



The Federation of St Mary's Catholic Schools

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me"

Philippians 4:13

Respect

Compassion

Resilience

Open Day Success

Today we welcomed lots of prospective parents to St Mary's to show off how lovely the children and the environments are in both schools. We had parents visit us in the morning and afternoon, starting at the infants and then going over to the juniors. They were warmly welcomed and the stars of the show were our children who spoke to the parents, showed them around the schools, told them about all the best things and answered some questions. Well done to all the boys and girls and lets hope all those wonderful parents choose St Mary's as the school for their children.

Multi-Skills and Dance

Well done to all the 8 boys and girls who represented the infants schools in their recent multi-skills competition. They all competed so well and had such an enjoyable time flying the flag for St Mary's. Well done. In addition to this, brilliantly well done to all of Year 1 and Year 2 who performed their group dances to vast audiences of parents and carers. The children, led by our dance specialist Karen, moved wonderfully well to the tones of Michael Buble and received rapturous applause from an appreciative audience. Well done to them all.

The Kindness Principle

On Tuesday, staff and some governors were privileged to be par of a training evening in the company of Dave Whittaker. He is the author of 'The Kindness Principle' which is all about a restorative and relational approach to managing behaviour in schools. It was an enlightening evening and we will be consulting with parents and carers in the new year with regards to developing a new behaviour policy for the Federation.

Looking further ahead...

Christmas is coming and that means...lots of nativity plays, turkey dinners and carols by candle-light. The boys and girls and staff have been working extremely hard to produce these performances for next week and we are all looking forward to seeing the talents of all the pupils involved as they re-enact the story of the birth of Jesus. Have a great weekend. God Bless.



Kathryn Harrison	Chair
Olivia Lewis	Treasurer
Vicky Gregory	Secretary
Debbie Carroll	Ordinary Committee
Gill Maguire	Members

Christmas with St Mary's PTFA

Thank you for all the colourful donations from last week's non-uniform day. They have all been packaged up by the PTFA elves and are ready to raffle.

Information will follow early next week about how to win these fabulous prizes.



Christmas Card & Gift Project
Closes 11th November

Uniform Swap Shop Christmas
Jumper Takeover

Colour Hamper Donations &
Non-Uniform Day
2nd December

Christmas Quiz
9th December

Colour Hamper Draw
15th December

Christmas Carol Refreshments
19th December

Christmas Discos
19th & 20th December

Christmas Present for Every
Child

Plus funding for school
Christmas refreshments &
Movie & Bingo Nights

Multi-skills Tournament

KS1 had a fantastic experience taking part in lots of different sports. The children were a credit to our school and a credit yourselves.



They looked super smart wearing our new sports kit.

KS1 Dance

The children have been taught Dance during our PE lessons with an external dance teacher Karen Elliot. The children proudly preformed their skills in front of parents and loved ones.



Saints Visit



Saints' Mark Percival and two of the squad visited the Juniors this week to wish us Happy Christmas. They met some of our children who go regularly to watch them play and have donated a family ticket to a match versus Wakefield next season. We will add all children who would like the chance of winning this to a draw in January.

Christmas Jumper Day

Tuesday 13th December—Infant School

Wednesday 14th December—Junior School

Children are able to come to school wearing full uniform with a Christmas jumper over the top on either Tuesday (Infants) or Wednesday (Juniors). Children from Year 1 are asked if they can leave their Christmas jumpers in school so they can wear them for each Nativity production.



If any children have outgrown their Christmas jumpers and you would like to donate them, please bring them to school on Monday.

Thank You.

Christmas Cards

Children are welcome to bring in Christmas cards. These will be put in our Christmas Post Box and they will be handed out on the last day.

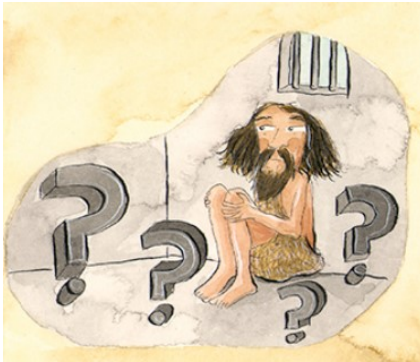
Please ensure that the year group is on the front of the envelope. If you aren't sure of all names in your child's class, please send in 30 cards signed by your child.



Sharing the Gospel

The end of the world as we know it

In this week's gospel, Matthew 11:2-11, we see John the Baptist send his disciples to ask whether Jesus really is the promised Messiah. Jesus invites John to look at his words and



deeds – they fulfil Isaiah's prophecies; and he affirms John as the messenger, foretold by Malachi, sent to prepare the way.



Mighty God,
as we leave this place with
our thoughts and
questions,
send us out hopeful and
keep hope within us,
so that your love may
be known in our
community.
Amen.

Song of the week: Hear the Bells

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qGhgBAKXD9M>

BRITISH VALUES

This week's British Value we have been looking at is:

Democracy

We all have a voice and the right to use it. Nurses in the Royal College of Nursing union have voted to strike, which is one way people can share their voice.

The story it links to in the news is:

Nurses in the Royal College of Nursing (RCN) union have voted for the union's first UK-wide strike in its 106-year history. The action will involve RCN members in more than half of hospitals and community teams, but emergency care will not be affected. Pat Cullen, who is the General Secretary of the RCN, has said nurses are getting an unfair deal and that 'members are saying enough is enough'. She also reports that the strike is for patients as well as workers, because staffing shortages are impacting access to healthcare across the UK. Nursing vacancies are at a record high, meaning staff are stretched and regularly working beyond the end of their shifts.



Are some jobs more important than others?

Sts Mary & John and St Patrick's

Christmas Fayre

St Patrick's Social Centre
Sunday 11th December

Free Entry

11:30 start

Father Christmas

Cakes

Crafts

Tombola

Raffle

Hot food and drinks

Good As New toys

Spin the Wheel



All welcome!



Business For Youth are holding a Christmas grotto on
17.12.22 10am-3pm at Business For Youth HQ on.

It is open to all families in the Newton Le Willows area and

Dates for your diary – Autumn 2 – St Mary’s Catholic Infant School	
Tuesday 13th December	Christmas jumper Day and Christmas Dinner day
Tues 13th December	KS1 Nativity performance-9.30am Reception Nativity performance-2pm
Wed 14th December	Reception Nativity performance-9.30am KS1 Nativity performance-2pm
Fri 16th December	Nursery Christmas sing a long- 2pm
Mon 19th December	6.00pm Carols by Candlelight at St Mary and John’s Church.
Wed 21st December	9.30am Whole School Mass at St Mary and John’s Church. Y2-6 School closes at 3.30.

Dates for your diary – Autumn 2 – Junior School	
Mon 12th December	9.15: 5R Class Prayer and liturgy in Junior School Hall – families welcome—POSTPONED (separate text has already been sent).
Thurs 15th December	2.00pm and 6.00pm: Y3 Christmas Production in Junior School Hall Y4 swimming (additional lesson for some children – children will be contacted separately)
Mon 19th December	6.00pm Carols by Candlelight at Ss Mary and John’s Church. All are welcome.
Wed 21st December	9:30am Whole School Mass at Ss Mary and John’s Church. Y2-6 School closes at 3.30.

STARS OF THE WEEK AND BEE AWARDS

	Star of the Week	Kindness Award
Nursery	Harry P	Bethel E
RM	Ella A	Theo J
RB	Jessica M	Raed J
Y1O	Brodie B	Robin S
Y1G	George H	Amber G
Y2M	Logan C	Freya H
Y2T	Lucas AH	Connor I

	Star of the Week	Bee Award
3Ri	Harry	Maggie
3Ro	Lola	Maddison
4W	Cole	Seren
4M	Matthew	Conor
5R	Oliver L	Joseph
5HQ	Jude	Gracie-May
6W	Zak	Mia
6D	Mason	Georgia

Respect & Manners Award

Infants: Molly N

Juniors: Thomas



School Dinners

If your child wishes to change from packed lunches to school dinners or vice versa, please inform the school office before changing, especially if your child is at the Infant school as we have to inform the kitchens at the Juniors.

