



ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

A Community Where we Live, Learn and Laugh Together in God's Love
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No. 180

6/3/20

FIRST CONFESSION PROGRAMME 2020 (Y3s) The children will be finally making their first Confessions this Saturday at 2pm at St Bernard's Church. Please pray for them as they receive this Holy Sacrament.



Y4 COMMUNION PROGRAMME Catholic children wanting to make their First Communion in June 2020 will be starting their preparation lessons on Wednesday 11th March 6.30pm.

CHOIR NEWS We are very pleased that the Choir has been asked to join the Calderdale Catholic Schools Choir at St Mary's Church on Sunday to sing parts of the 11am Mass. Children need to be at Church at 10am for a rehearsal. The children attending were given permission to wear non-uniform for school today, so that they can have their uniform nice and smart and clean for the Mass.

ASH WEDNESDAY (26th February) The whole school attended Church on the 26th February and all Christian children received ashes on their forehead to mark the beginning of Lent.



AMPLEFORTH 11th – 13th March (Y5) Our Y5 children will be going on their Retreat experience in North Yorkshire next week from Wednesday. They will be doing some nice walks and visiting the swimming pool, as well as spending time thinking about their years at St Mary's to date and the manner in which they will approach the challenges of Y6 from September. Nearly all the children will be going, but Mr Brennan would like to remind parents that if your child is not going they are still expected to attend school as normal while their friends are away.



KNOWSLEY SAFARI PARK Children in Y1 & Y2 will be going on a trip to the Zoo on the 10th March. Parents have had letters about this. Please make sure you have returned the Emergency Contact and Medical Details Form asap. Payment and consent is online through School Money.

YORKSHIRE WILDLIFE PARK Children in FS have been visiting the zoo as well today! Hopefully they had a great time and didn't get too close to the lions!!



CORONAVIRUS UPDATE We sent you the most recent Public Health England advice leaflet on the virus last week, which included the ways the risks can be minimised. If you would like to know more, especially about the advice the DfE is giving schools, please follow the link here,

www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19

or on our **school website front page.**

All children in school have had specific lessons this week on hand hygiene and covering their mouths when sneezing or coughing. Please do your best to keep reinforcing this message at home. In addition Mr Griffin and the cleaning staff have been extra focussed on the sanitising of door handles, railings etc all over the school building.

There have been no confirmed cases of the virus identified in Halifax and therefore there is no need whatsoever for children to miss school or for us to take any further actions such as stopping trips, closing classes, sending staff home, postponing meetings etc. If there are any changes in DfE or LA guidance you will be the first to know!

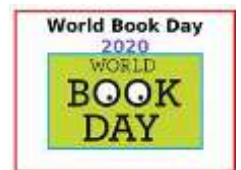


DANGEROUS PARKING/DRIVING Yet again we have had a very unpleasant incident reported concerning dangerous driving. A parent from St Mary's (silver/grey small car) was parked on double yellow lines at the top corner of Swires Road obstructing the vision of the Crossing Patrol lady and endangering the lives of our children. When the owner of the vehicle was spoken to by another parent she just smiled and gave some 'choice' verbal responses. We don't want to encourage people to get involved in arguments - but if you are able to take details of registration plates and even take photographs of poor parking we are happy to post them in this Newsletter. The PTFA have recently bought us 6 'Little People' which are being periodically placed at the side of the road to help remind people about NOT stopping on Swires Road.



NEW RADIO PROGRAMME We have brand new Spring podcast for you to enjoy. This can be easily accessed via the school website and lots of children have been involved as usual. Thank you to Mr Smith and Mr Dyson for their work on this.

WORLD BOOK DAY The children had a fabulous time yesterday as nearly all of them came in a Book Character Costume. Thank you to all parents for the amazing efforts that you have made. Thanks to Miss Starsmore for organising the carousel of activities throughout the day.



WHATS APP & TIK TOK WARNINGS We have been asked again to warn parents about the dangers of allowing children to access these two Social Media sites. CEOP Advice is that TikTok should not be used by anyone under **13yrs of age** and WhatsApp have recently moved their registration age to **16yrs of age minimum**. This obviously means that children in St Mary's should not be allowed to register accounts with either site. We have had some incidents recently where children have been messaging each other with some extremely inappropriate language, which we are sure no parents will be happy with. Please check your child's phone (if they have one) regularly, so that you know what they are doing online.

WOMEN'S 'EMPOWERMENT' BRUNCH (Saturday 21st March 11am – 3pm) You are invited to a Mother's Day Brunch event at the United Reformed Church on Carlton Terrace. HX1 2AD. There will be a BoxFit Taster, a Confidence Workshop, a chance to make new friends and a delicious breakfast/lunch buffet. Entry is FREE. Please contact Ashleigh May for more details: Tel: 07508008962.

PTFA EASTER FILM NIGHT (EYFS, KS1 and KS2) The next joint Film Night will be on Thursday 2nd April 3.30pm to 5.25pm. Bookings and payments in advance will be done via the School Money App.

Y6 HOCKEY SUCCESS The team gave a fantastic effort in a Tournament involving lots of other schools at Trinity Academy on 27th February. They came second! Amazing for their first outing.

GYMNASTICS SQUAD The Y1/2 squad gave a great performance at Diamonds Gym on the 3rd March. Well done all of you!

SATs Y6 INFORMATION EVENING Parents of children taking the statutory assessment tests in May are invited to an Information Evening on Monday 16th March at 3.45 - 4.30 or 5.30 - 6.15. Miss Wannan and Miss Goulden will be explaining what the tests look like and how they are administered. They will also be giving you some advice and support on helping your children prepare for High School.