



ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

No. 162

A Community Where we Live, Learn and Laugh Together in God's Love

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21/1/19



WELCOME & HAPPY NEW YEAR We hope you all had a very enjoyable and restful Christmas break. It has been lovely seeing the children again and hearing all their holiday stories.

We began our Spring term with a simple assembly retelling the story of the Epiphany.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMMES A reminder that the 4th session of our Confirmation Programme is on Wednesday evening this week (7pm) and the 2nd session of the Confession Programme is also on Wednesday at 6.30pm.



Y5 AMPLEFORTH (13th to 15th March) The children in Y5 will be going on a two night residential retreat. At the moment we are expecting nearly all of them to attend this, but a small number have yet to pay any of the instalments. We need to make a number of commitments to the coach company and Ampleforth before half-term, so we would be very grateful if parents who have not yet paid anything towards this trip could make an effort to pay something very soon. Please speak to us if you have any concerns. Thank you.



HOLOCAUST CENTRE (Y6) Our Y6 classes went to the National Holocaust Museum near Nottingham on Friday last week. The children learnt a lot about the way Jews and other minorities in 1930's Germany were persecuted, victimised and discriminated against, especially as the start of the Second World War approached. The children also spent some time listening to the testimony of a 97-year-old gentleman called Steven Mendelsson, recorded on video just 18months ago, before he died.

DANGER WEEK Children all across the school have been taking part in a variety of activities this week as part of our 'Danger Curriculum'. As you can probably tell from the photos, they had a great time! (Below you can see 'Setting a Table, Making Toast, Falling into a Friend's Arms and Holding a Worm').





PANTO – ‘Snow White & The 7 Dwarves’ The children had a very exciting and noisy time watching this pantomime production presented by M&M Theatre Group.

CAR PARK RAFFLE Thank you to everyone who bought tickets for this opportunity to win free entry to the School Car Park in the morning and evening for this term. The winner has been drawn and has begun using the voucher. We raised £80 towards school funds.



PTFA NEWS You might like to know how much was raised from the events organised just before Christmas: **Firefighters Charity Bags** - £23, **KS1 Santa Film Night** - £222, **Christmas Fayre** - £1038, **Christmas Gift Shop** - £81, **KS2 Film Night** - £30. All these funds will be used to subsidise or fund trips, buy additional resources and organise extra activities for all children across the school. Please continue to support the PTFA in whatever way you can.



PTFA KS1 & KS2 FILM NIGHT There will be a KS2 film night on the 1st February after school and a KS1 film night on the 8th February after school. Further details to follow.

Y5 EUREKA VISIT The children in Mr Parkinson’s and Miss Goulden’s classes went down from the Swimming Pool to Eureka last Friday. This session was free, as we had been invited to try out a new Space Exhibition by the Museum’s management. The children certainly tested it to its full potential!!

FIRE ENGINE VISIT The children in Reception will be enjoying an afternoon exploring a Fire Engine and learning about the job of Fire Fighters on Thursday afternoon this week.



Y1 CHILDREN The children will be visiting the Square Chapel on Monday (28th) next week for a Small World performance. They will be walking to the theatre.

CROSS COUNTRY Our very resilient and tough Cross Country Team were in action at Crossley Heath last Thursday. It was a very cold and muddy afternoon but 15 out of the 28 entrants are going on to the Calderdale Finals this Thursday. **WELL DONE EVERYONE!!!**

ATTENDANCE Overall attendance since the beginning of this term is **95.9%**. **This is a very good start for year! Keep it up and keep improving please!**

PARENT SURVEY We sent a survey to all parents (Approximately 180 families) at the end of November 2018. Unfortunately we only received 9 replies, which although very positive indeed and nice to read, cannot really be called representative. Mr Hymas (Chair of Governors) has asked that we send this out again in the next few weeks.



GRAB & GO BAGELS From Monday next week we will be offering all children a free piece of bagel as they enter school as part of a National School Breakfast initiative. We would like to point out that the donated bagels ‘may contain nut traces’ and that of course we will not be able to offer bagels to children with nut, dairy or gluten intolerances. We are making efforts to find some alternatives for those children we know about, but it may take a few weeks to get these sorted.

PARKING REMINDER Yet again we find ourselves having to ask parents to please drop off and collect children responsibly and with care towards the rules of the road and other people around you.

HOW DIFFICULT IS IT TO UNDERSTAND THAT YOU CANNOT STOP (AT ALL) ON DOUBLE YELLOW LINES?