



Weekly Newsletter - Friday 6th December 2019

Email: office@stmarysinfchool.org.uk or office@stmarysjunior.org.uk or email the Governors at either school
governors@stmarysinfchool.org.uk or governors@stmarysjunior.org.uk

Executive Headteacher, Mrs S Hulme. Chair of Governors, Mr B Tomkins

Safeguarding Statement: This school takes notice of and adheres to all the national and local policies and guidance in regard to Safeguarding Children and Young People.

Lead Safeguarding Person Junior School: Mrs. S Hulme and Nursery & Infant School: Mrs. M Quinn.

Safeguarding Deputy: Mrs. S Hulme Safeguarding Governor: Mr. T Richmond

**Happy St. Nicholas Day
(6th December 2019)**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for the most generous contributions made in the run up to Christmas, enabling many gifts to go to children in Africa, food for the foodbank, donations for the Christmas Fayres in preparation for the coming of Jesus! We are hearing the joyful songs full of promise and anticipated joy led by the innocence of our children.

Let us all take on that shared joy and be true followers on Christ in this very busy world of elections and family gatherings as well as those experiencing difficulties.

Given the chance, the children set amazing examples and we as adults need to do this in return. So we are asking that you turn off the computers and SMART phones for one night each week leading up to Christmas. Take the time to share memories, reminisce and enjoy whole family time. Who knows it may turn into a regular habit in the new year too! Share a family novel or play a board game, we need to appreciate each other's company and savour each gift from God.

We hear pleas from the church and politicians asking for us to take greater care of our planet- let's start today, together! Good luck.

Spirituality

Sunday 8th December - 2nd Sunday of Advent

Morning reflection is issued every week by our Chaplain and is available on the school's website: <https://www.smcsc.org.uk/spirituality.php>

All children at the Junior school had the opportunity to walk with their year group to the chapel at St Philomena's this week. Deacon Errol (Chaplain of St Philomena's) and Mrs Norbury (our chaplain) led us in Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. The children sang together, prayed together and spent some time in silent, personal reflection. Back at school, we reflected on how this had made us feel, and for many of the children they said they really enjoyed the time they had spent with Jesus in such a peaceful and calm environment. A Y5 child told us that he "felt really close to Jesus there, and I could share anything."

Advent started this week in school and we have lit the first candle on our school Advent Wreath. Children in the Junior School will each have a turn to take home a 'travelling crib'. Please let your child show you what is in the gift bag they bring home from school: a crib with figures, a candle, a prayer book and a card explaining what to do. The children have been told NOT to light the candle without an adult. They know too that prayers written in the book can be shared in their home language. Thank you for sharing this time with your children as we prepare for Christmas and for ensuring that the bag is put with their school shoes so that it is not forgotten the next day!

 Table Talk Topic for this week -Just a reminder, that we have a Prayer intention book in the Reception area of each school. Please feel free to write your intentions in as you wish. Thank you to those who have added to it. Please take the time to read it when visiting the school.

News for the week

Next week's upcoming dates

Infants - Tues 10th Dec, Reception Nativity at 2pm, refreshments from 1.40pm
Infants - Weds 11th Dec, Reception Nativity at 9.30am, refreshments from 9am
Juniors - Weds 11th Dec, Year 3 Nativities at 1.30pm and 6.45pm
Infants - Thurs 12th Dec, Year 1 Carols around the Crib at 6pm
Infants - Fri 13th Dec, Nursery AM Nativity at 10.30am, refreshments from 10am
Infant - Fri 13th Dec, Nursery PM Nativity at 2.20pm, refreshments from 2pm

Music and Choir Year 2

Congratulations to Year 2 for their wonderful Christmas Carol Service on Wednesday night at Holy Cross Church, our first this season. You all sang beautifully and shared the true message of Christmas. We look forward to the further presentations next week.

Used postage stamps

We now have collection boxes in each school collecting stamps for recycling. These will be sent off to support the RNIB charity. This is a great way to start this during the Christmas season, when we enjoy receiving our special cards and letters.

Uniform

We continue to remind parents that full school uniform is expected including uniform coats, winter accessories- scarves, gloves and hats. Neither boots nor booties are allowed to be worn in school, but can be worn for the journey and then changed. Thank you for the families who have responded positively to these requests especially school uniform haircuts. The children are proud of their school and comments made about their smart appearance.



Stars of the Week - Week ending 6th December 2019

**Reindeer Class - Beatrix N, Cheetah Class - Callum R, Giraffe Class - Sebastian W,
Meerkat Class - Jacob K, Horse Class - Noah A, Owl Class - Ciara D**
Well done to all of the Stars of the week!