



ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

A Community Where we Live, Learn and Laugh Together in God's Love
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ADVENT PRAYERS 2019 Our final two morning prayer sessions will be on Wednesday and Friday this week (8.45am). All are welcome!

SMALL CHANGE FOR CAFOD Every class is still collecting small change towards our Advent Charity. Any brown or silver coins will be very welcome. Children and teachers are trying to target a particular gift to buy from the CAFOD World Gifts catalogue.

NATIVITY PERFORMANCE Our KS1 and FS children did a super job last week! They told the story of Christmas with great singing and acting from all!! Well Done!



CALDERDALE CATHOLIC SCHOOLS CHOIR The Catholic Primary Schools in Calderdale have formed a combined Deanery Choir this term. They rehearse at St Mary's every Thursday after school and they had their first official performance at St Mary's on Thursday last week. Their next performance will be at the Confirmation Mass on the 5th February 2020.



PINK DAY (Gaudete Sunday)..... Lots of children marked the 3rd Sunday of Advent today by wearing something pink.

CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME 2019-20 Our Catholic children currently in Y6 will be confirmed in their faith by the Bishop of Leeds on **5th February 2020**. The next workshop for both parents and children will take place in school on the **14th January** at 6.30pm.

FIRST CONFESSION PROGRAMME 2020 Children in Y3 who are baptised Catholics will be eligible to make their first Confession on **7th March 2020** at St Bernard's Church 2pm (tbc). The first meeting for parents and children at St Mary's will be on **15th January** (6.30pm). A letter containing more details and other venues and dates was sent out last week.



CHOIR OUTING Our School Choir have been singing carols and seasonal songs at two of our local care homes – Savile House and Hazleroyd Care Home. The residents seemed to have had a lovely time – and so did the children – especially when they were given chocolate as a thank you!

KS1 & FS CHRISTMAS CRAFT & COFFEE MORNING Parents are encouraged to come along to a Christmas Decoration Workshop tomorrow morning, when you will be able to make Christmas decorations with your child. Afterwards, you are invited to stay for a coffee / tea and a few seasonal treats in aid of CAFOD.

MR LAMBERT We are very sorry to see Mr Lambert leaving us this week. He is moving to a school in Low Moor and whilst we will of course miss him, we also wish him lots of good fortune and happiness in his career.



TEMPORARY CLASS CHANGES

- 3L.... We are very pleased to say that **Mrs Roe** (who has been on maternity leave) will be returning to us after the Christmas holiday to teach in 3L on a part-time basis for 3 days a week (Monday to Wednesday), with Mr Brown teaching the class for two days a week (Thursday and Friday), until at least February half-term. We are currently confirming arrangements for after February half-term and will let you know our plans as soon as possible. Mrs Roe will be back teaching full-time by late June 2020.
- 5BVB..... From January, Mrs Borges–Vaz will be teaching full-time in her existing class until February half-term 2020. This will allow Mr Brown to teach alongside Mrs Roe in 3L during that period.

PTFA ADVENT & CHRISTMAS FUND RAISING We would like to thank all the PTFA Committee and all the staff from school for organising the Film Nights, Secret Santa and Christmas Fayre in the last few weeks. The total raised was **£1649.59**. This is almost £300 more than was raised in the same period of 2018. The PTFA uses its funds to support all children in school, making trips a little cheaper, helping to buy extra equipment, resources and treats. We always need more volunteers to help with this important job – Just speak to the ladies in the school office, Mrs Farrell (Chair), Mr Butterworth (Treasurer) or one of the other members of the PTFA Committee.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS Please be aware that there are no ‘activity’ after-school clubs this week (ie: Guitars / Netball / Sports Leaders). HoH and Breakfast Club are not affected by this.

CHRISTMAS PARTIES Children will all have a small party this week – KS2 on Thursday afternoon and FS and KS1 will also be on Thursday afternoon. Children can wear their party clothes on their party days.

PANTO There will be a Cinderella Pantomime in school on Friday 9th January. All children will attend. We ask for a £2 donation per child for this experience, which is always very good! Please pay on School Money.

Y6 HOLOCAUST CENTRE The Y6 children will be going to the National Holocaust Museum on the 17th January. A letter about this trip went out last week.

INVITATION FROM FR MARTIN Father Martin would like to warmly invite everyone to the liturgies and Masses over the Christmas season at St Mary’s and St Alban’s Churches. We hope to send you details before the end of the week.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS We will break for our two week holiday on Friday this week at the normal time. Children will return to school on Monday 6th January 2020.



SEASONS GREETINGS



Mr Brennan and all the staff and governors would like to wish you a very happy, restful and Holy Christmas when it arrives. We will see you in the New Year!