



St Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy

Bulletin No 14: Friday 20 December 2019

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

Christmas only feels that it has arrived once our youngest children have shown us how to reflect on the real meaning of Christmas – through their Nativity plays!

Nursery and Reception were amazing in their production of The Wiggly Nativity. The concentration, growing confidence and fabulous singing brought many visitors to tears.

Our Y1 and Y2 pupils were captivating yesterday in their production of 'Everyone loves a baby'. Their independence, voice projection and dance moves would not have been out of place in children twice their age.

The Carol service today will be a culmination of the work of all – parents, children, staff and governors – a representative of whom will read one of our prayers or pieces of scripture.

Thank you to all the staff who have worked so hard to support the children to prepare their concerts: your commitment is very much appreciated by us all.



We hope you have all enjoyed receiving our Travelling Nativity sets this Advent: thank you for the prompt return of these resources.

Thank you for all the cards, tokens of appreciation and good wishes received by staff this Christmas.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

HOLY SPIRIT	ST MARY'S, Marple Bridge (MB) & New Mills (NM)
20:30 Christmas Eve Vigil Mass	18.30 Christmas Eve Carols (NM)
23:30 Christmas Eve Carols Midnight Mass	19:00 Christmas Eve Vigil Mass (NM)
09:30 Christmas Day Mass	09:30 Christmas Day Mass (NM)
	10:45 Christmas Day Carols and Mass (MB)

MR MURPHY

We say a fond farewell to Mr Murphy today, after a happy and successful three years with us. Mr Murphy has been an immense support to all: his considered and decisive leadership along with his approachability and good humour are just some of the things we shall miss! Mr Murphy has initiated some of the curriculum changes which are required by the latest advice; he has steered the school during the initial terms of the school joining the St Ralph Sherwin Trust; he has developed warm relationships with all members of the community – and will be greatly missed. We all wish Mr Murphy every success as he moves onto St Matthew's in January – and we certainly hope that he keeps in touch!

CONTACT DETAILS

If you would like to make contact with your child's teacher regarding any matter, please do so at the end of the school day, via the contact us form on the website or through the school office. The office will direct emails and phone calls to relevant members of staff. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

DINNER MONEY

For the new term, dinner money will be...£66 - £11 per week, £2.20 per meal. This should be paid in advance and can be done either via school money or calling into the office with a cash or cheque. Many thanks

SWIMMING

Please note that Year 5 will start their swimming lessons on Monday 6 January 2020. They will go to Romiley Baths by coach in the morning. A letter has been sent home with the Year 5 children regarding this.



REQUEST FROM CHILDREN'S AND YOUNG PEOPLES GROUP

Stockport Council has announced a new consultation on how best to deliver outcomes for children and young people. Click on the link below to have your say.

[C&YP Outcomes Consultation](#)

PTA

The winners of the December 200 Club are Helen Osbourne £88; M Coupes £56; Lucy Roberts £32 with PTA benefitting by £176. Congratulations to you all.

We return to school on Monday 6 January: please note that there is no INSET day – we are straight back to our studies on this day!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY	
Monday 6 January	Children back to school
Friday 14 February	Finish for half term
Monday 24 February	INSET DAY – CHILDREN NOT IN SCHOOL
Tuesday 25 February	Children return to school
Tuesday-Friday 3-6 March	Yr6 PGL Residential
Wednesday 11 March	Parent/Teacher meetings
Wednesday 18 March	Parent/Teacher meetings

We wish all our children and their families the peace and joy of Christmas – and a wonderful, restful holiday!

COMMUNITY NEWS

Holy Spirit Parish: The families and the parish of the Holy Spirit invite you to join them to celebrate Christmas Day at the 09:30 Mass. The children of the parish have been working hard over the Sundays of Advent to prepare a traditional Nativity and would love to share it with their friends from St Mary's. The Nativity, bidding prayers and some music will be led by children who attend St Mary's from Nursery to Year 6. Wherever you celebrate Christmas Day, be it at the 09:30 Mass of Christmas Day or the 20:30 Vigil Mass at the Holy Spirit, the 23:30 Carols and Midnight Mass or the 10:45 Carols and Mass at St Mary's or at parishes with your wider families across the country, the parish of the Holy Spirit wishes you a very Merry Christmas and look forward to seeing you again in the New Year.

The Wellspring is a registered charity situated in the area of Stockport. This service relies solely on donations, as it has no support from the local authority. This year, there has been an overwhelming amount of support in the form of donations, from local agencies and as a result there is a substantial amount of surplus food. The Wellspring would like to give back to the community by offering food parcels to those in need. At school, we can refer disadvantaged families that would welcome more food over the Christmas period. Contact school in confidence for further information or a referral. More information about the Wellspring can be found at www.thewellspring.co.uk

