



# St. Mary's News

## December 6th 2019



### Countdown to Christmas—EVENTS

#### Christmas Craft Night- Friday 13th December



This is the second of our fundraising events and will take place next Friday, the 13th December, from 3.30pm—5.15pm. **Tickets have now sold out.** Children can be collected from the front door at 5.15pm.



#### Colours of Christmas Hamper Raffle—To be drawn on Tuesday 17th Dec

Many thanks to those of you who sent in donations for our Colours of Christmas Hamper Raffle and to those of you who have bought/sold tickets to support this event. In order to be entered into the raffle, all tickets must be returned to school by the evening of Mon 16th Dec at the very latest. If you need additional tickets let the office know. The raffle will be drawn on the morning of Tues 17th Dec and winners will be invited into school to select a hamper of their choice.

We will let you know how much we raised in the last newsletter of the term.

#### Christmas Movie Night—Tuesday 17th December.



We will be holding a KS1 and KS2 Christmas Movie Night this year. The Movie Night will take place on Tuesday 17th December (Christmas Day of Fun) from 3.30pm - 5.40pm (KS1) and 3.30pm - 5.50pm (KS2) in order to allow for a staggered pick up for parents with children in both key stages. Tickets cost £5 and include a drink and a packet of crisp. The KS2 Movie will be Home Alone and the KS1 Movies will be Snowman and Snowdog followed by Merry Madagascar. Tickets will go on sale on **Monday 9th December** and can be bought from the school office. Places are limited-75 KS1 tickets and 100 KS2 tickets.

#### Christmas Day of Fun



We will be having a DAY of CHRISTMAS FUN on Tuesday 17th December. Everyone can come to school dressed up Christmassy (sensible footwear for break times) and there will be lots of activities to fill the day from our very popular Christmas Pantomime to Class Selection Box Bingo. We will also be having our Christmas Dinner on that day too. If your child brings a packed lunch—why not make it a festive one!

#### Christmas Pantomime Tuesday 17th December—Sleeping Beauty

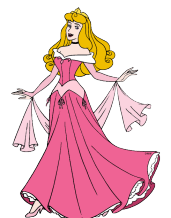


As part of our Christmas Day of Fun, we will be holding our very popular Christmas Pantomime. This year the pantomime will be Sleeping Beauty. It costs school £1000 to host the pantomime, but the production is fantastic and well worth the cost. We have priced taking the children out to the theatre instead, but theatre tickets and steep coach prices mean that it would cost considerably more and would mean that our children would be unable to experience a great Christmas tradition.

The PTFA have kindly donated £500 toward the cost of the Pantomime and we are asking for a donation of £2 per child towards the outstanding cost. School will then cover the shortfall of approximately £100.



Please do try to send in your donations, as last year we had a considerable shortfall and school struggled to cover the additional cost. If we are unable to raise enough money, we would have to consider the possibility of not having a Pantomime next year, which would be a great shame.



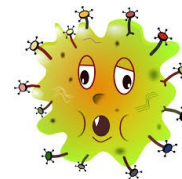
## Year 4 Sacrament of Reconciliation—Thursday 12th December

Our Year 4 children will be making their First Confession on Thursday 12th December at 2.15pm in Church. Family members are invited to join us in Church from 2.10pm.



## Sick and Diarrhoea

We are approaching the time of year when sickness and diarrhoea bugs are rife, particularly in school settings. In order to ensure that bugs don't spread, can we please stress that all children who have been absent due to sickness/diarrhoea remain off school for 48 hours after the last bout of sickness/diarrhoea. We have also stressed to the children the importance of hand washing after using the toilet.



## **Squash that**



Our Rec-Y6 children are due to have their flu spray on Friday 13th December. The spray will be administered by a team of school nurses. Information leaflets and consent forms were sent out at the beginning of the academic year and should have now been returned to school.

## Flu Vaccinations

## Bucket Filling



Mrs Hymers has chosen Ben O'B from Y6 as her bucket filler this week. Ben always has a lovely greeting for Mrs Hymers in the morning and he always looks so happy coming into school. Ben's joy ensures that Mrs Hymers' day always starts with a smile.

## Christmas Play Ticket Information

The Junior Christmas Play takes place on Wednesday 11th December at 2.00pm and 7.00pm. Tickets have been given out this week to all those families who requested tickets in their children's diaries. Requests for additional tickets can now be made—if you haven't already done so—using the children's diaries again and they will be given out on Monday 9th December.



The KS1 Christmas Play (Year 1 and Year 2) takes place on Tuesday 10th and Wednesday 11th December at 2.30pm. Please note this time may move to 2.15pm once a full run through takes place and timings are more accurate. Tickets are not needed for the KS1 play, but we ask that you only attend one performance in order to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to watch. Doors will only open ten minutes before each performance in order to give staff time to set up the halls following lunchtime. Please do not arrive too early for the productions as we do not have enough foyer space for you to gather in if the weather is bad.

The Reception children will perform their own Christmas Play on Friday 13th Dec at 2.30pm. Again tickets are not needed for this performance and doors will open ten minutes beforehand.

Unlike many schools, we do not charge for tickets, however some of our children will be shaking buckets in front of you at the end of each performance. You were very generous last year and, as always, we have many different ideas on how we can spend your kind donations.

### A Community Christmas—An Invitation



We would like to invite our more elderly parishioners and other pensioners from the local community to join us for carols and refreshments on Wednesday 18th December from 10am -11am in our Infant Hall. Our choir will perform carols and will spend time chatting with our visitors and serving refreshments.



We are really looking forward to the event and we hope that some of our local community can come along and spend time with our children. We think that it is really important that our community comes together, particularly at Christmas time, as it can be a lonely time for some and it will be wonderful opportunity for our children to spend time talking to our more elderly residents.



Please do try to come along and please extend our invitation to those pensioners who may not receive our newsletter. We are looking forward to meeting you all and

### ABC Closure—A Reminder

Just a reminder that ABC will be closed on the evening of Wed 18th Dec in order to staff to attend a school event.

It will be open as usual on the Wed morning



### ABC Closing at 4.30pm on Friday 20th December

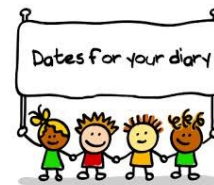
Please note that ABC will close at 4.30pm on the last day—Friday 20th December.

### **Activities for the new half term Jan 2020**

Letters have been sent home with details for all of the new sporting clubs being offered for the new half term. If your child would like to take part in any of the clubs then please complete the forms and return them back to school as soon as possible.

	Before school	Lunchtime	After school
Monday		Zumba	
Tuesday	Fun fitness		
Wednesday	KS1 Bench Ball	KS2 Benchball Recorders	Rec & KS1 Glow in the dark football
Thursday	Fun fitness	Guitars/Recorders	Choir
Friday	KS2 Dodgeball	Rec & KS1 Dodgeball	KS2 Glow in the dark

Below are a list of dates and events in school that have been confirmed for the new term. Further dates and events will be added as they arise. We will try our best to ensure that we inform you of new events/changes to events as soon as we are able.



- Tues 10th Dec 2019 Key Stage 1 Christmas Play 2.30pm  
Ticket information has been sent out for KS2.
- Wed 11th Dec 2019 Key Stage 1 Christmas Play 2.30pm  
Key Stage 2 Christmas Play 2.00pm and 7.00pm
- Thurs 12th Dec 2019 Y4 First Confession in Church 2.15pm. **PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS DATE HAS NOW BEEN CONFIRMED.** Families are welcome to attend.
- Fri 13th Dec 2019 Flu Spray Vaccinations—Rec to Y6  
Reception Christmas Play. **2.30pm TIME CONFIRMED** Infant Hall
- Tues 17th Dec 2019 Christmas Pantomime - Sleeping Beauty. Christmas Dinner.  
Christmas Day of Fun!  
Christmas Movie Night—Tickets needed.
- Wed 18th Dec 2019 Community Christmas. We would like to invite our parishioners and elderly members of our community into school to listen to our fabulous choir sing carols and for coffee/tea and mince pies. If you know of any elderly member in our community who would like to join us, please extend an invite to them. (10.00am in school)
- Fri 20th Dec 2019 Christmas celebration in Church 2.00pm. Families welcome
- Mon 6th Jan 2020 Back to school
- Tues 28th Jan 2020 Y6 Stay and Pray—families welcome. 9.00am
- Wed 5th Feb 2020 Spring Term Open Afternoon and Parents' Evening 1
- Wed 12th Feb 2020 Spring Term Open Afternoon and Parents' Evening 2
- Fri 14th Feb 2020 Close for half term

**Thought for the Weekend**

Christmas isn't about opening our presents.  
It's about opening our hearts to Christ's love.

