



St. Mary's Newsletter

November 2019



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

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.

Welcome back

It has been a busy first half of term so I hope that you and the children have enjoyed a relaxing half-term break and are looking forward to all the exciting events leading up to Christmas!

Christian Values: Forgiveness

This half term we are focussing on the Christian value of forgiveness. The display in the school hall explores what this means to us.

Forgive us our sins, as we also forgive everyone who sins against us.

Luke 11:4

Staffing

I would like to say a huge thank you to Mrs Amanda Godbolt for all that she has done in supporting the school, the staff, the children and I over the 13 years that she has worked at St. Mary's. She has always worked diligently, fulfilling many different roles across the school, including Administrative Officer, Midday Supervisory Assistant and Teaching Assistant. We wish Mrs Godbolt all the very best in her new role, in which she will no doubt be very successful.

Following Mrs Amanda Godbolt's departure we welcome Mrs Amanda Cooper to the role of Administrative Officer. This is a temporary appointment for the remainder of the term, during which we will be recruiting a permanent replacement.

I am pleased to announce that Mrs Angela Holliday returns to school today following her recent long-term absence. She is on a phased return over the next few weeks to support her return to work and it is great to have her back in Class One. Mrs Louise Dodds will also remain in Class One during this period to ensure a smooth transition for the children.

Finally, we have appointed Mrs Debbie Wilson-Deakin as our new Midday Supervisory Assistant who also starts in her role from today. We warmly welcome both to the St. Mary's family.

Mrs Cooper's Award

Mrs Cooper's Award is a very special award that is presented every half term to a child who has displayed outstanding personal qualities and Christian values. The award for the first half-term was presented to Jack Dale. Mrs Beighton chose Jack because of his support of others and putting them before himself – very well done Jack!

Harvest Service

Thank you to all of you who were able to join us for our Harvest Service. The children impressed us all with their performing, singing and speaking throughout the service. Thank you for your kind donations which will be split between St Mary's Church and Christian Aid.

Remembrance Day

We will be holding our Remembrance Service for children and staff on Monday 11th November. Poppies have been ordered and will be available for parents of KS1 pupils to buy from 8.30–8.45am in KS1, and will be taken up to our KS2 classes for our KS2 children to buy afterwards for the rest of the week and Monday next week. This will be carried out by School Council members. Remember to wear your poppy with pride. Families are invited to St Mary's Church Remembrance Service starting at 9am on Sunday 10th November.

Little St. Mary's Out of School Club

OOSC is available for all parents to use before and after school during term time only. The club is run as an extended school facility and is registered with OFSTED. The club is available from 3.15pm–6.00pm, Monday to Friday, and a snack is provided. Children have a selection of activities and crafts to choose from including cookery, sport, games, and art. In addition to this provision, they also run an 'Early Bird' session from 3.15pm–4.00pm, Monday to Friday and Breakfast Club from 7.45am–8.30am, Monday to Friday, with children taken in to school by staff at 8.30am. For further information or to make a booking please contact Sandra Carr or Katie

Sowden on 01904 777072 or 07538 030546 or email info@littlestmaryspreschool.co.uk

Fees for regular users are £8.50 per session and for casual users £9.00 per session. Early Bird sessions are offered at £5.50.

LSM also run a Breakfast Club from 7.45am to 8.30am Monday to Friday. A breakfast of cereal, toast, fruit and juice is available.

Children engage in a range of activities before being brought in to school at 8.30am. For further information or to make a booking, again please contact Sandra Carr or Katie Sowden on 01904 777072 or 07538 030546 or email info@littlestmaryspreschool.co.uk The fee for the Breakfast Club is £3.50 per session.

Anti-Bullying Week

As part of Anti-Bullying Week we have planned an assembly around this year's theme of 'Change starts with us'. The children will also be carrying out follow up work in class during the week.

Children in Need

This year Children in Need takes place on Friday 15th November. More information will follow from our School Council shortly.

Friends of St Mary's (FOSM)

A huge thank you to FOSM for all the hard work that they do for our children. The Film Night was a great success so thank you to all who organised the event and helped supervise the children. The money raised will be spent on further resources for the children throughout school.

The FOSM AGM is taking place tonight (Monday 4th November) here at school, starting at 7.30pm. We would love to see as many parents as possible at the meeting, & please remember that we are looking for people to sign up to help for just one or two events during the year, working alongside other willing volunteers. Any help, whether little or large, is always greatly appreciated by FOSM and school.

School Uniform Stall

The next school uniform stall will take place on Monday 11th November, 8.30-8.45am. This will include both new and nearly new items at reduced prices. Thank you to Mrs Barratt for kindly continuing to run and organise this for parents and school.

Flyers and Leaflets

From time to time we will send home flyers and leaflets for local events and opportunities for children. We do this to support our local area, signposting these events and

opportunities rather than endorsing them.

Winter Clothing

As the weather turns more seasonal, please ensure that your child has a coat, hat, scarf and gloves for playtimes. We try to get the children outside wherever possible, so these items are needed every day. All items of clothing must be named. Children are allowed to wear boots or wellingtons during playtimes, however, these must be changed into school shoes for indoors. This helps us keep the carpets and school clean, and Mr Ripley happy!

Winter Weather and Snow Procedures

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 to the local radio in the morning for information about school closures. These would be our only means of communication with parents in these circumstances.

Dates for your diary:

- Monday 4th: FOSM AGM, St Mary's, 7.30pm
- Sunday 10th: St Mary's Church Remembrance Service, 9am
- Monday 11th: School uniform stall, 8.30-8.45am
- Friday 15th: Children in Need
- Friday 29th November: Non-Uniform Day—donations of gifts for Christmas Fair
- Wednesday 4th December: Grandparents' Morning, 9.00am-11.45am
- Saturday 7th December: Christmas Fair 12.00-2.00pm

Many thanks for your continued help and support.