



St Mary's R C Primary School, Clive Road, Failsworth, Manchester M35 0NW

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Head Teacher: Ms M Garvey

"Called to Love as God Loves"

December 2019

Dear Parents/Carers

As we entered the third week of Advent, we lit the Rose Candle which reminds us to rejoice as the birth of Our Saviour Jesus Christ draws near. Over the last few weeks the children have been reminding us of the true meaning of Christmas. I was incredibly proud of the children in the Early Years who reminded us to wake up and be ready when they performed The Sleepy Shepherd. I was blown away with the children in KS1 as their performance was marked with great joy and gusto. I can still see them squashing and squeezing as I write! As always, our Carol Service in church led by the children in KS2 was a beautiful celebration. Thank you to all the staff who have worked extremely hard to prepare the children and ensured all the performances were memorable occasions.



On Monday our Year 4 children entertained us with a lively Brass Band Concert. Both classes have been learning to play a brass instrument and treated us to a rendition of "We wish you a merry Christmas"; "Mince Pies" and "The Manchester Song" to name but a few. I was particularly pleased to see the growing number of children from Year 5 and 6 who give up their lunchtime on a Monday to practise their instrument; hats off to them!

The Christmas parties were a great success. The children were thrilled when a special visitor with his two elves arrived to deliver presents and remind them to get to sleep early on Christmas Eve!



I would like to thank Mrs Dobrowolski and The Well -Being Ambassadors who, as part of the Connect in the Five Ways To Well-Being, organised the Connect 4 Tournament this week. The children thoroughly enjoyed the competition .It was a joy to witness the children being so supportive and encouraging of each other.



Thank you to the 72 families who have donated £20 to the school building fund. We have received a total of £1,440 which will go a considerable way to meeting the £10,000 required for a new electrical circuit board in KS2.

Thank you also to The Friends of St Mary's who have raised a staggering £1,145 for school fund this term alone. I am truly grateful for the time and energy they devote to the school organising lovely family fundraising events. I am delighted to report that we have just invested £3,000 in new reading books in the Early Years and KS1, £1,500 of which was match funded by The Friends of St Mary's. We look forward to the book launch on Wednesday 8th January 2020.



We say goodbye to Mrs Cotter who is retiring on Friday after many years of service at St Mary's. I know that you will join us in wishing her a long and happy retirement. Mrs Hope, who has previously worked in our Early Years, will be taking up post in January. Congratulations to Mrs Bushi who is expecting her second child next Easter.

Thank you to our Governors who work on behalf of the children and families, often late into the evenings, providing support and challenge to ensure we provide a well-balanced and rounded Catholic Education for all our children. Thank you especially to Father Michael who provides us with Spiritual guidance so that we may grow in Faith closer to God Our Father.

Finally, thank you for all your support over the last term. The staff and I would like to wish all our children, families and the community a very happy and Holy Christmas.

Ms M. Garvey

Stay With Us Lord On Our Journey



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Diary Dates:

Mon 6 th Jan	School Opens
Tues 7 th Jan	KS1 Cosy Read Day (see Cosy Read letter for details)
Sun 19 th Jan	Y3 Presentation in Church 1pm
Wed 29 th Jan	NSPCC Assemblies and Workshops
Thur 6 th Feb	Y3 Trip to Chester
Thur 13 th Feb	School Closes
Fri 14 th Feb	Joint INSET Day with Oldham Catholic Schools
Mon 26 th Feb	School Opens

Christmas Mass Times 2019

Parish of the Nativity

Immaculate Conception

Clive Road, Failsworth, M35 0NN

Christmas Eve: 7pm

Christmas Day: 9.30am

Holy Family

407 Roman Road, Limeside, OL8 3PY

Christmas Day: 11.15am