

ST MARY'S NEWS

St Mary's Catholic Primary School and Nursery, Southam | December 2nd 2022



From the Head...

Dear Parents and Carers,

The festive season got underway well and truly this week with our Advent Mass and Mrs Mucklow and Mrs Crowley decorating the school with a beautiful Christmas tree. Father Arul also spoke in mass about how we can prepare for Christmas and he shared with the children some wonderful ways in which we can all get our hearts ready.

The children have been practising for our Christmas Service and the performances have now begun for the Early Years and Key Stage One performance of 'Wriggly Nativity'. So, although life in school is very busy at this time of year, and some staff appear a little frazzled when rehearsals don't quite go to plan, Christmas in school is always magical. I absolutely love hearing the festive songs echoing down corridors matched with the tangible excitement of children trying on costumes, enjoying Christmas crafts and decorating classrooms.

Staff and parents have been busy helping our children learn their lines although practices at times have seemed a little challenging with a few fidgety sheep, some restless kings and a forgetful shepherd! At St Mary's we provide a positive environment where talents are nurtured and celebrated. Allowing the children to perform on stage can help them to grow in confidence and develop their speaking and listening skills. School productions can provide something special, whether it be being a narrator, playing an instrument, acting, singing, dancing or simply being a back-stage helper. It is a unique experience that is integral to a good quality education and wonderful preparation for future life. For parents and grandparents who have or are yet to join us for all of these wonderful events I'm sure you will feel very proud and uplifted by all the different performances and many of our parents will no doubt be moved by their child's very first school performance. I'm sure there will be tears of joy and laughter as you see the children simply be children at their very best, even if lines are forgotten, the shepherds lose their way and someone drops baby Jesus we will all love seeing the children perform. I do hope you can come along and enjoy; I can guarantee the school nativity and Christmas carol concert will be a joy to behold!

Our fantastic children in Reception have shared their fabulous writing with me - we are so very proud of them!

God Bless

Maureen Collier



RAFFLE TICKETS HOME

All children have been sent home with books of raffle tickets; please try to sell these amongst your friends and family.

Stubs, money and unsold tickets should be returned to school by next Friday, 9th December. Online tickets are available from:

[Friends of St Mary's Christmas Raffle 2022 \(peoplesfundraising.com\)](https://www.peoplesfundraising.com)

(The draw closes on December 13th)

The fantastic prizes include: £100 Amazon voucher | Dewalt 18V Brushless Combi Drill RRP £275 | £50 gift voucher for The Kings Head Napton | £25 afternoon tea platter at Napton Village Stores | Hatton Country World Voucher for family of 4 | 4 tickets to Warwick Castle | £50 voucher for CENTRE-POINT | Napton Cidery tour and tasting for 4 Plus many more...

Spring Term Extracurricular Activities

Netball (Mondays Y3-6), Dance Club (Wednesdays YR-Y6) and Football Club (Thursdays Y3-Y6) will continue in January. To sign up to Football please fill in the form [here](#) or contact dfsports@icloud.com for more information.

Music Lessons:

Next week marks the end of an era at St Mary's as our music teacher Miss Butler leaves us to relocate closer to family. Miss Butler has delivered our whole class UpBeat music lessons, woodwind and guitar for many years and we wish her well in her new home. We will introduce the new teacher for January very soon.

If your child is in Year 2 or above and would like to begin Music Lessons, please contact the office for registration forms. Music is payable half-termly in advance and changes require a half-term's notice.

⚠ NOTICE TO PARENTS FOR WRAP AROUND CARE & OFFICE HOURS

If you are booking spaces for **Wrap Around Care** then this needs to be booked in by the Friday of the previous week. For example, if you require a space for week commencing 5th December, you would need to have booked by Friday 2nd December. We do of course hold spaces for emergencies too.

Mrs Mucklow is our Wrap Around Care Manager and she is your first point of contact – she works during office hours and will contact you on the next available working day – unless your email is urgent: mucklow.l@welearn365.com. The **club mobile** is only for use during club opening hours in the time before/after the school office is staffed.

For non-club enquiries, the **school office is open 08:30 – 16:00** daily and a voicemail can be left outside of these hours. Emails to the admin address are checked regularly, but only urgent enquiries will be responded to outside of office hours. Absences should be logged by 09:00, leaving a message on the absence answerphone please.

Stars of the Week

Nursery – Orla

Reception – Chester

Year 1 – Harvey

Year 2 – Finn

Year 3 – Aiden

Year 4/5 – Connor & Claudia

Year 5/6 – Aryana & Affiea

In Early Years we pride ourselves on following the children's interests to facilitate their learning and experiences. The children had been role playing a McDonalds drive-thru outside using the trikes and playhouse. I contacted McDonalds in Warwick, who kindly donated resources to make it into a 'real life' drive-thru'. The children have LOVED IT! They have been using their communication and language skills as well as many more, such as mathematics, turn taking, imaginary play, and physical skills. It has been a pleasure to watch!



Year One - Ms Priestley

My heart has been filled with pride this week with my fantastic super star actors! What an amazing job Year One and the rest of EYFS & KS1 have done so far with their Nativity! I already can't wait for our final performance next week. The children have had great fun this week getting stuck into our Advent celebrations and learning how to prepare our hearts for Jesus. We have moved on to learning about shapes in maths and this week have focused on 3D shapes. Perhaps you could point out some objects in your home and ask your child to tell you what shape it could be. We are loving our story 'Dogger', and are working hard to learn how to describe things from the story! Keep up the super work! 😊

Year Two - Ms Pahnke

This week the children have thoroughly enjoyed their dress rehearsals of the Nativity. They have been incredible, and we are all looking forward to the evening performance on Tuesday 6th December at 6pm, it is going to be magical! We have been exploring physical and human features of India and England and comparing them. The children have shown a passion for learning new facts about different countries and love to share them, so please do ask them. The children have created a Jesse Tree to be able to learn more about Jesus and his family as we prepare for the coming of Jesus. Finally, this week we practiced using a laptop and completed some quizzes with them.



Year Three - Ms Keith

We've had another busy week in Year 3 this week! We've had a lovely treat of watching the EYFS & Key Stage 1 Nativity performance, which was amazing! Also, we have been busy practicing for our Christmas Carol Service, which we can't wait for you to see! We have been researchers in English and created fantastic animal fact files and in Maths, we are continuing to deepen our addition and subtraction skills. In RE, we are enjoying learning about Advent and loved creating our very own Jesse Tree, ask your children all about it!! In our science lesson this week, we learnt about the human body and had lots of fun labelling different bones in the body. To celebrate the end of our Romans Rule topic, we will be having a Roman Day on Monday 12th December 2022, where we will be taking part in Roman activities. Thank you for your continued support

Year Four & Five - Mrs Hawley & Ms Costa

This week Year 4/5 have been explaining the meaning of the Advent Wreath and its 5 candles. In maths we have been continuing our work on multiplication and division for the 6- and 9-times tables. In reading we have been reading poetry, practising answering questions by referring to the text and writing summaries. In grammar and spelling we have been practising using question marks and adding suffixes endings such as ing, er and ed. In art and design, we have been designing our own coiled clay pots and plate and using sketching to record our ideas. The children have also been working hard learning carols and songs for the Christmas celebrations.

Year Five & Six - Mrs Banat-Rinz

What another busy week we have had- the highlight of which was watching the amazing Nativity performance by KS1 and EYFS. Everyone is getting much better at coding now in our computing lessons. Following on from last week's Advent Day, we had a whole school mass led by our fabulous Gift Team, who all read beautifully. In RE, we created posters and wrote thoughtful prayers related to Advent. RSHÉ this week was looking at how we get spots as we get older and personal hygiene. Once again can I thank you all for your support with homework.

EVERY FRIDAY
Celebration Assembly
@9:15 School Hall (open to all)

50p Friday
Snacks & drinks on sale after school. Bring your pennies to fundraise for FOSM



Saturday, December 3
09:30 - 11:30
Breakfast with Santa (bookings now closed)

Tuesday, December 6
Nativity Performance @6PM

Thursday, December 8
Y6 Class Mass @9:15 Church

Friday, December 9
Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas Dinner Day

Monday, 12 December
Year 3 Roman Day

Monday, 12 December 7-9pm
Wreath making workshop 2

Tuesday, December 13
EYFS Stay & Play
2PM - 3:20PM

Wednesday, December 14
Charlote Park Trip
Year 1, Reception & Nursery

Wednesday, December 14
KS2 Christmas Carol Concert
Church @ 6.00pm - all welcome (children performing to church at 5:30 please)

Thursday, December 15
Y3 Class Mass @9:15 Church

Friday, December 16
End of Term

December 19 - January 2
Christmas Holidays

Tuesday, January 3
Teacher Training Day

Wednesday, January 4
Back to School
Spring Term Starts

PLEASE NOTE:
DATES MAY BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE
More dates and details online at:
<https://www.stmaryssoutham.org.uk/events/>

Christmas Lights Choir & Water / Wine Stall
A big thank you to all those who donated water and wine to the FOSM stall at Sunday's event and also all the team packing bottles and running the stall. This FOSM event raised a fantastic £328! A massive well done too to our fabulous choir who made us all feel very Christmassy with those lovely songs.

EXEMPLARY BEHAVIOUR

YN: Freddie	Y3: Alfie
YR: Teddy	Y4/5: Elijah & Layla
Y1: Callie	Y5/6: Hamish & Sofia K
Y2: Delilah L	

LUNCHTIME AWARD

YN: Ivy	Y3: Shreya
YR: Lauren	Y4/5: Harry & Stephanie
Y1: Kabelle	Y5/6: Thomas & Lucy
Y2: Maisie	

HOUSE POINTS

St Andrew 343
St Patrick 319
St George 203
St David 158

