



St. Mary's Newsletter

January 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.

Happy New Year!

A very happy New Year and welcome back to all our families and we hope that together we can make it a happy and successful year for your child. Please ensure that any new items of clothing are clearly named. Water bottles and book bags are also available to purchase from the school office if required.

Christian Values: Compassion

This half term we will be thinking about compassion, which is one of our core Christian values.

'The Lord is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger in rich in love. The Lord is good to all; he has compassion on all he has made.'

Psalm 145: 8-9

Winter Weather

In times of ice and snow, the priority is the safety and wellbeing of children, parents and staff. If you are able to transport your child safely, please ensure that they are appropriately dressed for the cold and wet weather.

May I also remind parents of the school's 'Snow Procedures'. If the decision is made to close the school, a message will be relayed to Minster FM and Radio York as soon as possible. It will also be placed on the school's website, as soon as possible: www.stmarysprimaryschool.co.uk Please listen carefully in the morning to the local radio for information about school closures. This would be our only means of communication with parents in these circumstances.

Friends of St. Mary's (FOSM) Annual Ceilidh

Come and join in a fun evening on Saturday 27th January, for our FOSM Annual Ceilidh. This will be taking place at Askham Bryan College Conference Hall. A haggis supper, live music from Pugwash Convention and dancing will be on offer! Tickets are available from FOSM for only £15. Please encourage your friends to come along and book a table for the evening.

School uniform stall

The next school uniform stall will take place on Monday 15th January, 8.30-8.45am.

Maths Parent Workshop

The Maths Parent Workshop is scheduled for Tuesday 23rd January. Our focus this year is time.

Free School Meals

Application forms for Free School Meals are available from the school office. We would strongly encourage anyone who is eligible to take up this offer as this also releases additional funding for school.

Safeguarding

Please remember that with any new mobile phones received over Christmas you will need to inform the office if you have a new number. We need to have up-to-date contact numbers at all times for emergencies.

With the possible addition of new computer equipment over the festive period, please check that parental settings are activated

for children. Please also note that children are not allowed mobile phones in school. A useful website for parents regarding e-safety can be found at

www.internetmatters.org/

I am pleased to say that last term it was noted that there was a reduction in late arrivals to school on a morning, with children in class and ready for registration at 8.45am prompt. This results in children being more settled on arrival in class than when late and helps staff to maximise the learning time that we have with the children. A big thank you from myself and the staff for your continued support with this.

Medicines in school

Just a reminder that school will administer 'prescribed medicines' only and a full copy of the policy is available on request. The City of York Council Health and Safety Team have also advised that this includes 'throat sweets'. Any medicated throat lozenge would need to be prescribed by a doctor and any other throat sweet would come under the school's 'no sweet' policy. For children with sore throats who are deemed fit enough for school, please administer any throat sweet before and after school. Water is available for the children during the school day to ease their condition.

Governor profile

In each newsletter we will be providing an Governor profile so that you can get to know our school Governors.

Mr. Steve Jones: Headteacher

I was appointed Headteacher of St. Mary's Church of England Primary School in October 2016, having previously been Deputy Headteacher at the school for 9 years. I strongly believe in the development of all children as individuals and learners, offering many different and varied experiences to promote this. During my time

as Headteacher at St. Mary's, we have successfully maintained our Outstanding grading following our Section 48 Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools.

I initially moved to York in 1999 to undertake my PGCE in Primary Education at St. John's University. Once completed, I was fortunate enough to obtain a teaching position at Clifton with Rawcliffe Primary School, teaching there for 7 years. In my spare time I enjoy playing golf and football.

Dates for your diary:

Monday 8th Start of term

Monday 8th Year 1/2 Gymnastics Club starts, 3.20-4.20pm

Thursday 11th Year 3/4 Total Energy Club starts, 3.20-4.20pm

Friday 12th Year 5/6 Touch Rugby Club starts, 3.20-4.20pm

Monday 15th School uniform stall

Tuesday 23rd Maths Parent Workshop

Thursday 25th YoYo collective worship

Saturday 27th FOSM Ceilidh, Askham Bryan College Conference Hall

We wish you all a very Happy New Year.

Thank you for your continued help and support. Looking forward to making 2018 a great year to remember!