



St Marie's School Newsletter

No. 15 22nd December 2017

E-mail: enquiries@st-maries.sheffield.sch.uk Website: www.st-maries.sheffield.sch.uk  @st_maries

Our School Vision Statement

Through working together, loving each other, and always doing our best, at St Marie's we will all become the amazing, unique individuals God wants us to be.

HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO ALL OUR FAMILIES!

We wish everyone in our school community a very happy and holy Christmas. We hope that the message of Christmas brings peace and hope to all our lives, as we celebrate the birth of Jesus. No doubt many of you will be attending Mass and Carol Services in your own parishes, the details of which can be found on each parish website. We hope that you all enjoy a special time with family members and friends during this holiday period. We look forward to seeing everyone again in 2018!

The first day back is Monday 8th January 2018.

MRS THOMAS

This week we say a sad goodbye to Mrs Thomas. She has worked at our school for 18 years and she will be missed by staff, Governors, parents and especially all the children. All our prayers and good wishes go with her. We wish her all the best!



ADMISSIONS CONSULATATION

In response to statutory guidance received from the Catholic Education Service and the Diocese of Hallam, the Governors have determined that changes must be made to the admissions criteria for 2019-20.

This means that the school must publicly consult on its proposed admissions arrangements for a period of six weeks. The consultation period for the 2019-2020 Admissions Policies is open until 4pm on 31st January 2018.

The proposed arrangements, together with the proposed new Supplementary Information form have now been placed on the school's website and your comments on the changes would be welcomed.

The principal changes from the policy of 2018-19 include:

- there are no sub categories, but children with certified medical/social needs receive priority in each category
- children with siblings already in the school receive second priority in each category
- there is a separate category for catechumens and members of Eastern Orthodox churches

The prioritisation of children with Education, Health and Care Plans (or with a Statement of Special Educational Needs), Catholic children who are siblings of Catholic children attending the school, Catholic children of staff, the tie-break arrangements, the maintenance of the waiting list and the procedures for in-year applications remain unchanged, therefore comments are not requested on these aspects of the proposed policy.

If you have any comment to make, please contact the school via email lgraham@st-maries.sheffield.sch.uk or in writing and mark your correspondence for the attention of Lindsay Holmes, Clerk to Governors.

Yours sincerely
Mr J Fernandes
Headteacher

CONGRATULATIONS

- **To our Home School Association** for organising the ever-popular Christmas pocket money fair on Monday. We would like to thank all of you for your support. Once again it was a huge success. Thank you to everyone who helped on the day and especially to the Y6's who have helped sell the remainder of the gifts this week. Thank you for all your efforts.
- **To our St Marie's football team** who represented the school at the Primary Sheffield Finals on Tuesday at Springs Academy. The boys played 6 tough games against the best teams in Sheffield and came away with 1 win, 3 draws and 2 narrow defeats. The boys were fantastic and deserve real credit for their resilience and teamwork. A special mention goes to the players who were drafted in at late notice. They were all superstars. Well done to Finn, Christian, Stanley, George, Rhomani, Aaron, Kiemarli and Paddy.
- **To our choir at St Vincent's Church:** We joined with Notre Dame School on Tuesday evening at a very special carol service. We had over 60 children in our choir! Fantastic! And they sang, danced and read beautifully! Well done to everyone.
- **To Year 1** who went on an educational visit to Western Park Museum on Wednesday as part of their new topic work starting next half term. They behaved impeccably and were great ambassadors for our school. We were all very proud of them!
- **To our kitchen staff** for serving up a great Christmas dinner for the school on Thursday. Over 270 hot meals were prepared and served on the day! [Please click here to see photographs on the website.](#)



ST WILFRID'S CENTRE

Everyone at the St Wilfrid's centre wishes to thank you all for the support you have given over this Christmas period. Your donations are invaluable in helping needy people in Sheffield, and help St Wilfrid's Centre provide individuals with opportunities to improve their quality of life. Thank you.



CHRISTMAS WRITING CHALLENGE

Christmas is a time for stories and we all enjoy stories of wonder and hope at this special time of year. In keeping with the festive season, we invite all children to enter our very special Christmas writing challenge which is to write a Christmas story in under 200 words. Completed stories must be named and handed in by Wednesday 17th January at the latest.

We hope you enjoy writing your stories over the Christmas holidays and we look forward to reading them in the New Year. £10 Amazon vouchers will be awarded to the winners and all entrants will receive a chocolate bar for their efforts. Happy writing!

Remember to use your neatest handwriting to make sure we can read it properly, keep your paper neat and try not to crease your paper in case we choose to display your work in school!

Good luck and happy writing!

CHILDREN'S NATIVITY SERVICE AT ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI ON CHRISTMAS EVE

Everybody is very welcome to attend the Children's Nativity Service at St Francis of Assisi Church at 4pm on Christmas Eve, dressed as a character from the Christmas Story. Any Key Stage 2 children who would like to read some of the service would also be very welcome. Any volunteer readers should turn up by 3.45pm so that parts can be distributed.

Y2 PARENT WORKSHOPS

We are going to holding some parent workshops. The main aim of these is to provide you with more information about the expectations for the end of Y2 and to support you in helping your child at home. We would love to see you there!

Reading workshop Tuesday 23rd January 4.45 - 6pm or Thursday 25th January 2.15 – 3.15pm

This workshop will be just for adults. We will look at how we can develop your child's reading further and what sort of questions should we be asking to help them develop as a reader.

Maths Workshop Thursday 8th February - 9- 11am

In this workshop you will be working with your child to find out more about the methods we teach for the 4 operations. The idea of this workshop is that each child has an adult working with them. The children will get extra practise with their maths and the adults will learn more about how we teach the maths methods. If parents or carers are not free, please do encourage a relative or another adult known to the child to come and work with your child.

Writing Workshop Thursday 8th March- 9- 11am

In this workshop you will be working with your child to find out more about how children can produce a good piece of writing. The idea of this workshop is that each child has an adult working with them. The children will get extra practise with their writing and the adults will find out more about what we are looking for in a good piece of writing. If parents or carers are not free, please do encourage a relative or another adult known to the child to come and work with your child.

CLASS ASSEMBLIES NEXT TERM

Class assemblies take place on Friday afternoons at 2.30pm. Parents and Carers welcome!

19 th January	Year 4 (Miss Scriven)
26 th January	Year 4
Friday 2 nd February	Presentation Mass 2pm – all welcome
9 th February	Year 1
16 th February	Reception

SCHOOL EQUIPMENT 'AMNESTY': PLEASE RETURN

Please could parents return any items belonging to school, as a matter of urgency? We are particularly looking for the return of:

- Sports clothing worn when representing the school, especially any football kit, especially socks!
- Library and reading scheme books.

We would be very grateful if you could take a moment during the festive break, probably when you are clearing out the old to make way for the new, if you could look for any banded books. Reading scheme books are all stamped with St Marie's and have a coloured band on their spine. We have had a considerable number of books not returned since September and would appreciate any effort to make all the books available for every child's reading development in 2018. Thanks in advance for your co-operation.

SCHOOL MAINTENANCE FUND

We invite our parents to make an annual voluntary contribution towards our Building Maintenance Fund. The fund is used for any building improvements made in school during the academic year. This is now available on the online payment system, under **events**. We have decided this year to leave the amount you wish to contribute up to everyone. The minimum contribution for each pupil, however, remains the same (£15.00). You make as many donations throughout the year as you choose.

SPRING TERM 1 DATES TO REMEMBER

Wednesday 10th January - Y5 need a packed lunch as they are going to Sheffield Hallam Uni, wear uniform and bring PE kit in separate bag.

Remember: you can visit our **school website/ 'Parents' section for full calendar** showing important dates! Follow this link <http://www.st-maries.sheffield.sch.uk/index.php/parents/school-calendar>

PE DAYS SPRING TERM

The days when children do PE have changed for most classes! Please note the following NEW schedule for Spring Term.

Class Day(s) to come to school in PE kit.

Please can we remind everyone that PE kit needs to be the school colours:

- navy blue tracksuit bottoms/leggings/shorts
- navy blue hoody/school jumper/school cardigan
- appropriate colour house team t-shirt

For the colder weather children can wear "plain" navy blue tracksuit bottoms (**No logos please**) and our PE hoodies as previously. We won't allow the use of alternative kit, such as football shirts, other coloured hoodies.

Class	Day(s) to come to school in PE kit
Year 1	Tuesday
Year 2	Monday and Tuesday
Year 3 (Miss Scriven)	Wednesday
Year 3 (Mrs Furniss)	Wednesday
Year 4	Thursday
Year 5 (both classes)	Monday and Wednesday
Year 6KW	Wednesday
Year 6AF	Wednesday and Thursday

WEEK BEGINNING JAN 8th

Day	Morning	Lunchtime	Afternoon	After-School
Mon 8 th Jan	Violin lessons (Mrs Robertson)	Lego club	Violin lessons (Mrs Robertson); Guitar lessons (Mr Nash) Premier Stars -both Year 5 classes	Premier All Stars Football 3.30-4.30pm Y3 Y4 girls (confirmed attendees only)
Tues 9 th Jan	Brass lessons (Mr Page);			Cross country club for KS2 3.20pm-4.20pm;

Wed 10 th Jan	Woodwind/Piano lessons (Mr Martin);	Book club	Y5 Ukulele Performance at Sheffield Hallam Uni (need packed lunch)	Ukulele Club with Chris Mayall (KS2 only) 3.30pm-4.30pm
Thurs 11 th Jan	Piano Lessons (Mr Lazell)	Young Voices 12 to 12:30pm	Piano Lessons (Mr Lazell)	Sheffield United's football club 3.30-4.30pm; <u>No Orchestra Club today (starts 18th January).</u>
Fri 12 th Jan	Swimming Y3AF class			Martial Arts Y3 (confirmed attendees only).



Helping School Actively

HOME SCHOOL ASSOCIATION (HSA) NEWS

Parents, carers, teachers & staff working together for the benefit of the children at St Marie's. St Marie's HSA organises social events and raises funds during the school year to improve the school experience of our children. We always need extra organisers & helpers!

A huge **THANK YOU** to all who at have supported and helped at the Winter Fair, pocket money market and the sales of Christmas trees. We have raised over **£4000!**
Thank you



Christmas 'Pocket Money' Market

We would like to thank all of you for your support in the Christmas 'Pocket Money' Market. It was a huge success.

We raised over £800!!.

THANK YOU.

Thank you for supporting the event and thank you to all those that helped out with the Sale, especially to all the Y6's who helped sell the remainder of the gifts the following day.

Save the Date:

Our hugely popular 'Quiz & Chips' Night will be taking place on **Saturday 27th January 2018** in the school hall. Please save the date in your diaries and look out for further details.

HSA Committee Meeting, the next HSA Committee meeting will take place on **Monday 15th January 2018** at 7.30pm at the Sportman, Crosspool. Please come and join us to see what the HSA Committee is about.

**WE WOULD LIKE TO WISH YOU ALL A VERY
MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A
HAPPY NEW YEAR !**