



# St Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy

## NEWSLETTER

Dear Families,

I cannot believe that the half term holiday is next week, time has gone really quickly. This half term has been brilliant with all the wonderful learning that has been happening.

We have recently had two amazing experiences at St. Mary's. As you will be aware we had our Harvest Celebration recently and it was wonderful to be able to invite family members into school. For some this was the first time they have ever stepped foot into the school. The Harvest Celebration was wonderful and all the children enjoyed sharing their short performances. I hope if you couldn't get to see the live performance you all enjoyed seeing the "filmed" version. Also a first at St. Mary's happened this week, all the children took part in a "Living Rosary", this experience for everyone had every element including "awe and wonder". All of your children were brilliant at joining in with the different prayers and the behaviour in the church was outstanding. This was commented on by a large number of people including Fr. Jonathan. I felt proud and privileged to be the Headteacher at St. Mary's. Well done to everyone involved.

Lord, guide us through the challenging times of our world. Help us to be who you made us to be and joyfully serve others. Let your victory and love of justice inspire us each day.

Amen.

On Friday 22nd October, the school is closed for a Training Day, so all our families can start their half term holiday a day early. Staff will be in school working hard and ensuring everything is prepared for the next half term. I wanted to say a big thanks to all the staff - teachers, teaching assistants, office staff, lunchtime supervisors, premises and the cleaning team for working so hard this half term to ensure all your children are safe and gaining in their knowledge/understanding. Your children are lucky to have such a great team of people working at St. Mary's.

Remember at all times at St. Mary's everyone wants all the children to continue to **"Believe, Succeed and Soar"**

Have a safe and happy half term holiday.

As ever you all remain in my thoughts and prayers,

Take care

Mrs R Wheatley

### CALENDAR EVENTS

Monday 1st November-  
First day of term  
All Saints Mass, Parent  
helpers required.  
Flu Vaccinations

Thursday 11th November-  
Remembrance Day

Friday 10th December-  
Christmas Jumper Day

Tuesday 14th December-  
EYFS Nativity  
KS1 Carols Around the Tree

Wednesday 15th December-  
Christmas Lunch  
KS1 Panto Visit  
KS2 Carols by Candlelight

Thursday 16th December-  
KS2 Panto Visit

Friday 17th December-  
Last Day of Advent Term





## Admissions

If you have a child in Year 6, please make sure you apply for their secondary school place before 31st October 2021. This can be done via the Lincolnshire County Council Website.



Please can you ensure your child brings a water bottle, a waterproof coat and their school planner with them daily.

## Winter Uniform

As of 1st November all children should be coming to school in their winter uniform, no shorts or summer dresses.

## **Horrible Histories: HORRIBLE CHRISTMAS**

Following a sold out debut year in 2020, the world's first drive-in pantomime, CAR PARK PANTO, returns in 2021!

After rave reviews from the public and press, CAR PARK PANTO will once again be touring with The Birmingham Stage Company and Horrible Histories' hilarious show, HORRIBLE CHRISTMAS!

Not strictly speaking a panto, HORRIBLE CHRISTMAS is the next best thing; enabling families across the UK to enter into the festive spirit from the comfort of their own sleigh (car)!

Over 35,000 people experienced the sold out CAR PARK PANTO in 2020, so make sure you don't miss out this year!

This event is at Newark Showground on Boxing day, if any of our parents are interested. Tickets can be purchased from <https://carparkpanto.seetickets.com/venue/newark-showground/995/list>

## **Harvest Collection**

Year after year we are overwhelmed by the generosity of our families in contributing food supplies for Grantham Foodbank & Passage. Thank-you for all your wonderful donations which help to serve the poorest in our communities.

*'To serve the poor is to go to God.'* St. Vincent de Paul.



## SCHOOL CALENDAR

On our school website, under the news and events tab there is a school calendar. You are able to link your phone calendar to this. This way you will stay up to date with any notifications on the school website.

## ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK

**Reception Class: 89.3%**

**Year 1: 99.5%**

**Year 2: 95.7%**

**Year 3: 98.8%**

**Year 4: 94.1%**

**Year 5: 94.6%**

**Year 6: 91.6%**

## Parent-Teacher evening:

Information regarding parents evening is being sent via PMX. Please complete forms with your availability as soon as possible so we can book your appointments.

## Flu Vaccinations

A reminder to all parents that you can still consent for your child to have the Fluenz Nasal immunisation at school.



Last Sunday in Rome, Pope Francis launched a “church-wide Listening Process”. He has asked that each diocese begins the first phase of preparation for “Synod”. The word “Synod” simply means “journeying together”. Pope Francis is inviting us all, to listen to each other and help support our desire to be more missionary and outward-looking.

Today each family in school was given two prayercards for themselves and one other person whom they know, but who has perhaps stopped coming to Mass, or who might appreciate some encouragement to recognise that he or she is a beloved member of God’s family. You might put the prayer on their fridge door in the kitchen, and encourage family members to pray the prayer quietly each day. The prayercard also has a QR code, and a web address, where thoughts and answers about the Synodal questions can be left. The prayer which the Holy Father, Pope Francis, has chosen to be our Synodal Prayer is that used at the opening of each session of the Second Vatican Council sixty years ago. Just as the Holy Spirit was heard then, so let us pray that we might listen to the Spirit now, in our own time and place. So, please, pray this prayer daily, at home in the family, and in our praying communities around the diocese. In whatever ways we can, let us join with the Pope and people around the world, in asking the Spirit for His guidance once again.



## National School Breakfast Programme:

We are hoping at some point after the half term holiday, that when children arrive at school, they will be given a toasted plain bagel with a spread on. Every child will be entitled to receive a bagel and this will happen on a daily basis. Research shows that children who have eaten breakfast learn better and feel happier because they have a full stomach. Therefore this will aid the wellbeing of the children as well as their brilliant learning powers!