

**We love**

**Our Mission Statement**  
 With Jesus as our guide we promise  
 To care for one another,  
 To work hard,  
 To build a community in Christ's love.

**We learn**



**NEWSLETTER 7th December 2018**

Dear Families,

We began Advent in a marvellous way, with the children reading and participating in the offertory at mass at St Mary's church on Sunday. Year 3 and 4 led a thoughtful Liturgy on Monday and Fr Paul blessed all our new Advent Wreaths in school. Our school Christmas tree is twinkling away, with all the children's Advent promises on, please do visit to see it (even if it is just to see if your child has promised to help with the dishes or keep their room tidy!) The Year 4 children have had the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Thursday and Year's 5 and 6 will have that same opportunity, next Thursday. Thank you to all the parents who supported the children at Mass on Sunday.

The children greatly enjoyed (and staff!) the pantomime of Dick Whittington and his cat on Monday afternoon and participated with great gusto with all the actions, chanting and dancing.

The Year 3 and 4 Advent Carol will be broadcast on the 16<sup>th</sup> of December at 6.15 a.m on Radio Leicester and 21 of the children will be singing at Waterside Court with Mrs Trounsen on Thursday the 13<sup>th</sup> of December at 2p.m. We are looking forward with great anticipation for the Menphy's concert at De Montfort Hall this evening. Miss Jordan and Mrs O'Connell will be taking the children to rehearse today. There are still tickets available, if you would like to join us for this wonderful Christmas event.



We do hope you can attend the Nativities and the Carols by Candlelight, the singing in the rehearsals around school has been Angelic!

### **Christmas Nativity dates for EYFS and KS1: All Welcome**

The Foundation Class, will be having their Nativity on Friday the 14<sup>th</sup> of December at 9.30a.m in the school hall. Year One and Two will now be having their Nativity Celebration together. We hope you can join us for the performances on: **Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 9.30a.m and at 2.30p.m on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December.** If taking photographs, videos, please ensure it is of your own child, unless you have permission from the other parents and especially if you are uploading it to social media. A dvd of the nativities will be produced, for a donation of £3.00.

### **LEPRA Work out Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2018**

We know it can be a difficult time of the year financially, so we would be grateful of any donations returned in the Lepra envelope for Monday. The Year 5 girls sent a letter out on Friday, as they would like the children to dress in their own clothes or something they want to be when they are older, to raise money for this charity, as a response to the assembly the children had. Thank you for your support on this. We will be having the work out in the school hall at 9a.m on Monday morning.

### **After School clubs and the Thursday morning activity club**

All extra-curricular activity clubs **finish this week**, as stated on the permission letter given out at the beginning of the sessions. This also includes the Thursday morning club. The after school care club will run until Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> December.

**FRIENDS of ST MARY'S: FOSM: PTA: Cups given to children today for sweets.**



**Reminder: School finishes for the Christmas Holidays on: Friday 2<sup>1st</sup> December 1.30pm.** The Spring term begins on the 8<sup>th</sup> of January 2019. The 7<sup>th</sup> of January is a staff training day, for all staff at the Thomas Aquinas Academy.

**CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> December at 6p.m at St Mary's Church -.** All of the Junior children have been very busy preparing for this Liturgy, with readings, singing and dances. We do hope you can all join us.

### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND COLLECTIVE WORSHIP**



**Invitation to school Liturgies/ assemblies:** Families are very welcome to attend school assemblies/ Liturgies as follows: Due to Nativity and Carol Concert practise, there will not be a whole school Liturgy on Tuesday morning for the next two weeks.

**No achievement assembly on the Friday morning, due to the Foundation Nativity on the 14<sup>th</sup> of December at 9.30a.m . The Achievement Assembly will be on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December, next week.**

**St Mary's Parish Christmas Fair: Saturday 1st December** : Thank you to everyone who supported this event!



**School Closure/ Late opening due to SEVERE Weather Guidance**

In the very unlikely event that the school will be closed due to a significant risk to pupils or staff from severe weather conditions or that the severe weather has meant that a significant number of staff have been unable to attend: you will be informed by the school phone app and on BBC Radio Leicester. We will always endeavour to keep the school open, but may also have to consider opening an hour or so later to enable staff and children to have additional time to travel to school safely. If we have to do this, you will be informed by the phone app, website or on the Radio. Please ensure we have your most up to date contact details and that you have downloaded the school phone app, with the notifications turned on.

**OPEN DAY : Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> December: brass and dance performance at 11a.m**

If you have a child starting School next Academic Year, come and have a visit to St Mary's School on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> December. The children who have been learning brass instruments will be performing at 11a.m and our dance group will be performing after. We have also invited the parish in that day.

**Admissions: Foundation Class 2018**

If you require a place in the foundation Class for your child for September 2018, please collect an admissions form from the school office and also apply online. Admissions details are on the website. The closing date is the 15<sup>th</sup> of January 2019.

**Dates for Your Diary**

Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Choir rehearsing in the morning at De Montfort Hall. 7.15pm: Menphy's concert: De Montfort Hall Leicester
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Own clothes day for Lepra or what they would like to be when they are older.
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Open Day at School: 11a.m brass and dance performance.
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Some of year 3 and 4 children are singing in Waterside Court in the afternoon.
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> Dec	9.30a.m Foundation Nativity Play
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christmas Dinners and Christmas Jumper day Afternoon: Junior Christmas parties
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> Dec	9.30a.m Year One and Two Nativity 3.15p.m- 5p.m School Christmas Fair in the hall and Parish Centre
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> Dec	2.30p.m: Year one and Two Nativity
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> Dec	EYFS and Year one and Two Christmas parties in the afternoon 6p.m at St Mary's Church school Carols by candlelight.
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> Dec	End of term Achievement Assembly School finishes at 1.30p.m
Christmas Holidays	Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> Dec - Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> January 2019: Mon 7 <sup>th</sup> Inset day

	School Reopens Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> January 2019
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Thank you for your continued support for the school. The next newsletter will be sent out on Friday the 14<sup>th</sup> of December. Have a super weekend and enjoy the Advent Season.

Yours Sincerely,

Miss P Jordan    Headteacher