



ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

'Providing a Christ centred setting whereby everyone can live out the messages of Jesus with love, understanding and care'
St Nicholas Owen Catholic Multi Academy Company and St Mary's are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff, volunteers and visitors to share this commitment

Designated Child Protection Officers: Ms O' Beirne, Miss Mosley, Mrs Brereton and Mrs Berry.
Child Protection policy available at www.st-mary-bh.dudley.sch.uk



November 2019

Dear Parents / Carers,

This Sunday is the first Sunday of Advent. As the children are all busy preparing for their Christmas celebrations here in school, may we also remember that even amid our busy schedules and Christmas preparations, we must try not to be consumed by the commercial aspects of Christmas, but we should make time to prepare spiritually as we wait to celebrate the Saviour's birth.



This Advent sees the beginning of an important year in the Catholic Church in England and Wales: a Year of the Word. As the church's focus turns to Year 1, St Matthew's Gospel, we are asked to consider the many ways in which God speaks to us: through the Bible, through Prayer, through other people.

To launch the Year of the Word in our Archdiocese, Archbishop Bernard Longely will celebrate the 4:30 pm Mass in St Chad's Cathedral on **Saturday 30th November** - the Vigil of the First Sunday of Advent. **Everybody is welcome.**

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank 'The Friends of St Mary's' for organising this year's Christmas Fair. It was a wonderful event, and so lovely to see so many people there. Thank you also to the school choir and Irish dancers who performed so beautifully.

Ms O'Beirne

Year 1 & 2 Christmas Performances

"The Innkeepers Breakfast"

Wednesday 11th December

2.00pm & 6.00pm

Tickets are available on ParentPay



Pre-School and Reception Performances

"The Elves and the Shoemaker"

Tuesday 17th December at 2.00pm

Wednesday 18th December at 9.15am

Tickets are available on ParentPay





Christmas Fair



Thank you to everyone who contributed to make our Christmas Fair such a wonderful event, particularly all the hard work from 'The Friends of St Mary's' who gave so much of their own time to organise and run the event.

Raffle tickets are still available, prizes include an Amazon Fire Tablet, £25.00 of vouchers, Food Hamper, Champagne and many, many more!



If you would like a ticket please contact the school office or a member of 'The Friends of St Mary's'.



A message from the Chair of the Academy Committee

Being an academy representative is a rewarding role and gives you the opportunity to be a part of the governance and leadership of the school, providing support and challenge. We are now looking to fill two positions on the Academy Committee. If anyone would like more information please contact:

cbeech@st-mary-bh.dudley.sch.uk

Samaritans Purse

Operation Christmas Child

Thank you so much to everyone who gave a shoe-box for the appeal. We delivered over 20 boxes this year.



Thank you so much to everyone that supported this year's poppy appeal.

You raised a massive £229.22!

This Advent we are taking part in "CHADD's Big Five Campaign".

CHADD works with people who are experiencing crisis or homelessness and this Advent, they need festive food, toiletries and toys.

We are asking children to help by donating these items to a class "Reverse Advent Calendar", starting from Monday 2nd December.

Thank you for your support.



WHO'S THE BEST BAKER YOU KNOW?

WE'RE LOOKING FOR BRITAIN'S BEST HOME BAKERS TO ENTER THE TENT

WWW.APPLYFORBAKEOFF.CO.UK

OR TEXT: 07544 991 683 FOR MORE INFO

APPLICATIONS CLOSE SUNDAY 5TH JANUARY 2020



ATTENDANCE

As a school we have a duty to monitor all pupils' attendance. As you know, good attendance is very important to us here at St Mary's and we are working hard to make sure that all children attend school as often as possible. We understand that children cannot help being ill, but we would urge parents to do their best to ensure that medical and dental appointments are made for outside of school hours. Below is a table showing how time off affects our child's learning.

97% and above	Less than 6 days absence a year – Less than 30 hours of learning lost Excellent attendance. Your child is giving his/herself the best chance of achieving their full potential at school.
95%	10 days absence a year – 50 hours of learning lost Your child may start to find it difficult to maintain their target levels/grades Pupils who take a 2 week holiday every year can only achieve 95% attendance.
93%	13 days absence a year – 70 hours of learning Lost Missing this much time is putting your child in an unfair position when it comes to achieving their potential.
90% and below	19 days absence – 95 hours of learning lost Your child is now classified by the Government as "Persistently Absent". Missing so much time means it will almost be impossible for your child to learn effectively. Parents of young people in this group could also face the possibility of legal action being taken by Dudley Council, including the issuing of Penalty Notices and Fines.

Early Help

An Early Help Assessment is a great way of getting your family some support whether it be with your child's behaviour, their sleeping pattern or social and emotional well-being as well as something that effects the whole family, for example, housing and finances.

It will involve a meeting with professionals from different agencies depending on your family's individual needs and a plan will be put in place to show the different support you will receive and who is responsible for getting it done.

It is not input from Social Services; it is there as a support tool only for a variety of different reasons.

If you have any questions or feel you may benefit from this please feel free to contact Ms Mosley on 01384 818435 or arrange an appointment to see her via the school office.



HAGLEY PYRAMID OF SCHOOLS PRESENTS



MOTOWN MAGIC

13TH FEBRUARY 2020

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM YOUR SCHOOL OFFICE

Tickets are now available on ParentPay.

Calendar Dates Autumn Term 2019/2020

Date	Event	Time
Friday 6th December	Class Mass—Led by Year 5	9.00am—10.00am
Wednesday 11th December	Year 1 & 2 Performance “The Innkeepers Breakfast”	2.00pm
Wednesday 11th December	Year 1 & 2 Performance “The Innkeepers Breakfast”	6.00pm
Thursday 12th December	ENFORCED CLOSURE for General Election	All Day
Friday 13th December	Mass—Led by Staff	9.00am—10.00am
Monday 16th December	Flute and Guitar Showcase	9.00am
Tuesday 17th December	Pre-School & Reception Performance “The Elves and the Shoemaker”	2.00pm
Wednesday 18th December	Year 5 Trip to Cadbury World	9.00am—3.00pm
Wednesday 18th December	Pre-School & Reception Performance “The Elves and the Shoemaker”	9.15am
Thursday 19th December	Christmas Jumper Day	All Day
Friday 20th December	Children Break up for Christmas—No After School Club	3.00pm
Monday 6th January	INSET DAY—SCHOOL CLOSED	All Day
Friday 10th January	Whole School Mass—Led by Year 6	9.00am—10.00am
Tuesday 14th January	RE Workshop for Parents—Reception Class	2.15pm—2.45pm
Wednesday 15th January	RE Workshop for Parents—Year 3	2.15pm—2.45pm
Thursday 16th January	RE Workshop for Parents—Year 2	2.15pm—2.45pm
Friday 17th January	Class Mass—Led by Year 5	9.00am—10.00am
Monday 20th January	RE Workshop for Parents—Year 6	2.15pm—2.45pm
Tuesday 21st January	RE Workshop for Parents—Year 1	2.15pm—2.45pm
Wednesday 22nd January	RE Workshop for Parents—Year 5	2.15pm—2.45pm
Thursday 23rd January	RE Workshop for Parents—Year 4	2.15pm—2.45pm
Friday 24th January	Whole School Mass—Led by Year 4	9.00am—10.00am
Friday 31st January	Class Mass—Led by Year 1	9.00am—10.00am
Friday 7th February	Whole School Mass—Led by Year 3	9.00am—10.00am
Thursday 13th February	Pyramid Concert—Motown Magic at Birmingham Town Hall	7.00pm—10.00pm
Friday 14th February	Class Mass—Led by Year 2	9.00am—10.00am
Friday 14th February	Children break up for Half Term—No After School Club	3.00pm
Monday 24th February	School re-opens to Children	8.40am
Monday 24th February	Year 6 Residential to Astley Burf	9.30am
Wednesday 26th February	Year 6 Residential—Children Return to School	3.00pm
Thursday 5th March	KS2 Lenten Service	9.00am—10.00am
Friday 6th March	Whole School Mass—Led by Year 5	9.00am—10.00am
Friday 6th March	World Book Day	All Day
Friday 13th March	Class Mass—Led by Year 4	9.00am—10.00am
Thursday 19th March	EYFS & KS1 Lenten Service	9.00am—10.00am
Friday 20th March	Class Mass—Led by Year 3	9.00am—10.00am
Friday 27th March	Whole School Mass—Led by Year 1	9.00am—10.00am
Tuesday 31st March	Parents Evening	5.00pm—7.30pm
Thursday 2nd April	Parents Evening	3.15pm—5.30pm
Friday 3rd April	Children break up for Easter	3.00pm
Friday 3rd April	No After School Club	