



### Extra- Curricular Clubs

Next week is the last week for all extra-curricular clubs, such as lego etc. This also includes the number partners club with the University students, which has been very popular. The volunteers from the university have exams in January and are thus, hoping to start the club up again towards the end of January. A letter will be sent out and those on the waiting list, will have priority. For the extra-curricular clubs in the Spring term, the form was sent out to those who were on the waiting list firstly and then will be given to all children. The school has two new providers for the Spring term. The basketball club will be run by coaches from the Leicester Riders and the activities club, by the new provider will be activities, such as archery and curling.

Only the After school club will run in the week beginning 16<sup>th</sup> of December, but will not be open on the 20<sup>th</sup> of December, as this is a half day.



### **Christmas Crafts 12<sup>th</sup> December: 2-4p.m in the school studio!**

**For parents or carers and their children. A fantastic opportunity to have creative time with your child.**

**WHERE:** St Mary's Primary in the studio.

**WHEN:** Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December, 2 - 4pm (Children join after school)



- Use a range of crafts to support your child's learning
- Make new friends
- Spend quality time with your child

Ring Pauline on 07944055723/01163055636 for more information or to book a place or please let the school office know or why not just turn up!

### **Building work on the 9<sup>th</sup> of December**

Thank you so much for your understanding about only using the infant entrance to the playground this week. We will be requesting your patience and understanding again for two weeks, beginning from the 9<sup>th</sup> of December. As you can see from the photograph below the Year Six classroom and windows have been updated to enable access for all children.

A ramp will be built from the Year 6 classroom outside the library to enable equality access for all children and visitors. Due to safety reasons, the junior gate will remain locked and blocked off and access to drop and collect your children will be through the infant gate on Hastings Street. We thank you in advance for your understanding and patience, particularly for the staff who are at the doors in the morning and afternoon.



Save the Children  
**CHRISTMAS  
JUMPER DAY**

### **Christmas Meal Day: 13<sup>th</sup> December 2019**

On the 13<sup>th</sup> of December children can wear a Christmas jumper for a donation of £1 to save the children. On that day, the school kitchen will be serving a Christmas Dinner menu. Children can bring in Christmas crackers and party hats to have with their Christmas dinner

on that day. Please inform the school office, as soon as possible if you would like your child to have a Christmas school dinner on the 13<sup>th</sup>.

**Move it Boom:** Only 2 weeks to go and St Mary's school are not in the top twenty yet.



So sign on with your child on the website and see how many activities they can log! A great way to stay healthy on these cold nights.



### **Milk at breaktimes**

Mrs Heald the school Milk Co-ordinator has noticed that there are many children who are entitled to free school milk or have it paid by parents, that are refusing to have it. Please talk to your children about drinking the milk or please let the school office know, if you wish us to cancel your child having the milk.



### **Loughborough music**

Loughborough Schools Music Competition on Saturday the 1<sup>st</sup> and Sunday the 2<sup>nd</sup> of February 2020. This event is aimed at excellent young musicians from the area who wish to demonstrate their musical skills in front of specialists. The specialists are Ivor Flint a classical tenor, composer and conductor; Gerald McCrystal a global woodwind performer; Sam Jowett a percussion performer with the BBC National orchestra of Wales; Andrew Matthews-Owen, an honorary associate of the Royal Academy of Music; Nick Hudson a world wide coach and tutor of brass instruments and Donald Grant of the Elias String quartet. Further details and applications forms can be found on the loughborough Schools Foundation website: [www.lsf.org/music-competitions](http://www.lsf.org/music-competitions) and all applications must be submitted by Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2020. We have some very able musicians in school, so we do hope they enter.

### **Parent Pay**

For the beginning of the Spring Term, beginning on January 6<sup>th</sup> 2020, the school will be aiming to be Cashless using Parent Pay. There is a video clip about it on the home page of the Website. Further information will be sent out, during the last two weeks of the term. Thank you so much for your support of putting payments of dinner, club and trip money in envelopes- it is appreciated as it gives the office time to sort the payments out. The school will need you to clear any money owed by the end of this term. Thank you.



### **Menphys Concert: Friday 6<sup>th</sup> of December 2019**

Eighteen children from St Mary's school will be singing at the Concert.

Tickets are £9.00 available to purchase from De Montfort Hall. Tel: 0016 233 3111 or email: dmh-tickets@leicester.gov.uk. Children who said they could participate from the choir have received an individual letter about it. There are plenty more tickets on sale and the charity needs lots of support, as their Government funding has been cut this year. The charity supports many children, including children at St Mary's School. So please do come along for a wonderful display of musical talents by the Catholic Schools in Leicestershire. A coach will be leaving from Regent's Street at 5.45p.m if you would like to join us.

**Healthy Packed Lunches: Reminder: Treat day is only in Friday.** The school food service works very hard to ensure the school dinners are nutritionally balanced, we ask that packed lunches reflect this too and include a balance with fruit, vegetables or yoghurt. It should not all be carbohydrates, or include large packet of crisps, chocolate bars and sweets, unless included as a treat on Fridays. Thank you to all parents who ensure this happens.

### **Admissions: Foundation Class 2020**

If you require a place in the foundation Class for your child for September 2020 at St Mary's, please collect an admissions form from the school office and also apply online. Admissions details are on the website. This must be completed by January Please do join them, if you would like to know more about the Foundation Class for 2020.

### **Children's Absence from school due to sickness**

A reminder that you **must ring in each day your child is absent from school** due to sickness, in the morning. It saves our office staff time, in having to follow up with phone calls and ensures we do not put it as an unauthorised absence. Holidays during term time cannot be authorised. Any child's attendance that falls below 95% at any point of the year, will be followed up by the school's welfare and attendance officer Mrs Rene and Miss Jordan. When you call the school office, there is the facility to report an absence. Thank you.



### **Uniform:**

[Thank you for your support on our school uniform policy and for wearing the Winter Uniform.](#)

All children need to be in the winter Uniform now to the Easter holidays, unless they have a medical requirement not to wear it and this has been discussed with the staff. Please do talk Miss Jordan or the office staff for further clarification if needed. **Children must wear their school ties – if they have lost it – please talk to the school staff. A letter will be sent out to parents on the day-explaining which part of the School uniform rules have not been adhered to and need rectifying within the next the couple of days.**

### **PE Kits/ PE lessons**

Children must have PE kits to be able to participate in PE lessons and **AFTER SCHOOL SPORT'S CLUBS.** If they do not have their kit and we cannot contact anyone to bring it in, children will have to join another class for that lesson. Children must have written permission from a parent stating that they cannot take part in a PE lesson. If a child misses a sequence of PE lessons, unless they are unable to take part due to an operation or accident, a meeting will be requested with parents. **PE lessons continue throughout the year and unless it is raining or snowing will be outdoors. Children must wear tracksuits as stated in the school uniform policy in the Winter months.**

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND COLLECTIVE WORSHIP



**Invitation to school Liturgies/ assemblies:** Families are very welcome to attend school assemblies/ Liturgies as follows:

Tuesdays 9a.m Prayer and liturgy led by the Headteacher or classes.

Fridays 9a.m Achievement assembly ( No achievement assembly on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> October

due to the Staff training day.)

TUESDAY 10<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER: Liturgy led by YEAR 5: 9a.m in the school hall.

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER: 11a.m; Year 5 and 6 confessions in church.

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December** as part of the schools outreach Community event: The Year one and Twos will be singing carols and Christmas songs at the Waterside Centre.

**Sacramental Preparation for reconciliation and First Holy Communion: Preparation for these two sacraments are led by the Parish/ St Mary's church.** Mrs Hunt and Mrs Murphy are the catechists. Please see the church newsletter, for when the classes and meetings for parents will begin or speak to Fr Paul. Forms/ letters need to be collected and returned to the church.

### **Mindfulness Classes**

Two groups of 12 children, 24 in total had some taster mindfulness sessions on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> of December in the school hall in the school studio. This is all part of the school's well-being and mental health programme. They greatly enjoyed this and shared it with the children in their class. We will look to incorporate more of this with the school's route to resilience programme.



**ST MARY'S FRIENDS: FOSM: WE WOULD LIKE YOUR IDEAS! All parents are welcome to join!**

**We've been blessed with all the hard work and fundraising the parents do on the Friends of St Mary's. We need more outside equipment for all the children to enjoy. FOSM EVENTS**

**5<sup>th</sup> December: OWN CLOTHES DAY. Thank you for your donations.**

**Forest School:** The children who have participated in the Forest school sessions this term, have their last session on Wednesday the 11<sup>th</sup> of December. They will be visiting the Greenbelt site in Loughborough, so will need warm coats, hats, gloves, spare socks, good walking shoes and wellington boots. Thank you.



### **Administering Medication in school**

If your child needs to have medicine administered by school staff during the school day, the medication request form must be completed first. These are available from the school office. We can only administer medicine, if it is prescribed by the health professional and it is accompanied by the professional note or this is clearly stated on the medicine. For the safety of all children please do not send the medicine in with the child. It must be given to the school office with the medication, where it will be locked in our first aid cupboard in the first aid room. Thank you for your support.

### Dates for Your Diary

At St Mary's we are always trying to improve our communication with you. Families requested last term, that they would like more advance notice of events, which we will endeavour to do. With the term dates, as an Academy we have kept to the Leicestershire term dates for 2019-20, after consultation with parents last year. 2020-21 dates are on the website and we will also be placing the 2021- 22 dates shortly.

**6<sup>th</sup> December: 7p.m:** Menphys concert De-montfort Hall: Tickets available from DMH.

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December: 2-4p.m:** Christmas Crafts with your children in the school studio

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 9.30a.m:** EYFS Nativity in the school hall ( Apologies for the change of date).

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December:** Save the Children Christmas jumper day : Christmas dinners: EYFS Christmas crafts with parents morning.

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December** : 2p.m in the school hall: Year One and Two Nativity Performance.

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December** 9.30a.m in the school hall: Year One and Two Nativity Performance.

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December:** 6p.m in the church at St Mary's: Junior Carol Concert and Choir performance: Children performing in the choir for Maria Verentina will need to be in church from 5p.m.

Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Last day of the Autumn Term School finishes at 1.30p.m
Christmas Holidays 2 weeks	Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> Dec - Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January: Mon 6 <sup>th</sup> Inset day: staff training School Reopens Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> January 2020

Thank you in advance for working with us to ensure the best for your child. I'd like to set up a regular parent's forum this year, so please do let me know when you think would be a good time to run this and if you would like to be involved with setting up our policies and the school curriculum.

Yours sincerely,

Miss P Jordan    Headteacher