



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 14: Friday 10th December 2021

UPDATE

Thank you all for your understanding and flexibility concerning our Nativity arrangements. We really want to keep school life as full as we possibly can and we feel that in the main, we have been able to achieve this. St Mary's is a special school and is part of such a special community and we really value the strong relationships that we have. We do, however, need to ensure the safety of all and that any events that take place are facilitated in ways that allow this. Putting constraints in place is never ideal. We are aware of this, but in this instance it is vital that measures that are in effect remain final. These decisions taken have not been made lightly. They are in the best interests of everyone and will enable a 'live' performance to take place, which we are sure you will agree is a real plus. Thank you once again for your continued support.

Can we also remind you that when entering the school building you will need to wear a face covering.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

On Thursday afternoon, Father Daniel and our school Governor, Mr Moss, joined our KS2 children for a Service for the Blessing of the Advent Wreath. We reflected on Advent as a time of longing and waiting in darkness for the light of Jesus, just as the prophet Isaiah spoke about in the scriptures. Our visitors were so impressed to see all the work that we have been doing about Advent in class and Father Daniel then blessed and lit our Advent Wreaths. We offered prayers about how we can bring light to others this Advent, before learning the Makaton sign for light and putting this in song. The children left the hall signing and singing, 'This little light of mine', ready to bring light to others at this special time of Advent.

Thank you also for Year 4, who provided a beautiful and reverent Collective Worship for the whole school on the season of Advent. It really allowed us to take time and to reflect during this very busy and exciting period.

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.

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/school experiences 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. Applications will be treated in the upmost confidence.



St Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy

Lowry Drive, Marple Bridge SK6 5BR

headteacher@mmb.srscmat.co.uk

Company No 7937154



St Ralph
Sherwin

Catholic Multi Academy Trust

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.

WE HAD A GREAT TIME (OH YES WE DID!)

Many thanks once again to the PTA who arranged such a fantastic visit for us all to Stockport Plaza this week to see Dick Whittington. We had a wonderful time and to see such joy on the children's faces was just brilliant. They laughed, danced and sang their way through the performance and their behaviour throughout was superb and they were a real credit to themselves and the school.

CHRISTMAS POST BOX

Please ensure cards are clearly labelled with the child's name and year group. Final day for posting cards will be **Friday 17th December**.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY CAMPS

Courtesy of UK Sports, they are delighted to confirm their Christmas holiday camps are only a few weeks away:

Venues:- Chapel en le Frith Leisure Centre, SK23 0TQ and Hazel Grove Sports Centre, SK7 5JX

Camps Include:- Soccer Camp and Multisport Camp

For further information re: dates, timings and costings please refer to the attached flyer.

WINTER WONDERLAND

Well done to Y1 and Y2 for their wonderful singing at Winter Wonderland last Saturday; they were truly fantastic and all without music!! Despite the very rainy weather, spirits certainly were not dampened and they put on a tremendous show for parents and the community. It was a privilege to be in attendance.

ST MARTIN'S CHURCH

On Wednesday our Class Captains visited St Martin's Church to look at the Christmas tree which was specially decorated by Reception and Year 6; it looked beautiful and very festive. Whilst they were at St Martin's, the children also had the opportunity to try Bell ringing and chat with the Vicar and Parishioners.

CAROLS AT HOLY SPIRIT CHURCH

This coming Sunday children will be performing two songs from our Advent repertoire at Holy Spirit. We and the church are delighted that this event can take place but again we need your support in making this happen. Please stick to the details below.

To limit the number of supporters who attend, we ask you to drop your child off before the service at 3:45pm and return to collect them at 4:30pm. A member of school staff will meet your child(ren) at the church door at drop off and bring your child(ren) to the church door at collection. Should drop off and collection not be possible, we ask that you please limit the number of supporters attending the service. Adults who attend the service are asked to take a lateral flow test prior to attending and to wear a face covering during the service.

Thank you for your co-operation.

JUNIOR CAROL CONCERT

On Wednesday, Years 3 and 4 were very lucky to join many schools from across Stockport, to take part in a Virtual Carol Concert . They sang some beautiful carols, both old and new and heard readings telling the story of the Nativity. They all had a great time and the children were keen to share their views. "It was fun!" Millie, "Everyone enjoyed it" Eve, "It was a pleasure to join in!" Jemima, "It was nice listening to the music" Olivia

NATIVITY INFORMATION

Please refer to the **letter dated 08.12.2021** for specific details regarding ticketing and the performances next week. Can't wait!

A FINAL THOUGHT

You can't always be perfect, but you can always be kind.

Mr Paul Ackers and Miss Alice Poole