



## SCHOOL UPDATES

### BLING YOUR BIKE:

A huge well done to all the children who participated in the 'Bling Ya Bike' parade on Monday; it was a great way to get our festive celebrations underway, and to promote healthy and active ways of getting to and from school.

### CHRISTMAS FUNDRAISING:

Pupils recently took part in the filming of the Christmas DVD 'Following a Christmas Star'. DVDs will be on sale from school for £10 each; please return the attached reply slip to make an order, payment to be made by Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December, which will be sent home via the children's blue bags in the last week of term. We will also be selling photos of the pupils in their costumes before each performance £3 per photo or 2 for £5 or 3 for £7.50 (Siblings only); all money raised will go to support the school.

### Y4 STRING ORCHESTRA SHOWCASE – CANCELLED:

Unfortunately, the Y4 String Orchestra showcase, planned for Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December, has been postponed until the New Year due to illness.

### CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Please note - Children's choir will be on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December (NOT WEDNESDAY) as we are at the Panto (oh yes we are!).

## REMINDERS

### LAST DAY OF TERM:

A reminder that the last day of term for all pupils is **THURSDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> DECEMBER**. All pupils will be back in school on **TUESDAY 10<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2017**.

### TRAVELLING CRIBS:

Please remember to return the travelling cribs – intact and complete – to school the very next school day, to ensure that all families may share in the special journey during the lead-up to Christmas. Please try to take and send photos of your experiences in to class, to be compiled within a class portfolio of the project.

### AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS:

**GYMNASTICS** – There will be no Gymnastics sessions for the remainder of the school year – sessions will start again on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2017.

**HAPPY FEET** – There will be no Happy Feet sessions for the remainder of the school year – sessions will start again on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2017.

**TENNIS** – The last tennis session will be on Monday

**IRISH DANCING** – The last Irish Dancing Session will be on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December.

**CHOIR** – The last choir session will be on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December.

### FRIENDS CHRISTMAS RAFFLE:

Thank you to all those friends and family of the school who have supported the Friends of St Mary's in providing some wonderful prizes for our Christmas raffle. Please send all monies in a clearly labelled

envelope in your child's bag, or return to the office. If anyone has any unused raffle tickets can you please return them to school.

#### MINI-VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL:

Please get in contact with school if you, or someone you know, would like to come to the Mini-Vinnies Christmas afternoon tea for Grandparents and elderly member of our parish and local community on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December (1:30pm in school). ALL WELCOME!

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

##### CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY:

We will be having a Christmas Jumper Day on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December; the cost will be £1 per child/family, and all funds will go to the St Mary's Gift for Life fund, to support ongoing projects run by the Little Sisters of St Francis, Kenya.

##### CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCE DATES:

Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	9:30am	Year 1 & Year 2
	1:30pm	Year 3 & Year 4
	6:00pm	Year 5 & Year 6
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	9:30am	Year 5 & Year 6
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	9:30am	Year 3 & Year 4
	1:30pm	Year 1 & Year 2
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	10:00am	Reception and Year 5 Nativity

*No tickets are required for these events, and entry is free. All performances will take place in the school hall, and in line with school policy, photography and video will not be allowed during any performance.*

##### THEATRE ROYAL VISIT

A reminder that we will be attending the Panto at the Theatre Royal on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December. We will be setting off at approximately 12.45 p.m. and expect to be back at school for approximately 5.00 p.m. Please could all parents use the church car park (not the staff car park) or park well away from Duckpool Lane. If we are running late a text message will be sent out. We would ask that children do not bring any sweets, snacks, drinks or money for the performance. The pupils will be provided with a bottle of water for the event.

##### CHRISTMAS PREPARATIONS:

Please help us to prepare for Jesus' glorious arrival at Christmas, by joining in with the following:

- Carols by Candlelight Service; 3:30pm on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2016 (St Mary's RC Church).
  - *All pupils are expected to stay and take part in this service; if, in exceptional cases, your child is unable to attend the service, please contact Mrs Noble in the school office before the 20<sup>th</sup>. This should last no longer than an hour, and pupils will be available to pick-up, or go to after-school provision, as normal after the service.*
- Whole School Mass; 9:30am on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2016 (St Mary's RC Church) – followed by refreshments, entertainment and the drawing of the Christmas raffle in the school Hall.

THE WEEK AHEAD W/C : 12/12/2016

MONDAY – Christmas Jumper Day

TUESDAY – 9:30 Y1 & Y2 Performance  
1:30 Y3 & Y4 Performance  
NO HAPPY FEET  
6:00 Y5 & Y6 Performance

WEDNESDAY – 9:30 Y5 & Y6 Performance  
Visit to Theatre Royal Year 1-6

THURSDAY – 9:30 Y3 & Y4 Performance  
1:30 Y1 & Y2 Performance

FRIDAY – 10:00 Reception & Y5 Nativity  
1:30 Minnie Vinnies Afternoon Tea  
NO GYMNASTICS

WEEK COMMENCING: 19/12/2016

MONDAY – 1:00 Reception/Year 1/Year 2 Party  
(letters will be sent out by each class teacher giving more details)

TUESDAY - Christmas Dinner Day (if your child is normally packed lunch but would like a Christmas dinner the cost is £2.00, which should be received by Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December)  
Carols by Candlelight

WEDNESDAY - Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 Party (letters will be sent out by each class teacher giving more details)

THURSDAY - 9:30 Whole School Mass followed by Tea/Coffee and mince pies in the school hall and Christmas Raffle Draw.  
Toy Day

CHRISTMAS DVD ORDER FORM

I would like to order      copy/ies of the Christmas DVD at a cost of £10 each.

Name of child..... Year Group.....

Signed.....