

Many Thanks....

To all volunteers who have helped this term in some capacity. Your time, effort, inspiration and dedication is a key part of school life and is gratefully appreciated by all.



A Comment About Our Staff

It is the end of my first term at St Mary's and I would like to comment on just how lucky I feel to be working amongst such a dedicated, professional and talented staff. Every teacher, support assistant, office staff member, lunch time supervisor, kitchen staff member and, of course, our one and only caretaker all add their own special ingredients to make the whole entity of the St Mary's staff so strong, effective and unified. It is daunting to come to a new school as head teacher but the staff have shown me that the children are in the very best of hands!

To all staff-I look forward to working with each and every one of you as we move into the new year! Have a good, long, well-deserved rest!

And Finally... I would like to wish all families a peaceful, happy and holy Christmas and a prosperous new year, on behalf of the staff and governors of St Mary's. We look forward to seeing all children refreshed and 'ready to go' on our first day back, Tuesday 8th January.

Mission Together

We raised £155.44 for mission together. Thank you for all your support.

Jesus is coming-Prepare the way



St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Herringthorpe

20.12.18



Performances

I am sure you will agree that we were treated to two excellent, entertaining shows this week, both of which reminded us of the reason why the season of Advent is so important to us. Key stage 1 gave us their retelling of the nativity with 'Prickly Hay' while Key Stage 2 entertained us with their version of the Scrooge story, called 'Bah Humbug'.

All children performed with great enthusiasm and sung, danced, acted and spoke with clarity and maturity. We are so lucky to have such talented children in all of our classes!



Many thanks should go to;
All our parents for your support in preparing your children for their shows. I'm sure you have listened to songs and lines being



rehearsed for many weeks!

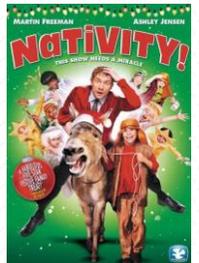
All staff and volunteers in school for their hard work in preparing our children for their shows.

Our talented, enthusiastic children for putting so much energy and effort into making all four shows such resounding successes.

The Nativity

Our 'Performance Arts' group put on an amazing show this week, when they performed their version of the 2009 British film 'The Nativity'. The rest of the children and the staff hugely enjoyed watching the children sing, dance and act in the afternoon. Then, after school, it was the turn of the parents to enjoy the show.

Well done to all children and staff who were involved in such a professional, enjoyable show. You are all very talented!



*Thank you so much for the parents who have given us positive feedback, either at one of the shows or by email. It really means so much to the staff when parents take a little bit of time to say thank you. The staff work so very hard for the children at St Mary's and we are very proud of the team we have here!

Well Done!

Well done... to Luca in year 5 who has raised £90.00 doing his own sponsored swim outside school. Luca has raised the money to help buy Lego for school! We are very proud of you Luca for your efforts and for your kindness and consideration. Well done to you!

Christmas Masses

The times of masses on 24th /25th December will be the same as previous years. Children can go to mass on Christmas day dressed as angels, shepherds and kings to join in with the mass.

Christmas Eve Morning	9.30am	Immaculate Conception
Christmas Eve Vigil Mass	5.00pm	St Gerard's
Christmas Night Mass	12 midnight	Immaculate Conception
Christmas Morning Mass	9.30am	Immaculate Conception

Attendance

Time Frame	FS	Y 1	Y 2	Y 3	Y 4	Y 5	Y 6	Total
10.12-14.12	96.5%	94.3%	96.9%	98.7%	96.5%	100%	96.8	97.1%

Well done to Y5. Wow! What can I say!

Our 'Whole School' attendance figure for the term is 96.3%. This is really good!

We are going to work with our Education Welfare Officer in the new year to continue to promote excellent attendance and punctuality at St Mary's. We all want, as best as we can, to have every child in school from the first bell to the last and, working with our parents, we will continue to promote the message:

'Every Lesson Counts!'



Parties

Our children have had a wonderful time at their Christmas parties this week. There has been lots of eating, drinking and game playing (and visits from Santa!) which have really added to the festive spirit around school.



Thank you so much to all staff and volunteers for their efforts in preparing and running the parties. The parties have been a great way to round off what has been a very busy term, especially during the month of December, in an enjoyable, celebratory way.

A Good Idea...

Boys and girls, keep your brain 'Ticking Over' this Christmas... remember to;



Do any homework given to you by your teacher
Find time to practise spellings
Find time to learn your tables- For example, if you are in year 4, 5 or 6, do you know every table up to 12X12?
You can, of course, use 'Time Tables Rocks' for this!
Read! Read! Read! And then read again!

School Clubs

A letter has gone home regarding the school clubs that are available after Christmas. We ask that you complete the slip provided and bring it back into school as soon as possible. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact a member of the office.

Emails / Parent Portal

After Christmas we will be launching a new parent portal for accessing payments, information and communication from school. We will therefore be sending more communication via email rather than text and we would ask that if you think your email address has changed or you wish to be contacted on a different email address to the one you have previously provided that you hand a copy of the updated email address into the office after the Christmas break. Thank you.

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