



St Mary's News 2021 November Issue 4

"Recognising and celebrating the presence of Christ in one another"

Dear Parents,

Well done Y6- Many parents and grandparents, yesterday, commented on the reverence and maturity shown, by our Y6 *Confirmation Class* and their classmates, at their Mass of Commitment. They stood with reverence, spoke with confidence and were rightfully proud of their festive Christingles. Thank you to Mrs Polito, Mrs Evans, Mrs Malhi and Mrs Vinti, for their support and to Fr Craig, to parents and grandparents present and to Mrs Hayes, too. It was a lovely Mass.

Advent is almost here- Altar cloths change to purple, next week, as we encourage children to prepare their hearts and minds for the birth of the baby- who would change the world. Y1 and 2 Nativity is underway; EYFS are busy too; KS2 children are preparing a shortened version of the usual carol service, which we will share virtually with you, all. ..And Musical assemblies are also on the calendar. It promises to be a busy month, with assessments and class work continuing alongside these events.

Thank you very much - to **Ethan and Hugo's parents** who have very kindly sourced and **donated the Christmas tree**, this year. It is arriving very soon and will bring with it great excitement and that festive feeling, that we look forward to, so much. Grateful thanks, also, to **Maddie's Dad** who has sourced some lovely **Heroes collectable cards, and sticker books for all children, courtesy of Sainsbury's**. It was kind of him to remember us. Children will be receiving these very soon.

After School Club changes to charges- Having recently conducted some local market research, governors have recognised the need to raise the charges for our wraparound care, in line with local providers. Our prices remain competitive and modest. Please look out for a letter on Monday, detailing the changes, effective from our return to school in January 2022.

This week and Reminders:

Swap old PE kits- recycle- Thank you to the PTA for supporting this venture. There will be a **PE kits Nearly New Pop up store** on **Thursday, after school, this week-** in the school playground. Just ask staff on the gates to let you in.

Class workshops- Your children have been actively engaging in class based workshops- showcasing their knowledge, recently. These are a modern, technological version of assemblies- I have seen the quality of work and progress apparent in these videocasts and I am really impressed. They will be available via class pages, shortly. Look out for them! Take the time to appreciate the quality and the learning implicit within them. You will be very proud of your children.

Parents Consultations- were well received and ran smoothly. In almost all cases, parents are pleased with progress and staff are pleased with the support received from home. A positive team effort. Thanks to all involved. Lucky children to have such support.

Y4 parents- it is your turn next week- thank you for your patience.

Lateness- this is becoming a problem in a small number of cases. Children hate being late- it makes them feel anxious and it starts their day in a worried, nervous way- affecting their wellbeing, in some cases. Where it is persistent, we will be in contact with parents, to address the concern.

Upcoming events:

Fri 3/12/21 – EYFS Disney Day in school.

Wed 8/21/21- Christmas Drama workshop for Y1-Y6

Tues/Wed 14/12 & 15/21 – KS1 Nativity performances in the school hall (see letter already received for Y1 and Y2 parents).

Thurs 16/21/21 **The School Council SMA Great British Green Bake Off Competition** in school. This has been planned and communicated almost entirely by Charlie, in Y6, with support from Ayana, and a few other Y6 helpers. It promises to be good fun and to raise awareness of some important shortfalls in our society. **Charlie has penned a letter to you all, parents (attached). Please take the time to read it and encourage participation.**

Fri 17/12/21 School finishes at 1.30pm on this day.

Wed 5/1/22 School re opens for all children to start the spring term.

Mon 10/1/22 Y6 - St Chad's visit. Details to follow.

And Finally...

Please remember Theo, Kelly and all of the Taylor family, in your prayers, as they deal with the sad news of Mr Taylor's sudden death, this week. **Theo, we are all thinking of you and your lovely Mum, this weekend.**