



AUTUMN TERM - 2019

<u>SCHOOL OPENS</u>		<u>SCHOOL CLOSES</u>			<u>No of Days</u>
Y1 – Y6	Tuesday 3 rd September				
Recep	Monday 9 th September	Thursday	24 th October		38
	Monday 4 th November	Friday	20 th December		35

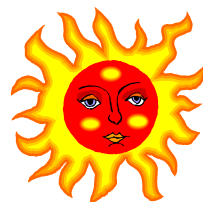
SPRING TERM – 2020



<u>SCHOOL OPENS</u>		<u>SCHOOL CLOSES</u>		
Monday	6 th January	Friday	14 th February	30
Monday	24 th February	Wednesday	8 th April	33

(Good Friday 10th April – Easter Monday 13th April)

SUMMER TERM – 2020



<u>SCHOOL OPENS</u>		<u>SCHOOL CLOSES</u>		
Monday	20 th April	Friday	22 nd May	24
Monday	8 th June	Friday	17 th July	30

(School CLOSED Monday 4th May – Bank Holiday)

190

Please Note:

School Closed (INSET Days)

Monday 2nd September 2019

Friday 25th October 2019

Monday 20th July 2020

On 20th December 2019 / 8th April 2020 / 17th July 2020

School will close at 1:30pm