

St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

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This week, our assembly marked the beginning of anti-bullying week and was about kindness.

Please take a moment to talk to your child about this.

This week...

We began this week wearing odd socks, to launch anti-bullying week. It reminded us to embrace our differences. We were delighted to welcome so many children back who were at home isolating last week. We are grateful for every day we manage to spend together during these strange times.

Christmas Toy Appeal!

Once again we have decided to support Tameside Toy Appeal to provide children and young people in our community with a gift this year, but we need your help!

We would be extremely grateful if you could donate new toys or gifts for 0-18 year olds.

Items that are really needed this year are gifts suitable for teenagers such as board games, toiletries and books, sorry but they are unable to accept soft/cuddly toys.

We will be collecting from Monday 16th November and the last day to drop off will be Wednesday 9th December.

If you prefer you can also donate through the JustGiving page: [tinyurl.com/TamesideToyAppeal](https://www.justgiving.com/TamesideToyAppeal).

Action together have a dedicated Winter Support page: <https://www.actiontogether.org.uk/winter-support> or you can call them on 0161 339 2345.

We appreciate your support during these difficult times.



Upcoming Events

Date	November
w/c 23 rd	'Now Press Play' trial
24 th	Pupil Chaplain Commissioning
26 th	Parents' Evening
Date	December
10 th	CAFOD Advent National School Assembly
11 th	Santa dash
14 th	Year 2 Nativity to be shared
15 th	Carols in the corridors (children)
15 th	Fr Oliver to bless cribs
16 th	Christmas dinner and party day
17 th	Virtual Carol Concert 7pm
18 th	Christmas Rocks (songs on the playground)
18 th	School closes 1pm

Teeny-tiny cribs

We would like each family to read and share the Christmas story, talking about the main events and the people who focus in the story e.g. Mary, Joseph, Angel Gabriel etc.

Then, over the next few weeks we would like you to make your own nativity scene and characters: a mini nativity in a box – a TEENY TINY CRIB!



Parents' Evening

Parents' Evening will be held remotely this term via Microsoft Teams. Parents will need to download the Microsoft Teams APP prior to the meeting. This can be done on a mobile phone, tablet, laptop etc.

Meetings will take place on Thursday 26th November from 3.45pm – 6.45pm. You will be sent a message via ParentMail, asking you to sign up to a time slot. You will then be sent a link to join the meeting. Please join just a couple of minutes before your scheduled time. You will be held in a 'waiting room' and the class teacher will admit you, when it is time for your meeting.

Now Press Play

As the children are unable to go on any school trips at the moment, we have been thinking of ways to bring the curriculum to life for them! In November, we are trialling something called 'Now Press Play'. Please see some information below.

<http://nowpressplay.co.uk/>

now>press>play is an immersive audio resource that engages primary school children in the curriculum through emotion, imagination and movement.

In a now>press>play Experience every child is given a pair of wireless headphones. Immersed in sound, they become the main character in a story, meeting people, discovering places and solving problems on an educational adventure they'll never forget.

now>press>play can be used as a whole class activity or with smaller groups for intervention work. It is a fun and inclusive way to engage children in the curriculum.



Remember over 4,000 shops and sites will donate to Saint Mary's Catholic Primary School Dukinfield for FREE every time you use Easy Fundraising to shop with them. This means you can support the school when you get your groceries, book a holiday or day out, order a takeaway, renew your insurance policies or buy anything else – at no extra cost to yourself! **If you haven't signed up yet, it's easy and completely FREE. Just visit <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stmarycpsdukinfield>**