



The staff of St Mary's wish all of our families a Merry Christmas. This year started with a few big changes that we had to adapt to and we thank you for your support over the last term. Personally, I have really appreciated the kind words that have been offered from time to time by parents and even – sometimes – by children and I am looking forward to working with you and the staff to make St Mary's an even better place to learn next term.

All the best,

Mr. S. Murphy

### **THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL**

This week, we have had the pleasure of watching fantastic Year 1 and Year 2 performances of Hey Ewe! What amazing songs they all sang! We have got a lot of talented children in our school. I'm already looking forward to next year's nativities!

This afternoon, we have finished off with a lovely carol concert led by the children in Year 6. We have had some lovely singing and readings.

### **STAFF LEAVING**

Unfortunately, we are saying au revoir to two members of staff today. Mrs Ferguson has been an exemplary and valued member of the office team for the last two years. Sadly her contract has expired so we reluctantly have to lose her superb skills in the office.

Likewise, one of our cleaners, Tracey Land, who has worked behind the scenes for many years making sure that school is ready for when the children return the next day, is leaving us. Both Sam and Tracey will be sorely missed and we hope to see them again before long.

### **CLUBS LETTER**

We have got so many clubs going on after Christmas that we have had to put them all on one big letter. That will go out today. Pupils can apply for more than one club and we try to make sure everyone gets into something that they have applied for. There will be further news in January about a Mad Science club and Mrs Bradbury will be telling the children about her Well-being Workshop in our first assembly back in school. Additional to the clubs on the letter are the various music lessons that we have running in school. Letters for these go out at the beginning of the year, but if you would like more information, ask at the office.

### **STRICTLY COME DANCING**

Year 4 and Year 6 produced an absolute classic afternoon of primary school entertainment on Tuesday when they treated us to *St Mary's Does Strictly Come Dancing*. We had fourteen couples and dance groups performing with wonderful hosting and DJ-ing done by Year 6. The four teacher judges were cheered and booed and everyone had a great time. It was so much fun that they just might have started a St Mary's Christmas tradition and we are already making plans for St Mary's Got Talent in the summer.

### **CHRISTMAS PARTY DAY**

There was dancing, games and fun to be had yesterday at St Mary's for Christmas party day. We saw a very serious game of 'Corners' in Reception. We had a great time.

### **CAR PARK DISABLED SPACES**

If you use the car park at the start or end of the day, or to drop off or collect at Breakfast or Kids Club, please can you make sure that there is adequate disabled space free for families that need to use those specially designated spaces.

## KIDS CLUB

Kids Club is fully booked almost every session with a waiting list for places – the maximum attendance is set by Ofsted and our insurance is based on this. Ad hoc bookings, therefore, are becoming more difficult to fulfil, so if you know you are not going to use a session please let us know as far in advance as possible. Places must be booked in advance and the child's name on the register for them to attend.

## STATEMENT ON THE SETTLEMENT SCHEME FOR EU CITIZENS

Bishop Patrick has released a statement proclaiming solidarity with EU citizens that have made their home in this country. We have attached the bishop's letter. He asks us to draw attention to the following information [www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families](http://www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families)

## NCTSA INFORMATION EVENING

Attached is a flyer from the Nottingham Teaching School which is hosting an information evening for those interested in getting into teaching?

## ADMISSIONS AND TERM DATES CONSULTATION

Please consider responding to the term dates consultation on Stockport's website. You can 'no comment' all of the admissions consultations and go through term dates consultation on the last page. You can take part in the consultation here: <https://consultation.stockport.gov.uk/policy-performance-and-reform/admissions-consultation/>

## STOCKPORT SCHOOL BUS PASS CONSULTATION

Stockport Council is consulting on the allocation criteria for school bus passes in September 2019. You can find the consultation document here: <https://consultation.stockport.gov.uk/policy-performance-and-reform/school-bus-pass-consultation/consultation/subpage.2018-11-29.4384313607/>

<b>DATES FOR YOUR DIARY</b>	
<i>Please check for updates on a regular basis</i>	
<b>School reopens on Monday 7 January 2019</b>	
<b>Wed 9 Jan</b>	Mad Science assembly for pupils
<b>Wed 16 Jan</b>	PTA AGM 7:00 pm in school hall
<b>Fri 15 Feb</b>	<b>INSET</b> – children not in school
<b>Half term - Monday 18 to Friday 22 February 2019</b>	
<b>School reopen Monday 25 February 2019</b>	

## COMMUNITY NEWS

**Art Stop Art Club** will be holding an after school art club and School Holiday Sessions in December 2018 to be held at the studio in Goyt Mill, places are limited. For further details and for booking details contact Tracy McGuinness-Kelly [teelee@me.com](mailto:teelee@me.com) or tel: 0161 484 5995 or visit [www.teeleedesign.com](http://www.teeleedesign.com)

**Centre Stage Academy of Dance Marple** is held every Tues at St Martins Church Brabyns Brow Kids Street Dance (6+) and (10+) Kids Aerial Hoop and Adults Aerial Hoop. Book online at [www.centrestage-dance.com](http://www.centrestage-dance.com) or tel: 07870 975195.

**Mellor Junior Lacrosse Club** are one of the UK's leading teams. There are plenty of opportunities to try this exciting game, contact Martin Mochan (Junior Boys Section Lead) [mellorboyslax@gmail.com](mailto:mellorboyslax@gmail.com) or Jo Noble (Junior Girls Section Lead) [mellorgirlslax@gmail.com](mailto:mellorgirlslax@gmail.com)

**Stockport Grammar Netball Camp** for girls in Year 4/5/6 will run on 18 and 19 February. £25 for one day/ £35 for two days. Application forms are available in the school office or contact [goddardl@stockportgrammar.co.uk](mailto:goddardl@stockportgrammar.co.uk)