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God is at the centre of our lives and as a school community we try to grow in love and care by following the example of Jesus



Friday 30th November 2018

Dear Parents,

This week has been another very positive week at St Mary's as our Quality Mark in English and Maths was externally validated after a very busy and thorough visit. Furthermore as of this week I am able to share our OFSTED with you.

Last week was the last of our very popular Friday afternoon activity sessions. They have been very popular with children and staff as well as the OFSTED inspector! They have been a wonderful opportunity for staff to share their interests with the children whether it's gardening, singing, drama, German etc. It is also important to remember that giving the children this structured activity does not impact on time spent learning but provides an interesting and constructive opportunity in exchange for a slightly shorter lunch. Those lunchtime minutes are used for learning in the week but- when they are put together- give a usable block as part of a Friday afternoon.

Next week we can look forward to the Festival of Voices on Monday for some of our children and Reconciliation at 6pm on Wednesday in church.

Our word of the week is...

Hope

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, king of the universe.

You sent your Son to be the Light of the world and to spread his light of love to all.

As we light the candles of this wreath

May its growing brightness remind us of the approaching nearness of your Son

So that the day of His coming may find us prepared and filled with joy.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen

Parish Christmas bazaar

Thank you to everyone who donated toys, bottles etc, bought raffle tickets or supported the Parish Christmas Fayre on the day. The final amount raised was over £2,500!

Snowy thoughts

As the weather gets colder once more can I remind everyone that in event of a closure due to snow I will send a message as text and email but you can also check on the council website.

Football and High 5

Well done to our heroic footballers and netballers- not forgetting staff and parents- who braved such soggy, windswept conditions on Thursday night at Rugeley. Commiserations to our footballers who played so well but lost. Congratulations to our netball team who extended their winning streak!

Cross country

Well done to all the children who took part on Wednesday. You all did really well!

Absent children

If you are aware that your child will be off poorly please could you let the school office know as soon as possible- 01543- 227440. Also could I remind parents that in the event of a child suffering from sickness or diarrhoea a 48 hour rule applies to reduce the risk of illnesses spreading.

Parking before and after school

I would like to remind those parents who drop off or collect by car of the need to be considerate of our neighbour. I do understand how difficult it can be getting children thoroughly wrapped up before school on these cold mornings but please ensure you park safely.

Dates for your diary

Do keep an eye on our website calendar for term dates etc. Looking ahead can I flag up our next school Mass on Sunday 9th December, that children return to school on Monday 7th January and we have an INSET day on Friday 15th February 2019!

Kind regards,

Mr J Shingler
Headteacher

