



"Grow together in Christ"

Rothwell St. Mary's
Catholic Primary School Leeds



www.rothwellstmarys.co.uk
(0113) 2828182

Head Teacher's Newsletter 12 – 30.11.22

Virtue: PATIENCE

I can wait.



Dear Parents and Carers,

So, let's use this season of Advent to be open to welcome the Lord, to make a fresh start and to draw closer to God. The message is clear for all of us: we are to stand ready!

Advent is the time to start making preparations to celebrate Christ's birth - God's momentous arrival into our world in the person of Jesus. Advent is also the season of hope: a time to think deeply about Jesus' return at the end of time.



Attendance: Last week, the class with the best attendance was Year 4 with 100%. They are certainly doing well this year! This is amazing attendance. Keep this up Reception and Year 1 and everyone else will follow!



New Awards: These awards are given out in Friday's Gold Book assembly and must be returned the following Thursday.

Handwriting:

Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Quinn	Jack	Nathan	Bertie	D'Arcy	Harriet	Zavier

Excellent attitude to learning award: these are prestigious awards, and the children should be very proud of themselves for achieving these. Well done.

EYFS/ KS1: Thomas – Reception - for being an amazing learner

KS2: Helena- for her effort and continued perseverance in Year 4



Gold Book Assembly Cancelled: There will be NO assembly this Friday due to training taking place off site for Miss Leonard and Mrs Sweeney. Back on track for the following Friday.

Disco: Reception, Y1 and Y2 can bring clothes to change into on Friday. KS2 should arrive for their time. Remember parents are welcome to stay for a cuppa in the Year 2 classroom.

Assemblies- Class Assemblies for the year were sent out last week. Here they are again for anyone who missed the email: Year 4 will lead us this coming Friday – come along and see our amazing pupils.

Term	Spring 1	Spring 2	Sum 1	Sum 2	Sum 2
Year	Year 3	Year 2	Year 1	Year 6	Rec
Date	20/1/23	10/3/23	5/5/23	16/6/23	14/7/23

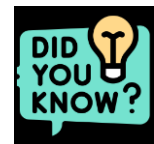
Poetry Recitals: In an aim to continue to encourage a love of reading, we are introducing poetry recitals in assemblies this year. Here are the dates when your child's class will perform:

Important days and dates for this half term

Monday 28th November @ 9am

Mini Vinnie
Advent Liturgy – parents welcome

Tuesday 29th November
HSBC Workshops in school for Rec to Y4 (Y5/6 TBC)



Are you entitled to Free School Meals but don't take them up – this could save you £420 per year!!

Friday 2nd December
FOSM DISCO NIGHT
Rec, Y1, Y2 3.15pm -4.45pm
Y3, y4, Y5, Y6 5.00pm – 6.30pm

Parents come along to a social gathering at the same time in the Y2 classroom

Wednesday 7th December

Whole school trip to the pantomime in Leeds – am – back for a picnic late lunch.

Monday 12th December
Reception & Y1 Nativity
1.30pm and 5.30pm

Tuesday 13th December
Christmas Dinner day- Christmas jumpers can be worn instead of school jumpers – head bands and Christmas accessories are allowed too (even for the staff!!)

Year 6 – 9th December 2022
Year 5- 13th January 2023
Reception- 3rd February 2023
Year 2- 10th February 2023
Year 1 – 24th March 2023
Year 4 – 5th May 2023
Year 3 – 16th June 2023

FOSM: FOSM will be running a Christmas raffle with some great prizes to help with your Christmas spending (as well as a couple of prizes just to treat yourselves!) Raffle tickets will be going out in school bags 28th November, please can you return these by 7th December in time for the draw on the 12th of December at the Nativity. Good luck everyone.

Christmas Gifts: I am aware that everyone is stretched now. I am requesting that **NO** gifts are bought this year for staff. It is a lovely thought but a card with a message is far more powerful and thoughtful. If you want to do something worthwhile, we will be doing our reverse Advent calendar. This message has been sent this week. All donations will make up 7 hampers for families.

Pantomime: This year we are SOOOOOO fortunate that FOSM and school are funding the pantomime costs. Just so that you know what this amounts to – the buses are costing £1,200, and the tickets are costing £2,500. This means that it would have cost parents £13 per child. Thank you to those who have contributed in any way over the past year to the FOSM bank account. I am sure you appreciate this as much as I do.

Friday 16th December: We will end this half term with mass at 9am on this day. We will be offering a cuppa and a breakfast sandwich to parents afterwards. If you plan on coming and would like to join us after mass, then please can you let the office know for catering purposes. It will be lovely to get together on this day. The children will have a brunch meal on this day in preparation for finishing at 1pm.

Cost of Living/ Benefits: As a country, we are fully aware of the increases to the cost of living. Many people are not aware of the many benefits that are available out there or feel embarrassed to apply. This should never be the case. Here is the link to Leeds City Council benefits page. Please take a look if you feel that you could possibly qualify for any of these. You may also be entitled to Free School Meals along with this. As the image across shows, you could save yourself £420 a year on this. If anyone is unsure or wants to chat about this confidentially, please do come and see me – I am always happy to help any family. <https://www.leeds.gov.uk/benefits>

Admission into Reception This will officially open on 1st November and run until 15th January 2023. If your child will be 4 before 31st August, then you need to apply during this round. **Please apply online AND come and ask for a supplementary information form at school or download from our school website www.rothwellmarys.co.uk**

FOSM: FOSM is registered for Amazon Smile which is a simple way to support us every time you shop. It is easy to select us as your chosen charity and Amazon donate 0.5% of purchases made! To support us please go to <https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/1115799-0> or search for Friends Of St Mary's School Rothwell at smile.amazon.co.uk. There's a few so look for Rothwell. Thank you!

We're also registered with easyfundraising Every time you shop online with any of 2,700 retailers, including Amazon, John Lewis, and Argos, you can raise money for Friends of St Mary's. Just visit the easyfundraising site [here](#), and click 'Shop Online' to find your preferred retailer. It only takes a few seconds and is a great way to easily contribute to FOSM. Just remember to put things in your basket after you've clicked the link!

Your School Lottery

Thursday 15th December

Party Afternoon – party clothes can be worn all day

Friday 16th December

Mass 9am

Parent tea/coffee/ mince

pie/ sausage sandwiches

Brunch Dinner 11am

Break up at 1pm

Collective Worship Times
Parents are invited to attend
in person. These will start
this week.

Year 6 – Thursday 8.30am

Year 5 – Thursday 2.40pm

Year 4 – Wednesday

8.30am

Year 3- Tuesday 2.40pm

Year 2 – Thursday 2.40pm

Year 1 – Tuesday 2.40pm

Reception – Thursday 8.40
am (new time)

Poetry Recitals:

In an aim to continue to encourage a love of reading, we are introducing poetry recitals in assemblies this year. Here are the dates when your child's class will perform:

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Our school lottery has launched, and tickets are available now! To be in with a chance of winning and raise funds for the school please visit yourschoollottery.co.uk and click on Buy a ticket. Search for the school using 'Rothwell St Mary's' and click on the Support us button under the school image.



Tickets are just £1 a week with a TOP PRIZE of £25,000, and 1 guaranteed winner for each school receives 30% of the ticket sales in the Saturday weekly draw. Remember 40% of the sales is coming straight back to FOSM and the lottery is open to anyone who'd like to support us so share with friends and family and keep boosting the prize fund.

Amazing BONUS prize - Win a PS5 Mega Bundle - Buy your tickets before December 10th to be entered in to the draw

Been struggling to get your hands on the perfect Christmas present? We've got you covered... on Saturday 10th of December, with delivery in time for Christmas, one lucky supporter will win this MASSIVE PS5 bundle, worth over £1,000!

A PlayStation 5 (disc edition) with 3 highly-rated games (FIFA 23, Lego Star Wars, Stray), an extra controller, PS Pulse gaming headset, loads more goodies – AND a 43" 4K Ultra HD TV to play it all on! Christmas? Sorted.

Anyone who signs up and buys a ticket by the 10th for our first lottery on the 17th will be in the bonus PS5 draw, including those who sign up by direct debit who won't have made their first payment by the 10th.

Twitter: Mrs Sweeney keeps our Twitter page updated. Please follow us @rothwellstmarys – here is a glimpse of what took place last week!



It was such a treat to have families join us for phonics this morning in Reception.



God Bless you all on your Confirmation Day @DiocesisLoiden



Always remember that the door is open, and your first port of call should be your child's class teacher. If you need to speak further, then please see Mrs Sweeney or failing that myself. It is always better to nip things in the bud and get a resolution quickly with your child's teacher.

God Bless
Miss S Leonard –
Head
teacher head@rothwellstmarys.org.uk



School website-

Our school website holds lots of information about our school and the website address is on the top of this letter. It has newsletters and key dates for the year. It also has copies of our inspection reports, and admission forms, as well as photos. Why not take a look? We will also see the website updated by the end of the first half term so keep an eye out!

Uniform: Please can I remind parents the correct PE should be worn. NO named kit should be coming into school. Plain and simple navy bottoms, white tops!

Class Pages: On each class page you will find the teacher's planning for each half term, your class newsletter, up to date photographs and any additional information that teachers may post. Please keep a regular eye on here.

Safeguarding: Our new safeguarding policy is available on the school website. Our safeguarding team is below.

Miss Leonard, Mrs Sweeney, Ms MacPherson, Mrs Sheldon-Price should you wish to contact us, please use the usual address. We have a duty of care to protect all our children and families.

Dear families,

On behalf of the governing body, I wish to introduce myself as Chair of Governors.

The Governing Body is made up of Foundation Governors (x7), a staff Governor, two Parent Governors and an LA Governors. All governors are volunteers and give their time freely to school.

Our role is to support and challenge the school in all matters relating to the effective running of the school. On a day-to-day basis, we place the running of the school in the hands of Miss Leonard our head teacher and her team of staff both teaching and non-teaching. She is responsible for ensuring that all pupils are taught effectively, the school finances are in order and that the safeguarding procedures are in place. She has lots of other jobs too – too many to list.

As a governing body, we take on different roles and responsibilities which are a statutory duty by law. We meet termly as a full Governing Body, and we also meet as sub committees to discuss statutory duties in more depth. Our sub committees are Pupil Support & Catholic Life, Teaching & Learning and Resources. Our meeting dates can also be found on the school website.

If you wish to find out more about our members, please visit the school website here: <https://www.rothwellstmarys.co.uk/school-info/governing-body/>

If you want to know more about our Governing Body or wish to meet any of us, keep an eye out and come and chat to us around school.

Kind regards

Claudette Farias-Fagg – Chair of Governors

