



St Mary's R.C. First School Newsletter – Friday 25th November, 2022



We love, we learn, we live.

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week Miss. Stoves and Miss Carr took some of our year 3 and year 4 to the Wentworth Leisure Centre to take part in the annual Skipping Festival. The skipping festival aims to increase social interaction with children from different schools whilst having fun and raising well-being and self-esteem. This fun event challenged the children to learn a wide range of skipping techniques from basic solo skipping to pairs skipping and onto large rope skipping. The behaviour and participation of the children was exemplary and they admitted to feeling challenged whilst having fun and participating in physical activity.




A reminder that tonight marks the annual Christmas lights switch on in Hexham, starting at 4pm at the Bandstand. Hexham Abbey will have carol singing and hot chocolate available too!

Have a lovely weekend,

Mrs. Oakes



Mission Statement Value Award Winners:

Class			
Reception	Eabha	Mikey	Phuc
Year 1	Kacey	Heidi	Riley
Year 2	Juliette	Ruby	Harrison
Year 3	Zach N	Sebastian	Alfie H
Year 4	Jack	Layton	Sebastian R

Attendance Please remember that every day in school counts!	
<u>Reception</u>	96.2%
<u>Year 1</u>	99.3%
<u>Year 2</u>	98.2%
<u>Year 3</u>	97.2%
<u>Year 4</u>	88.5%



Art Day

On Wednesday 30th November we would like to invite parents and carers to come into school to help support your child(ren) in creating their Christmas crafts, in readiness for our Christmas Craft Fair on Friday 9th December. School will be open to parents from 1:15pm and we ask that all parents depart school at 2pm. We look forward to sharing our Arts day with you all. We politely request that mobile phones are switched off and out of sight for the duration of your time in school.

Nativity

We have organised two performances of our Nativity this year to be held in the school hall on Monday 12th & Tuesday 13th December at 1.30pm. Due to fire regulations, tickets will be allocated at a maximum of two per child to ensure we don't exceed the capacity of the school hall. A Weduc form will be sent out on the evening of Tuesday 29th November for parents to choose which performance they wish to attend, tickets will then be allocated accordingly. School will inform parents if any spare tickets become available.

Costumes

All children will have now received a letter detailing what they will need to bring into school to wear for our nativity performance. Please can all clothes be brought into school by Monday 5th December in a named bag. If there are any questions or concerns please contact the school office.

Jar of Hope

During the last week of term, we would like to create 'Jars of Hope' with children. Children will decorate an empty jar and fill it with their hopes for 2023. We would be grateful for any donations of clean jam/pasta sauce type jars. Any donations can be sent into the school office or handed to Mrs. Oakes at the school gate.

Coats

Please ensure that your child attends school with a suitable warm coat to protect them against the winter weather.

PTA

The PTA will be collecting for the class coloured hampers again this year. Any donations of the following colours would be greatly appreciated, please bring them to the school office. This will be drawn during the Christmas Crafts event on 9th December.

RECEPTION	Yellow/Gold
Y1	White/Silver
Y2	Red
Y3	Green
Y4	Purple

Mini Vinnies

We had our first fantastic Mini Vinnies meeting this week and discussed lots of ideas as a group. Just a reminder that our next Mini Vinnies meetings will take place after school on Wednesday the 30th November and the 7th December.

Application for First & Primary Schools: Applications for St Mary's RC First School, and other Northumberland First & Primary schools, are managed by the admissions team at Northumberland County Council. Online Admissions Portal for First and Primary school admissions will be open on the 1st of November 2022.

https://schadm.northumberland.gov.uk/CitizenPortal_LIVE/en

The deadline for your child's first & Primary school place is 15th January 2023.

Film Night - Wednesday 14th December

The PTA are hosting a film night from 3pm-4.45pm on 14th December, where the children will be watching the Christmas film 'The Polar Express'. The tickets will be £3.00, if your child would like to attend then can we ask that you bring the money to the school office in a sealed, named envelope so the PTA can keep a record.

Christmas Theatre Visit

On Thursday 15th December we will be visiting the Queen's Hall in Hexham to watch the performance of 'The Wind in the Willows'. This is a special Christmas treat for our children and will strengthen our community links, helping us work towards achieving our Artsmark award. The production will begin at 10am and the children will return to school in time for lunch. There is a cost of £12.50 for this trip which can be paid in instalments on the Weduc app. Just a reminder that the final payment of £12.50 needs to be paid **before 1st December**.

Dates for Diary:

Wednesday 30th November	Arts Day - Parents are invited into school 1.30pm Mini Vinnies meeting 3-4pm
Wednesday 7th December	Mini Vinnies meeting 3-4pm
Friday 9th December	Santa Dash & Christmas Jumper Day PTA Christmas Craft Fayre 3:10pm (School Hall)
Monday 12th December	Christmas Nativity - 1.30pm School Hall
Tuesday 13th December	Christingle - 9.30am St. Mary's Church Christmas Nativity - 1.30pm School Hall
Wednesday 14th December	Class Advent Liturgical Prayer (Parents/carers invited) Time TBC School Christmas Dinner Day PTA Christmas Film Night (Polar Express)
Thursday 15th December	Queens Hall performance- Wind in the Willows
Tuesday 20th December	Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 Christmas Party
Wednesday 21st December	Year 3 & Year 4 Christmas Party