



# St Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy

<http://www.st-marys-marplebridge.stockport.sch.uk/>

St Mary's Parish: <http://stmarysmarplebridge.org.uk/>

Holy Spirit Parish: <https://www.holyspiritmarple.com/>

**Bulletin Number 13: Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2021**

## INFORMATION

We have a very small number of positive covid19 cases within school, certainly nothing like what we experienced in September and certainly not enough to constitute an outbreak. We wanted to share this with you in the spirit of transparency. Please rest assured that we will always keep you fully informed and if we need to take decisive action, we will and quickly. We are continuing to move forward progressively and sensibly and we remain vigilant at all times. Enhanced cleaning, thorough hand washing is in operation and the school is fully ventilated. These are just an example of our existing measures. Please do contact school if you have any questions or concerns. Many thanks for your understanding and support.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

As we move into Advent, the Travelling Cribs are making their way around school. At the moment, we are up to Year 1. It is important that they are returned to school quickly so that all of our families get the chance to take them home.

Father Daniel will attend school on Thursday for an Advent service led by our Faith Friends. They will lead us in a liturgy, encouraging us to think about what it means to make room for the Holy Family at this time of the year.

Staff INSET tomorrow is a special day to celebrate the Feast of St Ralph Sherwin, the patron saint of our trust. Teachers and support staff will be attending a gathering of all of our schools. We are taking with us the prayer intentions of all of the children in school for the family of schools to pray for.

This week we have also been learning about the Jewish festival of Hannukah which started on 28th November and continues until the evening of Monday 6th December. Both Hannukah and Christmas are celebrations where light triumphs over darkness.

## WEDNESDAY WORD

Here is the link to this week's Wednesday Word:

<https://www.paperturn-view.com/uk/wednesday-word/openness?pid=MTA101634&v=39.20>

## BIRTHDAYS

Just a quick one to remind you that children can wear their own clothes when it's their birthday. We know there is a lot going on at the moment but we didn't want anyone to miss out.

## LEAVE OF ABSENCE REQUEST FORM

This form is now available to collect from the school office. It will need to be completed for **any new requests** prior to any agreed leave being granted.

## EDUCATION SUPPORT FUND POLICY

This is an initiative by the St Ralph Sherwin Trust and is designed to provide financial assistance for pupils who might otherwise miss out on important aspects of their education and is intended to support those most in need. If you would like further details and to find out about the application process, then please contact the school office.



**DIOCESE OF  
NOTTINGHAM**

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Company No 7937154



**St Ralph  
Sherwin**  
Catholic Multi Academy Trust

## CHILDREN WIN AWESOME LEGO LANDMARKS

Huge congratulations to our very own Joseph B who was one of three special winners in a landmark design competition last summer. The competition organised by Stockport SHAPES Alliance, One Stockport and Pure Brick Studio challenged children to walk around 10 iconic landmarks of Stockport and draw a landmark that was meaningful to them. The Pure Bricks Studio team replicated all 10 landmarks in Lego, displayed at each site during the challenge.

Joseph depicted the Marple viaduct which is an architectural gem and was indeed a worthy winner. The winners were presented with their prizes, bespoke Lego models of their sketch and YouTube videos on how to build it by the Mayor of Stockport, Cllr Adrian Nottingham, at an awards ceremony in the town Hall.

Mayor of Stockport, Cllr Adrian Nottingham, said: "It was a pleasure to award the prizes to such talented artists. It is great to see Stockport and its heritage celebrated in such a unique way by all the partners involved and, more importantly, by the next generation."

Cllr Jude Wells, Cabinet Member for Adult Care and Health, added: "This competition encouraged children to get active and creative in an enjoyable way. The judges from Pure Innovation were amazed at the standard of entries, well done to everyone who took part and to the worthy winners."



## GARDENING WORKING PARTY

**Help needed!! We have the following project in mind. Installation of the two water bowsers and connection to the school roof drainage system**

In order to support the fantastic Gardening groups which are running across the school the team would like to install an eco-friendly way of collecting and using water. We are now in the final stages of organising and installing this vital resource, but we need a team of helpers to lend a hand. We are proposing a working party day on a Sunday after Christmas. Alongside the installation of the water bowsers we also need to re-site some raised beds to provide easier access to them for children. If you are interested in lending a hand, please can you let Mrs Bradbury know and we can find a convenient date to complete this exciting project! Thank you in advance for your continued support.

## CHRISTMAS FAYRE

We just wanted to say a massive thank you to our wonderful PTA for putting on such a brilliant Christmas Fayre last Friday. There was so much on offer and it was just fabulous to be able to welcome you all to the event. We are truly grateful for all their support and commitment in wanting to provide opportunities for the children. Thank you also to yourselves for your generosity and goodwill on the day. All proceeds go directly to benefit pupils. Can't wait for the next one!!

### **IT'S BEHIND YOU...OH NO IT ISN'T...**

Our fantastic PTA has arranged for all the children to go to see Dick Whittington in pantomime at The Plaza in Stockport. We can't wait!

This trip will take place on **7 December 2021**. The coach will leave school at 9.30am and return to school at 1.30pm. If your child has a school lunch they will be provided with one, or you can order one for £2.20.

Please note that your child does not need a snack or drink as the PTA are providing a nut free/gluten free/dairy free option with a juice or water drink.

### **CHRISTMAS POST BOX**

The post box will be by the school office from Monday 6th December. Please ensure cards are clearly labelled with the child's name and year group. Final day for posting cards will be **Friday 17 December**.

### **WINTER WONDERLAND**

We are very excited to announce that this Saturday Year 1 and Year 2 will be singing on the main stage at 2.40pm. Please look out for Mrs Bramhall on arrival who will be supporting the children. It is sure to be a magical event and I know that the choir will be absolutely amazing.

### **SAVE THE DATE – CHRISTMAS DINNER**

On **16th December 2021** we will hold our Christmas dinner in school. Christmas jumpers may be worn on this day as part of non-uniform (.i.e. jumper and jeans) If your child does not have a Christmas jumper, do not fear: you are not expected to buy one. You can let your child wear a favourite jumper.

### **NATIVITY DATES**

**EYFS – Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2021**

**KS1 – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2021**

**Please note, in light of the most recent Covid-19 update, tickets will be limited to two maximum per family i.e. 2x tickets for EYFS/2x tickets for KS1.**

**Final details with specific information will follow early next week.**

### **HOUSE POINTS**

Please see the totals for the month of November. Looks a close run thing...

Red	Yellow	Blue	Green
1601	1592	1660	1665

### **CAKE DONATION BOXES**

Cake donation boxes can be collected from the school office. Please ensure that they are picked up by **Tuesday 7 December 2021**. Many thanks for your support and co-operation.

### **INSET DAY**

Just a quick reminder that **tomorrow** is an Inset Day and school will be closed to pupils. **Back open as normal on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2021**.

### **A FINAL THOUGHT**

**Sometimes the more you listen to yourself, the less you learn. Always keep an open mind.**

*Mr Paul Ackers and Miss Alice Poole*