



Wednesday 8 December 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Please see below this weeks' notices.

Faith in Action (Catholic Life)

Following on from the Trust's Stronger Together day, we are invited to join in with *12 Days of Kindness* as we lead up to Christmas. Within school, staff will be carrying out acts of kindness and we invite children and their families to do the same. Thank you for all the wonderful eco-friendly Christmas decorations we have received. Christmas has certainly arrived at St James House. We invite our families to join in with us; please look out for our acts of kindness on Twitter #SRSbekind.

Over the past 20 months, the support and generosity we have received has been incredible. This Christmas, the staff at St. Mary's want to give something back. We will be sharing our support with CAFOD by donating money for CAFOD World Gifts in the hope to make a difference to the world's poorest people. Our gift could provide a family with food, water, shelter and a way to earn a living - meaning they can lift themselves out of poverty. The staff are asking our families to do the same. This Christmas, staff are asking for you to not buy Christmas gifts for them but instead to buy a gift to support the wonderful work of CAFOD. Please click on the link below and choose a gift as each World Gift is a real example of CAFOD's work. When you choose a gift, you support the area of the work that this gift represents.

[CAFOD World Gifts – CAFOD World Gifts](#)

Please see below a message of thanks from a member of the Padley Group:

On behalf of everyone at Padley, I would like to thank our friends of St. Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy for your kind gift of Harvest donations. This contribution is invaluable in enabling us to continue delivering services to the most vulnerable in our society. This donation will be used to support the delivery of our Day Centre in Derby providing:

- Food, clothing and toiletry parcels to those in need;
- Prepared meals for those choosing between eating or heating;
- Cooking courses providing recipes of balanced nutritious meals on a budget;
- Activities to support the wellbeing and mental health;
- Activities providing the simple pleasures we all take for granted, such as watching a film, reading a book and sharing a meal with friends;
- Activities encouraging engagement with appropriate support services;
- Access to support services such as substance misuse;
- Access to services to support physical health conditions
- Have a haircut;
- Self-contained supported accommodation to develop the skills to maintain a tenancy;
- Obtain the support needed to make positive life changes

Christmas Panto

It is Panto time once again...oh yes it is!

Just to confirm this will take place on Tuesday 21 December. This year's panto is Sleeping Beauty and we are so very excited to attend this wonderful annual event once again. If your child is not attending the pantomime trip, your child/ren will still be expected to attend school as normal.



St Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy

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**St Ralph
Sherwin**
Catholic Multi Academy Trust



Celebrating Achievements

Huge congratulations to the following children who have received a Headteacher's Award for excellent work and/or demonstrated outstanding behaviour and attitude towards learning this week: Babafiyiknmi O, Harlow M, Marcus W, Isaiah S, Aimie W, Fiadh M, Mykey A, Liniwe S, Anna-Haze B, Anna M, Leo Co and Maisey A. Well done to you all.

A special mention goes to Scarlett A who has passed her Level 4 swimming and also her London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art (LAMDA) grade 1. Also, to Ellie-Mae D for taking part in 'Lockdown Love 2021' dance and for achieving her pre-Bronze First in street dancing. Finally, to Poppy H for receiving a rosette for good organisation in a recent equestrian event. Well done to you all.

COVID-19

We would like to thank our parents and carers for your understanding around COVID-19 and especially your continued support to help keep our children in school. You may have heard that one of our neighbouring schools in the Trust was closed last Friday and Monday in the hope to stop the spread of the virus within their school.

Over this past week we have been informed of some positive cases of COVID-19 in some of our classes. As a school, we continue to remain in Phase bubbles and ensure playtimes and lunchtimes are staggered. Although we are not responsible for Track & Trace, we will be informing you, our parents and carers, of any positive case within their child/rens class and strongly advising you to take your child for a PCR because it is likely they will have been in close contact of a positive case. It is really important that we continue to do everything we can to prevent any possible spread of this virus, especially in these last couple of weeks before Christmas.

- If your child has symptoms of COVID please isolate them at home and arrange a PCR test in line with national guidance. A lateral flow test is not sufficient in this case.
- If you have a positive COVID case in the household, please arrange for all other household members to have a PCR test and keep your child at home until a result is received. Please do not take them to other clubs or social events during this time.
- If the PCR is positive, please follow national advice and isolate - this is required by law.
- If the PCR is negative your child can return to school, but if they are able please consider daily lateral flow testing for seven more days.

PTFA

This Friday 10 December, at the end of the school day, the PTFA will be selling Christmas Hamper Bags at a cost of £5 each on a first come first serve basis. Inside the hampers will be lots of goodies for the whole family to enjoy.

Dates for your Diary

Please see below a list of upcoming key dates for your diaries:

- Wednesday 15 December – Christmas Dinner & Christmas jumper day
- Tuesday 21 December – Panto and last day of term
- Wednesday 22 December – School closed for additional bank holiday for the Queens Jubilee
- Thursday 23 December – INSET
- Monday 28 February – INSET
- Friday 1 July – INSET

Please feel free to contact us if you require anything in addition to the information above.

Best wishes and God Bless

The Leadership Team



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NOTTINGHAM

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