School Newsletter

Autumn 2



Dates for your diary...

Friday 20th November: PJ dress down day- Please bring in a donation.
Monday 23rd November: 10:30am Advent Service in School.
Friday 27th November: Belgrade Panto Trip
Monday 30th November: Scholastic Book Fair
Tuesday 1st December: Year 5 and 6 Houses of Parliament trip. Late return. Scholastic Book Fair.
Monday 7th December: Christingle Service 10:30am
Wednesday 9th December: Parent Book Look
Monday 14th December: KS1 Christmas Performances 1:30pm and 6pm
Tuesday 15th December: KS2 Christmas Reflection in the Church, 1:30pm and 6pm.
Wednesday 16th December: Rock Steady Concert
Thursday 17th December: End of Year Mass and Carols round the Crib Service.



Clubs Autumn - Please book all on Parent Pay

Monday: Football & Cooking after school clubs.
Premier Education Football lunch club.
Tuesday: Nerf Games after school club.
Wednesday: Arts and Crafts after school club
Mon-Fri: Rising Stars

Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents and Careers,

The children in Foundation had a wonderful morning at Stable Mates. Mrs Clarke will update Tapestry with all the photos soon. Our recent RAF Trip provided the children with a fantastic day of learning, discovery and inspiration. During the visit, they took part in an engaging workshop exploring significant historical figures linked to RAF pilots during the Second World War, helping to bring history to life. The children also had the exciting opportunity to explore a range of aircraft up close, including walking through several planes and learning about their design, purpose and operation. As part of the workshop, the children worked together to create and perform dramatic pieces based on their learning, demonstrating excellent teamwork and creativity. Mr Causebrook recorded these performances and will be sharing them, along with a selection of photographs from the day, in the school gallery soon. The children were a credit to St Mary's throughout the visit, showing enthusiasm, curiosity and exemplary behaviour.
Preparations for our Christmas performances are now well underway. The sound of singing can be heard throughout the school and the children are already showing great enthusiasm for what promises to be a wonderful celebration of the Christmas story.
Our Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 children have begun rehearsals for their Christmas production, The Sleepy Shepherd. Details of performance dates and times have already been shared with families. The performance typically lasts around 30 minutes and is always a delightful occasion, showcasing the confidence, talent and joy of our youngest pupils. We are also hopeful that members of the PTFA will be available to provide refreshments before or after the performance, helping to make the event an enjoyable social occasion for our school community.
Meanwhile, preparations are also underway for our Key Stage 2 Christmas Reflection/Carol Service. Children received their readings and practice materials today, and we are looking forward to seeing the service come together over the coming weeks. Mrs Smith will be sharing the outcomes of the auditions with children tomorrow.
This year, we are especially pleased to be offering children a range of opportunities to participate in the service. Alongside readings and collective worship, children have been invited to share prayers in their home languages and to contribute individual musical performances. These moments help to reflect the diversity, gifts and faith of our school community and always make the service particularly meaningful.
Following the evening performance, we are once again hoping that the PTFA will provide refreshments back at school. The Christmas Reflection Service is always one of the highlights of our school year and a truly special way to begin our Christmas celebrations together. We are also delighted to extend an invitation to members of our wider village community to join us. The support and involvement of our parish and local residents are a valued part of life at St Mary's, and we look forward to sharing this special season with you all.
Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We cannot wait to welcome you to our Christmas celebrations and to share the joy and wonder of this very special time of year.

Laura Concannon
Headteacher
St Mary's Catholic Primary School



Safeguarding

Lead: Mrs Concannon

Deputy: Mrs Morgan

Mental Health: Mrs Morgan



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Reading Challenge Autumn

Mrs Turner has now collected the names of all children who have achieved 50 reads or more this term. In recognition of their fantastic commitment to reading, these pupils will be invited to attend the Autumn Term Cinema Trip. We are incredibly proud of their achievement and grateful for the support families provide in encouraging reading at home. Mrs King will upload the trip details to ParentPay, and a letter containing further information will be sent home next week.



Book Fair Competition

The Book Fair will be in school on Monday 30th November and Tuesday 1st December. This is a fantastic opportunity for children to explore a wide range of books and develop their love of reading.
To celebrate the event, School Parliament is running a competition with five £5 book vouchers to be won. 'Design a bookmark' entry sheet can be requested from the class teachers and needs to be returned by Friday 27th November.
Keep reading and good luck to everyone who takes part!



Filled Jars Please!!



Advent and Christingle in School

As we move towards Christmas, Advent provides us with a special time to pause, reflect and prepare our hearts for the celebration of the birth of Jesus. Throughout this season, we will be taking part in a number of meaningful activities and would like to invite families to join us in our worship.

Advent Service

We warmly invite parents, grandparents and family members to attend our Advent Service on Monday 23rd November at 10:30am in school. The children in Carpenters Class will be leading the readings, helping us to explore the message of Advent, while the children in Farmers Class will bring forward the different parts of the Advent Wreath.
During the service, we will also be changing our class colours to the liturgical colour of purple, reminding us that Advent is a season of preparation, prayer and hope. The Advent Wreath helps us to mark the passing weeks as we journey towards Christmas, with each candle representing themes such as hope, peace, joy and love. As each candle is lit, we are reminded that Jesus is the Light of the World and that we are preparing for His coming.

Christingle Service

Our Christingle Service will take place on Monday 7th December at 10:30am and families are once again warmly invited to join us.
In the days leading up to the service, children will work together in their House Groups to make their own Christingles. Following the service, children will bring their Christingles home to share with their families.
The Christingle is a powerful symbol of the Christian message:

- The orange represents the world.
- The red ribbon represents God's love surrounding the world and the sacrifice of Jesus.
- The four cocktail sticks represent the four seasons and the four corners of the world.
- The sweets and dried fruits represent God's gifts and the fruits of the earth.
- The candle represents Jesus, the Light of the World.

The Christingle reminds us that Jesus brings light, hope and love into our lives and encourages us to share that light with others.
We look forward to celebrating these special moments together as a school family and beginning our preparations for Christmas through prayer, reflection and worship. We hope that many of you will be able to join us for these important celebrations.



Safeguarding

Lead: Mrs Concannon

Deputy: Mrs Morgan

Mental Health: Mrs Morgan

Keep in Touch

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