

St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

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St. Mary's Gospel this week is 'The Baptism of the Lord'. Please take a few minutes to discuss this with your child at home. We will be focussing on this during the week.

Happy New Year - We wish you all good health and happiness for 2020!

Welcome back to school for the spring term. We are really looking forward to an exciting term ahead with lots of activities and visits planned across all the classes. Some you will find out about in this newsletter.

The children have settled back into school and have been very busy this week with Science experiments and the writing of adventure stories in a couple of year groups. Look out for these during the Thumbs Up Thursday event this next week.

Reception Admissions September 2020

Have you made your application for a Reception place at St. Mary's?

Do you know anyone who has a child who would be starting school in September? Please remind them to complete the form on time to secure one of their preferred schools.

The closing date is Wednesday 15th January 2020

<https://www.tameside.gov.uk/admissions>

Forest School Year 4 and 5 Starting Wednesday 22nd Jan 2020

There have been some changes made to the arrangements for Forest School for Year 4 and 5, since you were written to in the Autumn term.

Year 5 will attend in the morning and Year 4 in the afternoon. This is to facilitate support with staffing. I am sure that you will understand that this is vital to the success of the project.

Upcoming Events

Date	January
13 th	Mad Science Assembly
16 th 8:50-9:15am	Thumbs up Thursday Please do come along
16 th 6pm	Sacramental Programme Workshop 1
17 th	Mass Yr 6
19 th 10:30am	Yr 3 Family Mass at Church
23 rd	Sporting Event – see over
24 th	Mass Yr 3
31 st	Mass Yr 4

Thumbs Up Thursdays (Years 1 – 6)

These events start this week and are an opportunity for you to come in look at your child's books, talk to them about what they have been doing and join in an activity in class.

Reception will be undertaking **Stay Play and Learn** sessions later in the term. Please look out for more information.

Year 5 Bake Sale

This has been postponed until Friday 24th January 2019. We would be extremely grateful for any cake donations. All proceeds will go towards School Funds.

Exciting Sporting News

We have started to look at the up and coming events this year with the Olympics in the summer months. To celebrate this, we will be having a visit from the 'Under 23 UK Triple Jump Champion', **Kevin Metzger** on **Thursday 23rd January**.



We will be hosting a fundraising event to support athletes in reaching their goal, to participate in the Olympics. We hope to raise funds to support Kevin's participation in the 2024 Olympics. On the day, the children will undertake fitness circuits with a future Olympian as well as watch Kevin demonstrate his skills during an assembly.

The fundraising will also raise money to support **PE and Sports in our school**. This money will be used to purchase equipment for the children to use during playtime and lunchtime sessions.

To support this activity, we have changed our **Friday After School Club** this half term to **Athletics**. We hope that this will inspire the children further to take part in physical activity and to aim higher in sport. To support this further, we have also arranged to take part in an **Indoor Athletics Competition on Wednesday 15th January**.

Sports Crew

Thank you to all the children who have been interested in joining the **Sports Crew**. The application window has now closed. We will be reading their applications and informing the children on Monday of the successful candidates.

The first **Sports Crew** meeting will be held at **dinnertime** on **Monday at 12:15** in Miss Hope's classroom.

Year 6 Residential Meeting

Thank you to all the parents and children who attended the meeting on Thursday evening.

We explained the change of venue to the PGL site of Winmarleigh Hall in Lancashire.

For those parents who were unable to attend, the PowerPoint can be found on the website and we have sent the letter out to you via ParentMail.

If you have any questions, please do come along and see Mrs Boon, Ms Hamilton-Hall or Mrs Kelly.

Information can also be found on the PGL website:

<https://www.pgl.co.uk/en-gb/school-trips/primary-schools/centres/winmarleigh-hall>

Attendance

Our Whole School Attendance Target is **97.5%**.

Will we be successful?

Do you know how you can help us reach this?

16 th – 20 th Dec 2019	
Reception	93.1%
Year 1	95.7%
Year 2	97.7%
Year 3	98%
Year 4	96.6%
Year 5	93%
Year 6	94.3
Whole School Total	
Whole School Total	95.5%

Congratulations to Year 2 and Year 3 for achieving above the whole school target of 97.5% the week before the Christmas break.

Let's all try really hard to join them next week.