



Saint Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy

www.st-marysrc.derbyshire.sch.uk

 @saintmaryscatholicvoluntaryacademyglossop

FRIDAY LETTER

21st December 2018

Christmas Performances...

Mass Times:

St Mary Crowned-Sunday 9.30 am

All Saints- Saturday 6pm, Sunday 11 am

Reverse Advent...

**Catholic Social Teaching Theme
this half term:**

Dignity of the Human Person

Attendance Awards...



Saint Ralph Sherwin

Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Dear Parent/Carers,

What a busy week! The children have taken part in lots of festive activities which have really helped to prepare their hearts and minds for the coming of Christ Jesus at Christmas.

In this final Friday letter of the Advent Term, I would like to thank you all for your continued support, exciting times are ahead, as we continue to focus on improving the school and ensuring that all of our pupils achieve their full potential. You should have received a letter yesterday from Samantha Buller, Chair of Governors, highlighting the progress that the school has made towards the actions on the School Development Plan.

Advent Mass

On Thursday, Father Gregory celebrated Mass with our school community. The Mass was focused on the theme of 'Encountering Jesus in the manger'. It was heartwarming to hear the children's responses during Mass and their singing was beautiful. Lots of parishioners and members of the community commented upon the children's conduct and behaviour throughout the Mass. Thank you very much to Mrs Hall for all her hard work in leading the Liturgy Council in the organisation of the Mass. Next half term, Joe Hopkins, Lead Lay Chaplain from the St Ralph Sherwin CMAT will support staff and pupils in developing Collective Worship across the school.

Key Stage 2 Christmas Worship

On Wednesday, the Key Stage 2 pupils really impressed us with their retelling of the Nativity. We were all very proud of the pupils who worked so hard with their performances and extremely impressed with the acting and the enthusiastic singing. The performance really reminded us of the true meaning of Christmas. A big thank you also to all of the Key Stage 2 team, who worked so hard in preparing the children for this performance.

Christmas Masses

It would be wonderful to see all our families at church over the Christmas period to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

The First Christmas Mass is at 6 pm on Christmas Eve at St Mary Crowned, starting with Carols at 5.30 pm. The Christmas Day Mass is at All Saints' at 11 am. All are welcome!

Christmas Jumper Day

Thank you for your £1 donations to the Mary's Meals charity which provides a meal a day in an educational setting in developing countries.

Half Term Honours

Brilliant Behaviour

Charlie, Benjamin, Frances, Sophia H, Molly K, Freddie and James.

Awesome Attainment

Thomas, Frankie, Heidi, Alex, Megan, Lizzie and Billy.

Super Star

Matilda, Flynn, Daisy, Emily B, Angus, Freya and Lily.

Perfect Progress

Arria-Rose, Jimmy, Toby, Lilly, Tymon, Jessica and Calvin.

Faithful Follower

Emily, Harvey, Leo, Ceasar, Sophie, Kelsi and Noriko.

Sacramental Programme

During this period of Advent, our parishioners have really enjoyed seeing lots of the Sacramental Programme candidates and their families at the 9.30 am Sunday Mass at St Mary Crowned.

It is very important that the children do attend Mass every Sunday, in order for them to prepare for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. I am looking forward to seeing all candidates at church on this final Sunday of Advent. Please can we ask that the children continue to sit on the front benches with myself and Tina Coomber. The Sacramental Programme sessions will start on Sunday 13th January. A letter will be sent out in the first week of term, with all the dates and details of the programme.

Reverse Advent

Our Reverse Advent initiative has been extremely successful this year. It has been heartwarming to see the children focusing on the act of giving during this Advent season. Susan from Glossop Food Bank thanked the children during our Half Term Honours assembly and the Liturgy Council helped with packing the bags and loading the car! There were over 250 food items, thank you very much for your generous donations!

100% Attendance Awards

At our Half Term Honours assembly this morning, lots of our pupils were presented with certificates as a reward for full attendance during the Advent term. As a school, the attendance of pupils is improving, however it is an area that we will be continuing to focus on, as good attendance and punctuality is crucial in enabling children to make good progress. A letter will be sent out in early January, in regards to the school's approach to attendance and lateness.

Open Days for Prospective Parents

Reminder: There will be an open day for Prospective Parents on Wednesday January 9th 10.15 am- 11.30 am. Spread the word!

The closing date for applications for Primary school places is midnight on Tuesday 15th January 2019. Application forms can be made by phone, on paper or online at www.derbyshire.gov.uk/admissions. A supplementary form also needs to be completed and returned by the closing the date.

Parent Governor Vacancy

We have a vacancy on our board of governors for a Parent Governor. We will issue a full job specification, and information about what the role entails, but in the meantime, if you would like to express an interest in the role, then please email: clerk@st-marysrc.derbyshire.sch.uk Experience in HR is essential.

Winning House

Saint Elizabeth (Green house) collected the most proud points this term and are rewarded with a non-uniform day on Friday 11th January. It would be lovely for them to wear a green item of clothing (jumper, socks, hair bow) to represent their house.

Wishing you and your family a happy and Holy Christmas, Mrs S. Rudd

Class Attendance for 10th Dec - 14th Dec

R	98.75%
Y1	95%
Y2	96%
Y3	94%
Y4	93.8%
Y5	92%
Y6	93.8%

Winners: Reception- Well done!

Lent Term Diary

*Advanced notice – further
information to follow*

Monday 7th January 2019
School reopens for Lent Term

Wednesday 9th January
Open day for prospective parents
10:15am – 11:30am

Tuesday 15th January
Closing date for Primary
Admissions

Tuesday 22nd January
Year 6 SATs meeting (after school)

Thursday 24th January
Parents Drop-In:
Come and meet Executive
Headteacher Mr Ackers
2:45pm or 6:30pm