



ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



Issue: 11 Date: 30th November 2018

www.st-marys-pri.wilts.sch.uk

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SOME DIARY

DATES

03/12/2018

Parents Meeting with IEB
6-7pm

05/12/2018

Flu Vaccinations in school

5/12/2018

KS1 Christmas Lunch

07/12/2018

Xmas Movie Night 5-7pm

12/12/2018

KS2 Christmas Lunch

13/12/2018

KS1 Nativity 2pm & 6pm

14/12/2018

Christmas Jumper Day

18/12/2018

KS2 Carol Service 6pm

21/12/2018

End of Term Mass

HEAD'S NOTES

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the season of Advent, there is palpable excitement in the air at St Mary's! We are looking forward to lighting the first candle on our Advent wreaths and opening the first door of our calendars, as we prepare for the beautiful celebration of Our Lord's Nativity. The prayer tables in school will be changing to purple, to reflect the church's liturgical colours for the season of Advent. It feels like the end of term is rushing towards us, with so many events to fit in!

Last Saturday, a small group of parents, children and staff, moved the library into the main building and have created a calm, welcoming space where children can come to enjoy and share the selection of books that we have. Many thanks to you all!

Today, Mrs McDonagh took our Chaplaincy team to the Cathedral at Clifton, where they were commissioned by Bishop Declan. He has given special badges to chaplaincy teams in all of the Diocesan Catholic Schools and I am very proud of our group who have represented St Mary's and will lead us in developing the prayer life and ethos of the school.

The PTA have kindly organised a number of Christmas activities and I am looking forward to the film evening on Friday, also to having story time with our younger children in the new library. The class hampers are starting to fill with lovely goodies, as children bring in something related to their colour theme. The staff are also creating a hamper of gold, silver or sparkly things and it is already filling up nicely. We will have the draw for the hampers after the KS1 evening Nativity performance on 13th December.

I have just received a letter from Doorway, who received our Harvest gifts back in October. They have asked me to thank you and the children for your kindness in helping those who are homeless in our area. They said 'The food will be put to good use, both in the hot meals that we provide and as take-out food parcels for those most in need.'

Have a lovely weekend.

God Bless

Mrs Howie-Lee

We need you!

We are currently looking to recruit another MDSA, please see the office for more details if you are interested.

PLEASE SUPPORT ST NICHOLAS SCHOOL

The Parents of St Nicholas School have created a petition in response to the announcement from Wiltshire Council regarding closure of SEN schools in Wiltshire. Please sign their petition in support. <https://www.change.org/p/save-st-nicholas-special-needs-school>

Young Voices Choir

A coach has been booked for parents to go to watch the Young Voices Choir perform. Mrs Morgan will give everyone a letter on Friday with more details.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Lots of you have booked Christmas lunch this year which is fabulous, anyone who has not done so yet please ensure that you have brought your slip and money in by **Monday 3rd December latest**. The numbers will be cut off after this date.

New School Library

A huge thank you to our wonderful parent volunteers, Mrs Biro, Mrs Griffiths, Mrs Mason, Mrs Lamb and Mrs Hart, who gave up their time last Saturday to come into school and help move the Library to its new place in the main school building. The new space looks fantastic and the children have been so excited to visit during the week. Mrs Smith and the Year 6 Librarians have put together an 'Action Plan' for the coming year. There are lots of exciting plans so watch this space! All the Librarians have an important role to play in ensuring that our new Library is well used across the school.



The sky is the limit

The infectious sound of laughter could be heard coming from the hall on Tuesday morning when all of our children were visited by Marc Griffiths, a PSHE motivational ventriloquist and his inspirational puppets. Throughout the session, the smiling and happiness was clear to see and the message that the children took away will hopefully last a lifetime. "We can all reach for our dreams, whoever we may be – as long as we are kind and good people. The sky is the limit and we can all be stars of the future."



AWARDS OF THE WEEK

Nursery:	Bobby P	For being a kind and helpful member of the class. Well done!
Class 1:	Sofia C	For always being enthusiastic about her learning
Class 2:	Lila M	For super progress in her reading
Class 3:	Harriet B	For always being ready to learn and a fabulous role model in class 3
Class 4:	Gracie H	For setting a fabulous example and always putting in 100%
Class 5:	Eleanora C	For super reasoning and problem solving in Maths
Class 6:	Ava G	For contributing well in lessons this week
Class 7:	Romeo C	For working hard on his presentation
Class 8:	Andrew N	For amazing progress in reading
Class 9:	Samuel C	For his enthusiasm and participation in his learning
Class 10:	Rebecca B	For excellent progression in her reading

Headteacher's Award:

Ben R – For mature learning

PTA NEWS

Thank you for the generous donations of all the colourful hamper donations that have come in today! It's not too late to donate – outstanding items can still be brought into classes next week.

Friday 7th December 5-7pm: Christmas Film Night

We will be showing the film Nativity! Doors will open at 4.45 prompt.

Tickets are selling out fast, please can all forms be returned by Wednesday, 5th December to secure a place! (This will also help Santa know what to bring along). The form was sent out by email on Wednesday 21st November. Spare paper copies are available from the office.

Friday 14th December: National Christmas Jumper Day

Bring in £1 and wear your favourite festive knitwear or non-uniform outfit.

All proceeds to Save the Children.

Please contact us at any time: stmaryschippenhampta@gmail.com

Second-Hand Uniform Sale

As you know, there is a second-hand uniform sale in the school from time to time. I'd like to share a bit more about how this works. The sale is organised by a small group of parents led by Mrs Biro. The second-hand uniform that we sell is kindly donated by all you lovely parents and is an ideal way to clear out items that are too small but still in good condition, and which somebody else may be able to reuse. We organise the sale every six weeks or so and try to sell as many items as we can. The money that we fundraise goes towards the school on much needed items. In the last couple of years we have raised around £600. Every penny counts when it comes to buying resources for our school. Recent purchases from this money have included Easter craft activities for the children, water urns for the kitchen/events/PTA, picture frames for the year 6 class photos, and a whole new set of mugs, jars, glasses, teaspoons for events such as class masses, guests, etc. Our latest addition to this list is the much-needed new equipment for the school kitchen which includes: baking trays, chopping boards, various dishes and even a double boiler for more efficient and consistent cooking for our children.

You can help fundraise money for the school by coming to the sales when there is one, and donating any unwanted items in good condition to the uniform sale. To donate your outgrown uniform, please leave at school reception clearly labelled for the second-hand uniform sale.

If you missed the sale or you need an item in between the sales please don't hesitate to email me on bmelindahu@gmail.com and I'll do my best to provide the wanted item.