

Newsletter November 2019

"Love one another as Jesus loved us" (John 13 v 34-35)

Jesus said, Love one another as I have loved you.

Through God's love and our Christian Values we encourage each individual to love, respect and value themselves and others.

We encourage and nurture the growth of every individual and their uniqueness so that all flourish and become all that they can be and all that God made them to be

Dear Parents, Children & Friends,

ST. MARY'S SUPPORT GROUP NEWS:

Christmas Coffee Cake and Carols :

Friday 6th December 1:45 - 3:15pm in the school hall. Please come and join us and listen to the school band play whilst enjoying a drink and cake. There will be festive fun including; Guess the name of the bear, silent bid for a Christmas Cake, and other treats. Pupils are also invited to bring 50 pence for a drink and a biscuit. **NB Please note there will be no Friday assembly on this date.**



The next draw for the 150 club will be on Friday 6th December at the Christmas Coffee Afternoon, I hope you can join us for this event and then again on the 20th December at the Carol Service when we also have the bonus draw of £500. Tickets will be on sale shortly for the Christmas Hampers, please return your requests to the School Office or purchase at the School Carol Service. The winner will be drawn at the end of the Carol Service.

The next Support Group meeting is on 14th January at 7:00pm at the North Star. The Parent Support Group are an extremely valuable part of our school. The funds they raise allow school to purchase specific items and complete bigger projects to enhance the children's experience at school. Also and importantly, disco's, snail race, film nights etc. are great fun and wonderful opportunities for the children to socialise outside of the normal school day. The events also provide parents with the opportunity to meet, chat, make friends with people that we may ordinarily only see whilst making a tricky 6 point turn in the car park at pick up! In order for our Support Group to continue to be so successful we are always looking for new members so that the group can grow, enjoy new ideas and share the organisation of these events. So please, if you are able to offer a little time (something we all have precious little of these days) do come along and get involved and help ensure that our Parent Support Group continues to play an important role in the life of our school. We are currently raising funds for curriculum resources for **ALL** classes.

ASSEMBLIES:

Well done to Year 4 who led an outstanding assembly all about perseverance, resilience and pupils understanding that learning new knowledge and skills takes time and practise and a lot of determination. The assembly was humorous, and informative and extremely well performed by our pupils. Well done Year 4 !

The Christmas Service is scheduled to take place on Friday 20th December at 9:30am in St Mary's Church. All parents are welcome to join us for the church service which Year 5 will lead. The school band, woodwind groups and choir will also be performing. Bishop Mark will also be joining the school for this special service.

Please note there will be no Friday assembly on the 29th November, the 6th December and the 20th December.

Future Class Assemblies Are:

31st January Year 3 Class Assembly

14th February Year 1 Class Assembly

13th March Year 5 Class Assembly

Friday Stars of the Week



It has been brought to the school's attention that occasionally the children's Stars of the Weeks stickers fall off jumpers etc and so parents may not always have the opportunity to discuss why their child has received this award in school. With this in mind, we have asked the School Council to discuss with all pupils in school if they like the stickers or would prefer to think of an alternative. Pupils discussed the merits of a sticker, a certificate and a wristband (similar to those you receive going to an event). Pupils have overwhelmingly voted for the wrist bands and are excited by these awards. In response to this, we have now placed an order for the wristbands in readiness for the new term and will see how well these rewards work over the coming weeks. If your child comes home wearing one of these wrist bands please be sure to ask them why they have been chosen.



WORSHIP THEME - This half term we have been thinking about Thankfulness and joy. Take a look at our school website for ideas to discuss at home

<https://www.stmaryscecrompton.oldham.sch.uk/wpcontent/uploads/2016/11/THANKFULNESS.pdf>

SNOW POLICY:

I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents of the snow policy and arrangements for bad weather - although hoping we will not have to implement. 😊

Snow Warnings: what school does

- * The school's priority is our young people's safety
- * All decisions are taken around this central concern.
- * We monitor the weather forecast closely and take advice from many agencies.

During the winter, when bad weather can be expected, our first priority is to ensure that the school site is safe and the surrounding roads are passable.

*The paths are cleared and gritted, and **for safety reasons we do not allow any form of snowballing.***

If conditions deteriorate during the school day, or bad weather is forecast when pupils would be going home, I may inform parents via the school website, twitter account or parentmail as noted below, that they can collect their child from school early. Extra curricular activities may also be cancelled when the weather is poor.

The actual timing depends on weather reports. Exceptionally, I may have to decide in advance to close the school and would always try to use the best possible advice available.

Closing the school due to adverse weather is always a difficult decision to make and is only made in extreme circumstances based on the following:

- There are insufficient staff in school because of unexpected snow/weather conditions.
- The weather makes it too dangerous for staff and children to travel to school.
- The school grounds are too dangerous.
- The heating/hot water is not working.
- School dinners are not available due to any of the above reasons.

A decision to close the school is made as soon as I am in receipt of all necessary information which then allows/enables me to make an informed and considered decision.

Communication with parents

I am sure that you will appreciate that I cannot contact all parents individually.

Notices of early closure are posted immediately on the school website

(www.stmaryscecrompton.oldham.sch.uk) and sent as a message on twitter. We also send a message out on Parentmail, although in high levels of demand this can often be slow. We also inform the Local Authority who update their website and we also inform local media including local radio stations <http://apps1.oldham.gov.uk/SchoolClosures/Schools.aspx>)

IMPORTANT POINTS TO NOTE PLEASE!


St Mary's Church of England Primary School

Address: Rushcroft Road, High Crompton, Shaw, Oldham, OL2 7PP

Tel: 0161 770 8309

E-mail: info@stmaryscecrompton.oldham.sch.uk

Website: www.stmaryscecrompton.oldham.sch.uk

HEADTEACHER: Mrs P A Hartley BEd (Hons), NPQH

DEPUTY HEAD: Mrs J Hardman BSc (Hons), QTS, NPQH

*Please do not rely on waiting for a parentmail message as the only means of communication, please check all other sources including the school website. You can also check by telephoning school but this will only be available **AFTER 8am** when a member of staff is able to answer calls.*

Please do not reply to any text message as this congests the school phone lines.

I hope we will have a pleasant, mild winter, but as always we should be prepared and we are.

**ST MARY'S SCHOOL SUPPORTING THE WIDER COMMUNITY:
ORANGUTAN DAY**



Congratulations to Year 6 for organising a sponsored run and raising a massive £612.76 for the Orangutan Foundation.

A fantastic effort by the whole class. Thank you to everyone who sponsored any of our pupils.

PLACES IN RECEPTION 2020:

If your child is due to start school in September 2020, please make sure you have completed your application on line before 5pm on the 15th January 2020. Our Supplementary Information forms, regarding church attendance, must be returned direct to school. ***Any parent wishing to apply for a Reception place at St. Mary's CE Primary School MUST complete a supplementary form.*** Please contact the school office for further information.

PLEASE NOTE: Once you have submitted an application to the Local Authority, you should be sent confirmation that it has been received, if you do not receive acknowledgement, you **MUST** contact Oldham Council on 0161 770 4213. Applications received after the deadline will only be considered once all on-time applications have been processed.

CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES:

PANTOMIME:

Once again our pupils will be visiting Oldham Coliseum to watch Jack and the Beanstalk. Thank you to all the parents who are joining us as helpers, we could not run this event without your support. Thank you also to Mrs Hardman who does a fantastic job of organising and co-ordinating such a large school trip. Thanks also to St Mary's Support Group for subsidising the trip each year by donating £1000.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH:

This year, Christmas lunch will take place on **Wednesday 18th December**. For those children who have packed lunches, parents are invited to make their lunches festive, should they wish to do so.

REMINDER PHOTOGRAPHS IN SCHOOL:

With lots of Nativities, Christmas Performances and Concerts coming up in the next few weeks please can I remind parents about the protocol in school.

Please do not upload any images onto the internet which include other pupils OR members of staff. This includes all social media sites such as Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and Instagram. We respectfully ask that parents adhere to these guidelines in the interest, safety and privacy of all our pupils and adults in school. Failure to adhere to these requests may lead to a withdrawal of permission to photograph and video future school events.

SCHOOL COUNCIL: CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY FRIDAY 13th DECEMBER

Please see the letter written below from the School Council:

Dear Parent / Guardian,

Make the world better with a sweater!



On Friday 13th December 2019 we are inviting ALL pupils (and all staff) to take part in this year's Christmas Jumper Day! This will be for Save the Children.

Everyone is invited to come to school in their jolliest, silliest or cosiest Christmas woollies and make a donation of £1, to help save children around the world. If your child doesn't own a festive sweater already, dig out a plain jumper and decorate it with tinsel, baubles or homemade snowflakes. You can also wear Christmas colours of red and /or green. Whatever you choose to do please **DO NOT** go out and buy a jumper!

By wearing your jumper you will be supporting the work of Save the Children. You will be helping those affected by, crisis and children fighting life- threatening conditions. To quote'A £2 donation could change a child's life. It could help them grow up healthy and safe, and get an education, so they can grow up to be who they want to be.'

We'd really appreciate your help to make Christmas Jumper Day a huge success and are looking forward to a woolly fun day.

From

St. Mary's School Council.

SCHOOL BAND AND CHOIR:

The Choir have a busy schedule ahead with several Christmas performances. The performances begin on Saturday 7th December where the choir will sing at the United Reform Church and then in the evening, of the same day, perform again at St. James Parish Church, Oldham. The latter performance is organised by the Rotary Club and all proceeds will be donated to a charity of their choice. In addition, we have also been invited to be part of the Oldham Music Service Christmas Festival on Sunday 15th December at the Queen Elizabeth Hall.

The choir will also sing for the Community Christmas Party on Tuesday 10th December and will join the school band to sing and play on the 20th December at the School Carol Service in St. Mary's Church.

Please note all band and woodwind players (excluding beginners) will need their instruments in school on Friday 20th December.

THE POSADA:



Posada is a Christmas tradition that began in Mexico where, in the weeks leading up to Christmas, young people, dressed as Mary and Joseph, travelled from house to house, asking for a room for the night, and telling people about the imminent arrival of Jesus.

Modern day Posada uses nativity figures which travel from place to place. Following the success of last

year we are once again inviting our Reception children to take part in our very own Posada. This morning Bishop Mark blessed the Posada and it will begin its journey on Friday 29th November. The Posada will then return to school to be welcomed back into church and school at carol service with Bishop Mark on the 20th December. Hosting the Posada is a chance to celebrate Advent and think about our journey towards Christmas. We hope you enjoy the experience.



SCHOOL MEALS and DINNER MONEY:

A reminder that dinner money can be paid either half termly or termly. The cost for the next half term, (7th Jan - 14th Feb) is £66.70. The cost for the whole term up until Easter is £135.70. Please note our preferred method of payment is Parent Pay. If you need any assistance in getting this started please contact the school office. Thank you

GDPR

Please can all parents ensure they notify the school office of any changes to contact details, including personal and work contact details and change of address.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES NEXT HALF TERM

Monday:	Badminton	3:30 - 4:30pm yrs 5 and 6 with Joe Warburton
Tuesday:	Infant Fun Club:	12:00 - 12:30 with Mr Beasley (Sports Development Officer)
	Junior Fun Club:	12:30 -1:00 Yr3 - 4 with Mr Beasley
	Circuit Training :	3:30 - 4:30pm Yrs 3 and 4 with Mr Beasley
Wednesday:	Choir:	3:30 - 4:30pm with Mrs Davies and Mrs Roberts
Thursday:	ICT club:	12:00 - 12:30 Year 6 with Mr Taylor
	Anna's Dance	3:30 - 4:15pm Years 1, 2, and 3
Friday:	Gymnastics	3:30 -5:00pm with Mrs Oxley


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SCHOOL WEBSITE:

Please log on to find current information about school. For latest updates and news you can also follow St Mary's School on twitter at: www.twitter.com/stmarysce

Website: www.stmaryscecrompton.oldham.sch.uk

REMINDER- DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Mon 2 nd Dec	Actions Have Consequences - Key Stage 2 pupils
Sat 7 th Dec	School choir to perform at United Reform Church at 11:30am and St James Church at 6:30pm
Mon 9 th Dec	Infant Dress Rehearsal and Broadfield to visit St. Mary's School
Tues 10 th Dec	Community Party and Christmas Show 1:45pm
Wed 11 th Dec	Infant Christmas Performance 2:00pm
Thurs 12 th Dec	Infant Christmas Performance 10:00am
Fri 13 th Dec	Christmas Jumper Day
Sun 15 th Dec	School choir to perform at the Queen Elizabeth Hall 2:15 pm
Tues 17 th Dec	Experience Christmas in St Mary's Church
Tues 17 th Dec	Infant Christmas Party 1:00pm - (details to follow)
Wed 18 th Dec	Christmas Dinner Day
Thurs 19 th Dec	Junior Christmas Party 1:00pm - (details to follow)
Fri 20 th Dec	Carol Service (led by Year 5) 9:30am in church.

**Please Note: School Closes for Christmas on Friday 20th December
and reopens on Tuesday 7th January**

These final weeks of term are very busy and exciting. Thank you for your continued support and co-operation.

Kind regards,
P.A Hartley
Headteacher