



NEWSLETTER 30th November 2018

ADVENT 2 (AUTUMN) TERM

Dear Families/ Carers,

November is almost at an end and this Sunday we celebrate the first Sunday of Advent, where we light the first Advent candle on the wreath. We hope the children can join us for 11a.m Mass this Sunday 2nd of December at St Mary's church for the first Advent Sunday Mass. We welcome you to our Advent wreath blessing liturgy this Monday 3rd December at 11a.m, where Fr Paul will be blessing our new class Advent wreaths.

Over the next couple of weeks children will be completing assessments to check their progress for this term and are busy rehearsing for Nativities and carol concerts too. They will also be enjoying the pantomime in the school hall on Monday afternoon.



ST Mary's church Christmas Fair!

Saturday 1st December 11a.m -2p.m : we need more children

to sing at 12p.m!

Please let Miss Jordan know if your children can sing at 12p.m in the school hall. Saturday the 1st of December in the parish and school hall. The school youth group will be running a stall and we invite pupils from St Marys to sing at 12p.m some Christmas carols. Christmas gifts for sale, Jewellery, food, Christmas cakes and preserves, tombola ,games and more. Come along and get your Christmas presents.

LEPRA Assembly and charity day on the 10th December 2018

Keiran Allen visited school this week to talk to the children about Lepra and give out the fundraising envelopes and badges. We know that the lead up to Christmas can be very difficult financially for everyone and are very thankful for your generosity. If you can afford to help this charity out, please return the Lepra envelope on the 10th of December, where the children will do a fun work out on the 10th of December at 9a.m. Some Year 5 children have asked if families would be able to donate a pound for children to wear their own clothes that day or dress as something they would like to be in the future, such as a doctor or teacher etc.... Another group of Year 4 children have asked to selling sweets and toys on that day for Lepra. I am immensely proud of the thoughtful response of the children to the plight of others, they are living out their Catholic faith.

Pupil Absences

It is vital that you ring school on the morning that your child is absent due to sickness. If they have been away for two days or more, we need a short written letter to say why they were absent. We appreciate your help on this,

as it saves the office staff a lot of time, having to call each parent and helps us to put the correct reasons why your child has been absent.



Free Christmas crafts for Primary school children and their parents

Leicestershire

County Council: Go learn Adult learning service.

5th December: 3.30p.m -5p.m: Gorse Covert Community Centre. Or at the Loughborough Moira Centre
Thursday 6th to 20th December 3.30p.m- 5p.m.

Use a range of crafts to support your child's learning.

Make new friends.

Spend quality time with your child.

Ring Pauline on 7944055723/01163055636 for more information or to book a place.

School Phone App: Thank you to the large majority of parents who said they have downloaded and use the phone app. Data from the phone App indicates that 177 users receive the newsletter and notifications to their phones, although some are staff, showing that not all parents have downloaded it.

It is essential to download the app, especially if we have to notify parents about weather issues, or any changes to clubs or collecting children. Please let the school know immediately of any changes to phone numbers.

Newsletters are always on the website too and you are notified immediately on the phone app of any important events.



CHANGE

Thank you, we do appreciate your prompt payments for school dinners, trips and other items. However as a small school, we do not keep large amounts of cash on the premises, as our financial system is automated. We understand that it can be difficult, but are unable to give change. Please send in, as close as possible the exact amount for payments. The finance team for our Thomas Aquinas Academy will be introducing over time a cashless system in all their schools for payments.



Loughborough School Nursing team

Headlice: The school nursing team has advised the school, that headlice letters should no longer be sent out. Their advice was that the child should not be absent from school and that the most effective way of treating headlice is every 3 days to use a conditioner on your child's hair and run through carefully with a fine toothed comb for a 14 day stretch.

The school nursing team will be starting their monthly drop in sessions in the New Year at school but have also popped in, if the school has needed to make a referral. Please do let Miss Jordan know if you would like the school to make a referral.

You can also speak to them on: parent chat health 07520615381.

Menphys Catholic Schools Carol Concert: Friday 7th of December 2018

Tickets are selling very quickly and there are not many left.

Tickets are on sale from De-Montford Hall. Email: dmh-tickets@leicester.gov.uk or see the website: www.demontforthall.co.uk. It is a wonderful Christmas event to attend, even if your child is not singing in it. You will need to buy the tickets quickly from De-Montford, Hall to be seated on the closer seats to the Stage. The children in the juniors who have been rehearsing, will be going to Sacred Heart to practise on Monday 3rd in the afternoon, but will be back for the Pantomime. They will be leaving for the rehearsal at Demontford Hall at 8.40a.m on Friday the 7th of December and must be in school promptly with a packed lunch.

Pantomime

This year, we have a theatre company coming to school for the children to watch the pantomime 'Dick Whittington' on Monday 3rd of December at 2p.m. For December 2019, we would like to take the whole school to watch the pantomime 'Jack and the Beanstalk' at Loughborough Town Hall. We have been told that we cannot book until January 2019 for the school's booking. However, tickets for the public for the pantomime are available from this week. As soon as we are allowed to book, we will inform parents.

Mr Mount: The pressure is reducing in his eye after successful treatment, however Mr Mount will be away for a further week. Mr Wright, Miss Jordan and Mrs Davis will be teaching the class. I know you will keep Mr Mount in your prayers.

Label uniform/ PE kits/ Coats

We have an increasing amount of lost property and always try to reunite property back with the children, especially jumpers, as we know how expensive everything can be for families. Please help us to do this, by labelling everything, even if it is just written by pen.

Children's Choir; Christmas Concert

Loughborough United Reformed Church

Maria Verentina runs the school choir at St Mary's and has asked if any of the children would attend this concert.

Rehearsal 30th November at 5p.m

Rehearsal 1st December at 4p.m

Concert 1st December at 5p.m.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND COLLECTIVE WORSHIP



Invitation to school Liturgies/ assemblies: Families are very welcome to attend school assemblies/ Liturgies as follows:

Tuesdays 9a.m Prayer and liturgy led by the Headteacher or classes.

Fridays 9a.m Achievement assembly

No Tuesday Liturgy, due to the Advent Wreath blessing at 11a.m on Monday. Due to Nativities, there will be no further class Liturgies until the New Year.

REMINDER: Achievement Assembly will be on Friday 7th December next week, led by Mrs Richardson, Mrs Abell and Mrs Devine, as Miss Jordan will be at the Menphy's rehearsal with the children.

Years , 4, 5 and 6 Reconciliations. For Advent, Children who have made the Sacrament of Reconciliation can have their Confession on a Thursday with Fr Paul. Next week we start with Year 4 and the following week will be Year 5/6.

Fundraising: Well-done to Year Five girls who have been raising money from their own ideas for the Rainbow's Hospice, they have now met their target of £50.

**ST MARY'S FRIENDS: FOSM:**

WE WOULD LIKE YOUR IDEAS! There is a booklet by the front table to write your ideas. All parents are welcome to join!

We would love some more outdoor play equipment and ICT tablets around school. This would benefit every child in school. What else do you think we should have in school? Please help us to fundraise for it?

Next Meeting: 6th December at 3.30pm. There is child care provided. Please do come along, it is a great way to meet other parents!

FOSM EVENTS: Can you help out at these?

23rd November : School Disco

18th December: 3.15p.m- 5p.m Christmas Fair

Mobile phones: Year 6 are only allowed a phone in school, if they are walking home by themselves and the phone must be left in the school office all day. If a child is seen with a phone on the school playground, they will be told to keep it in the school office and parents contacted.

Dates for Your Diary

At St Mary's we are always trying to improve our communication with you. Families requested last term, that they would like more advance notice of events, which we will endeavour to do. With the term dates, as an Academy we have kept to the Leicestershire term dates for 2018-19, after consultation with parents last year. 2019-20 dates are on the website.

Monday 3 rd December	Dick Whittington pantomime in school 2p.m
Friday 14 th Dec	9.30a.m: EYFS St Leo's Nativity performance to parents.
Tuesday 18 th Dec	9.30 : Ks1 Nativity Performance 1 Christmas Fair : 3.15 - 5p.m
Wednesday 19 th Dec	2.30p.m: Ks1 Nativity Performance 2
Thursday 20 th Dec	Christmas jumper day 6p.m at St Mary's church: KS2 Carols by candlelight (this replaces the KS2 Nativity.)
Friday 21 st Dec	Last day of the Autumn Term School finishes at 1.30p.m
Christmas Holidays 2 weeks	Monday 24 th Dec - Monday 4 th January: Mon 7 January th Inset day: staff training School Reopens Tuesday 8 th January 2019

Thank you in advance for working with us to ensure the best for your child. I'd like to set up a regular parent's forum this year, so please do let me know when you think would be a good time to run this and if you would like to be involved with setting up our policies.

The next newsletter will be on the Website next Friday the 30th of November. Have a super weekend and enjoy the feast of Christ the King!

Yours sincerely,

Miss P Jordan Headteacher

Spring Term

INSET Day – School closed to pupils	Monday 7 January 2019
Spring Term begins for pupils	Tuesday 8 January 2019

Last day of 1 st half term	Friday 15 February 2019
Half Term Break - 1 week	Monday 18 February to Friday 22 February 2019
School Re-Opens after half term break	Monday 25 February 2019
Last day of Spring term	Friday 12 April 2019
Easter Break - 2 weeks	Monday 15 April to Friday 26 April 2019

Summer Term	
Summer Term begins for pupils	Monday 29 April 2019
May Day Bank Holiday	Monday 6 May 2019
Last day of 1 st half term	Friday 24 May 2019
Half Term Break – 1 week	Monday 27 May to Friday 31 May 2019
School Re-Opens after half term break	Monday 3 June 2019
INSET Day – School closed to pupils	Friday 21 June 2019
Last day of Summer term	Friday 12 July 2019 (1/2 day)
Summer Break	Monday 15 July 2019