



<http://www.stmarysprimary.durham.sch.uk/>

Dates for diary:



Tuesday 14th/15th December- bring in your cards to post in the boxes in each bubble

Tuesday 15th December Christmas Party Day (in bubbles)

Wednesday 16th December- Christmas Jumper/ Christmas Lunch Day (in bubbles)

Thursday 17th December- Festive Film Night. Pick up 5pm (in bubbles)

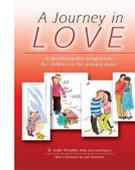
Friday 18th December- Break Up for Christmas Holidays. Children will bring Christmas cards home to open.

Monday January 4th—Back to school

Wednesday 27th January- individual school photographs. Further info to follow.

Please also see holiday dates on our school website and the Weduc calendar.

Relationship and Sex Education



From September 2020, guidance from the Department for Education for Relationships and Sex Education (RSA) AND Health Education became mandatory for all schools, including Catholic Schools. The initiative has been welcomed by the Catholic Education Service (CES) who state clearly that, Catholic schools are also required to deliver RSE in accordance with the teaching of the Church. St Mary's have decided to use, as recommended by the Diocese a developmental programme for children in their primary Years- from EYFS to Year 6, called "A Journey in Love"

Further details and an opportunity for parents- particularly Year 6 to ask any questions they may have will be organised with both myself, Mrs Porter and Mrs Curran our Chair of Governors. This is likely to take place after Christmas but information will be shared prior to this via Weduc.

Thank you

Stars of the Week

Congratulations to our Stars of the Week:

- * Robins- Matthew
- * Larks- Olivia
- * Swifts- Mary
- * Owls- Ella



Festive Film Night Thursday 17th December

Children are invited to stay back after school on Thursday 17th to enjoy a festive film with their class mates. They will vote for the film they would like to watch and they will also enjoy a hot chocolate and home made cookie too. School would like to cover the cost for this. **If your child will be joining their class for the film please just complete the short form on Weduc by Friday 11th December.** Bubbles will have staggered times just as we usually would so pick up times will be

4.55pm - Robins

5pm - Larks

5.05pm- Swifts

5.10pm- Owls

As usual siblings can leave at the later pick up time. Please make sure the times are strictly adhered too as it will be dark and we will need to hand over safely, and as efficiently as we can .Thank you.

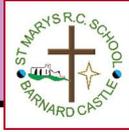
HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



Happy Birthday to Charlie H who celebrates his 11th birthday this week. Have a great day Charlie!



Advent Around School 2020



May we be in this world
A ray of light which
Shone forth from Bethlehem,
Bringing joy and peace
To the hearts of
All men and women.'



Pope Francis.

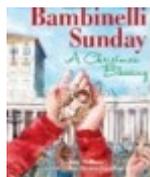
Third Sunday of Advent

Over the past number of decades, on the Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday) children and adults bring their Baby Jesus figures from their homes to St Peters Square where they are blessed by the Pope.



Whilst we are not able to bring in our Baby Jesus figures and not all of us attend Mass, why not celebrate this at home with your family and say a special prayer?

A lovely book, should you wish to purchase it is this one by Alessandro.



Advent Foodbank

For I was hungry, and you gave Me something to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me something to drink;
Matthew 25:35



Thank you to everyone who has already brought items in for our Advent Foodbank this year, we already have quite a collection... wonderful, thank you so much everybody.

This year we are going to have a '**Community Christmas Tree**' at the front of school. Children and families will be invited to;

'decorate a bauble and place it on the tree for all of our community to admire and see!'

Any families who would like to get busy this weekend making decorations for the school community Christmas tree we would really appreciate it! Our 'theme' is natural ... twigs, pine cones, hessian, dried fruits, conkers, seeds- anything you can think of!! Let's get creative!!

Thank you!



Thank you to the families who have already been busy and have made some beautiful decorations for the tree- they are wonderful and the children are very proud of them too. The lights are being delivered next week... we hope!!!

Christmas Nativity and Celebrations!

Whilst we aren't able to have our usual Nativity here in school we are planning on each class bubble to perform and record something each and then put it on the Website for our families to enjoy watching together in the comfort of your own home.

An updated consent form will be added to Weduc so that we have the permissions in place and as always we respect any parental decision to request not to have their child recorded for the website.

Thank you.

