



St. Mary's Newsletter

December 2017



At St. Mary's we aim to provide an environment for all members of our school community where positive attitudes to learning and creativity are promoted and valued within the context of Christian belief and practice.

Core Christian Values: Compassion, Friendship, Koinonia and Trust.

Christian Values: Justice

This half term we are focussing on 'Justice'. The display in the school hall explores what this means to us.

'But let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream.'

Amos 5:24

Mrs Marian Wakeley

After nearly 29 years of service here at St Mary's, Marian Wakeley will be retiring from her role as a Midday Supervisor. We are indebted to her for looking after the children over this considerable period of time and she will be missed by us all. We are organising a collection to buy a gift for her, so if you would like to contribute to this, please hand your contribution to Miss Kilvington-Wray in the office by Friday 15th December thank you.

Aviva Community Award

A huge thank you to Mr Hall who has organised and supported our Aviva Community Award bid. We have been awarded £300 which will contribute towards improvements in our Forest School area and to astroturf outside School House.

Children in Need

Thank you to the School Council for organising a fantastic spotty non-uniform day and for baking and selling cakes too. We raised a fantastic total of £213.04 for Children in Need. Thank you for your amazing generosity, which I am certain will be warmly welcomed by its recipients.

Grandparents' Morning

A final reminder that our Grandparents' Morning is taking place on Wednesday this week, the 6th, from 9am to 12pm. We look forward to seeing as many Grandparents as possible!

School Sport

Congratulations to the Year 4 Hockey Team who won the Ebor Schools Competition! The team now progress to the North Yorkshire Finals on Sunday 8th July. Our Year 2 team also did the school proud, winning most of their games and finishing second — very well done to you all.

Congratulations to the school football team who beat Skelton 6-2 in our home league game.

Very well done to our Year 1 Quad Kids team who performed at Energise. They completed running, jumping and throwing activities in competing against other schools.

Thank you to Mrs Boast, Mrs Walmsley, Mrs Beighton and parents for your support.

We also had Tennis Tots taster sessions for all classes in school last week. The children enjoyed the sessions despite the cold weather!

FOSM Christmas Fair

This will be taking place on Saturday 9th December, from 12pm to 2pm. There will be many activities taking place including children's games, tombola, cakes, teas & coffees, stalls, raffle, turkey rolls, and Father Christmas will be visiting too. We look forward to seeing you all there.

Christmas Nativity

A reminder that our Christmas Nativity at Askham Bryan College Hall on Wednesday 13th starts at 6pm. Doors will open at 5.40pm.

York Schools and Youth Trust (YoYo)

On Thursday 7th December the YoYo team will be working with some of the children in class and presenting their collective worship entitled 'It's your Christmas' for the children.

Personal Social Health Education

We are implementing a new PSHE scheme in school. This will focus on different topics including right and wrong, communities, rights and responsibilities, feelings and relationships, health & hygiene, plus in Key Stage 2, the world of work, money management, democracy, life in Britain today, living in a global community, mental health and good & active citizenship.

School uniform stall

This will take place on Monday 11th December, 8.30-8.45am. This will include both new and nearly new items at reduced prices.

Christmas Dinner

School will be serving Christmas dinner on Wednesday 20th December. If your child would like a dinner, please could you ensure that your reply slip is returned by Tuesday 12th December, thank you.

Safeguarding

If your child is poorly, please inform the school office by 9.00am and provide a absence letter on their return to school. If this is due to sickness or diarrhoea, then the NHS and DfE recommendation is that children do not return until at least 48 hours after their last sickness or diarrhoea. This is recommended so that it reduces the

chance of being passed on to other children and adults. Many thanks with your understanding on this matter.

Family Help

York Family Information Service is a free and impartial information service for mums, dads and carers of children and young people aged 0-19 (or up to 25 for disabled children). They can help with anything and everything around family life. They can be contacted on 01904 554444 and at fis@york.gov.uk

There are also a range of parenting courses offered by Family Matters York. These can be found at <https://fmy.org.uk/parenting> Finally, there are online parenting resources available <https://familylinks.org.uk/parents>

Snacks at playtime and food allergies

Please be aware that some children in school have specific allergies and some have severe reactions to nuts. With this in mind, please remember that every day, children in Foundation and Key Stage 1 receive a piece of free fruit, under a Government scheme. All snacks for playtime must be either fresh or dried fruit.

Dates for your diary

- Wednesday 6th: Grandparents' Morning, 9am-12pm
- Saturday 9th: FOSM Christmas Fair, 12pm-2pm
- Monday 11th: School uniform stall
- Wednesday 13th: Christmas Nativity at Askham Bryan Conference Hall, 6pm start
- Tuesday 19th: Carols around the Christmas Tree (by invitation only for local residents)
- Wednesday 20th: School Christmas dinner
- Friday 22nd: Last day of term
- Monday 8th January: Term starts (no training day)

From myself and all at St Mary's, we wish you and all your family a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year.