



St. Mary's Newsletter

December 2018



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: Friendship

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

'A friend loves at all times.'

Proverbs 17:17

Book Fair

Thank you to our parent helpers at the Book Fair—Mrs Futers, Mrs Roberts, Mrs Kay, Mrs MacGilchrist and Mrs Reilly. With all the books that you bought, we raised £252—even more than last year! - which will be used to buy more books for the children to use and enjoy in class.

Children in Need

Thank you to the School Council for organising a fantastic yellow and spotty non-uniform day for Children in Need. We again raised over £200! 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 the 5th, from 9am to 11.45pm. We look forward to seeing as many Grandparents as possible!

FOSM Christmas Fair

This will be taking place on Saturday 8th 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.

FOSM St. Crux

Last Saturday we had an army of FOSM, parent and staff helpers running St Crux in town. Thank you to everyone, including all the children who very kindly helped too. As a result of their hard work and all the generous donations from you all, we managed to raise an outstanding £1,090! This is considerably more than we would normally raise, and as you know, this money will all go towards more resources and equipment in school for all our children. An enormous thank you to everyone for your time and efforts, you should be very proud of your achievement.

Christmas Nativity

A reminder that our Christmas Nativity at Askham Bryan College Hall on Friday 14th starts at 6pm. Doors will open at 5.40pm.

York Schools and Youth Trust (YoYo)

On Monday 26th November the YoYo team came in to school to work with some of the children in class and lead their collective worship entitled 'It's your Christmas' for the children.

School Sport

Congratulations to the Year 2 Hockey Team who won the Ebor Schools Competition! They played so well that they won all their games. Thank you to Mrs Beighton for taking the children to the tournament. Our Year 4 team also did tremendously well, narrowly

finishing second — very well done to you all.

School Uniform Stall

This will take place on Monday 10th December, 8.30-8.45am. This will include both new and nearly new items at reduced prices.

Christmas Lunch

School will be serving Christmas lunch on Wednesday 19th December. If your child would like a lunch, please could you ensure that your reply slip is returned by Tuesday 11th December so that sufficient food can be ordered, 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 for your understanding in this matter.

This week we carried out our termly fire alarm drill. All children and adults were lined up and accounted for in an impressive 2 minutes and 24 seconds. Our new Reception children were particularly impressive in how they calmly managed the drill. Thank you to staff and children for carrying this out so successfully.

Please may I politely remind parents that we ask that classrooms and school is vacated at 8.45am when the school bell rings so that we can begin registration and start our learning for the day.

Family Help

Local Area Teams Information Service (formerly 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 and parenting, including a range of courses. Their web address is <http://www.york-ok.org.uk/families/> and they can be contacted on 01904 554444 and at fis@york.gov.uk There are also a range of parenting courses offered by the Family Matters York. These can be found at <https://fmy.org.uk/parenting> Finally, there are online parenting resources available at <https://familylinks.org.uk/parents>

Nut Allergy Aware School—Snacks at Playtime

Please be aware that we have individuals in school who have specific allergies and some have severe reactions to nuts so we ask that no nuts or food containing nuts is brought in to school. 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 5th: Grandparents' Morning, 9am-11.45am
- Saturday 8th: FOSM Christmas Fair, 12pm-2pm
- Monday 10th: School uniform stall
- Friday 14th: Christmas Nativity at Askham Bryan Conference Hall, 6pm start
- Tuesday 18th: Carols around the Christmas Tree (by invitation only for local residents)
- Wednesday 19th: School Christmas dinner
- Thursday 20th: St Mary's Church Carol Service
- Friday 21st: Last day of term
- Monday 7th January: Training Day
- Tuesday 8th January: Term starts

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