



Important Items in this newsletter:

- ◆ **Diary Dates**
- ◆ **FOSMs News**
- ◆ **Starting School—September 2020**



Star of the Week

Week ending 22nd November

Reception:	Isaac
Class 1:	Delphi
Class 2:	Malia
Class 3:	Lowen
Class 4:	Theo H
Class 5:	Delilah
Class 6:	Jasmine

Week ending 29th November

Reception:	Emma
Class 1:	Miles
Class 2:	Teddy
Class 3:	Farren
Class 4:	Rosie
Class 5:	Spencer
Class 6:	Evie-Mae

Attendance Winners

Week ending 22/11/19 — Year 6

Week ending 29/11/19 — Year 6

Gospel Values

For two weeks commencing 9th December our Gospel Value is Humility — being humble and putting others first.

Special events are:

International Human Rights Day -
10th December

UK Christmas Jumper Day - 13th December

Migrants' Day — 18th December

Hello from Mrs. Draycott

We are definitely well and truly getting into the Christmas spirit here! Our fantastic choir started their programme of Christmas events on Sunday, with an amazing performance at the Princess Pavilion to launch the Christmas Tree Festival. Thank you for bringing your child along to support our school for this event. A big thank you also to Mrs Austin-Smith and Mrs Mulcahy for all their hard work with the choir at this time of year, and to Class 6 who decorated our Christmas tree so beautifully.

Next week we will be welcoming you to our Christmas performances- you have a real treat in store! Please read the information in this newsletter about where and when to arrive in the afternoons or evenings.

This afternoon after school we are holding our Christmas Fayre. Many thanks to our committed FOSMS team, who have organised the whole event and have put in so much work for weeks beforehand to get everything ready. Make sure you have a ride on the 'smoothie bike' at the fayre to make yourself a delicious smoothie whilst keeping fit! This is run by Nick from Sustrans, who is working with our school to promote active travel to and from school, rather than travelling by car.

We will be celebrating our end of term Mass at 9:30am on the last day of term, Friday 20th December, and you are all very welcome to join us.

We wish a warm welcome to Mrs. Alison Liptrott, who will be starting with us as a Teaching Assistant on Monday 9th December.

Have a lovely weekend everyone.

Best wishes,
Mrs. Draycott
Head of School

Christmas Charity Event

We are supporting the UK Christmas Jumper Day on Friday 13th December, in aid of Save the Children.

Gymnastics Winner

Our congratulations go to Freddie in Class 3 for his outstanding performance at a recent gymnastics competition.

FOSMs

Bag4school Collection

lection bags will be distributed via bookbags very soon and the 'Bag4school' collection takes place at 9am on Wednesday 11th December. Please leave official bags at the school front gate, extra bags are always available from the School Office.

PLEASE NOTE — It is preferred that all donations be placed into the official bags (extra bags are available from the school office. Otherwise black sacks can be used. Please note: duvets, pillows, cushions

Catholic Life News

As we start the season of Advent we are preparing to celebrate the birth of Jesus, the Son of God, at Christmas. Your children will be thinking about how they can prepare and what they can do to get closer to Jesus by helping others. This will enable them to learn about the true meaning of Advent.

Our Gospel Value during this season will be, **Humility** and the children will be thinking about how they can serve others, by putting others first.

Humility

There is an Advent spirit in the heart of every person. It is one of longing, of yearning for a fulfillment that somehow lies beyond ourselves.

Things to do at home - please help your children by:

- Reminding them that Christmas is about the gift of Jesus to us and not just about receiving presents.
- That we can help others during this time of the year.

Reverse Advent Basket

This year, to help those people in our community who are in need, we will have a 'Reverse Advent Basket' in the entrance of our school. For this basket we invite your child to bring in Christmas items, non-perishable foodstuffs and toiletries. These items will be donated to our local Food Bank at the end of term, to help those local families to enjoy the festive period.

Please help us to support this wonderful charity.

Starting School—September 2020

Please note the deadline for applications to be submitted is 15th January. Please apply online at: www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions and complete the St Mary's School supplementary form, which is available from the School Office. If you apply on time you will be notified of your allocation on National Offer Day of 16th April 2020.

Cornmunity

Messy Church is thinking about CHRISTMAS!

MESSY CHURCH is an all-age family gathering with craft, games, songs, story and food, not like conventional church; that is partly why it's called "Messy". There is plenty of space for the energetic to run around, and we do not expect anyone to sit quietly when they are not in the mood.

The next gathering will be on **SATURDAY 14th December between 9.30 and 11.00 at All Saints Church, Killigrew Street, Falmouth**. We will start at 9.30 with **breakfast** (including mince pies?!) and then there will be games and activities, followed by a story and songs. Everyone is welcome and **we would be delighted to see you**. All children must be accompanied by an adult please.

Messy Church is **free**. For more information see www.messychurch.org.uk or find us on Facebook.com/Falmouth Messy Church.

Please note that there will be no Messy Church in January or February 2020.

Please note that signposting to any activities/services by St Mary's School does not constitute an endorsement or recommendation. It is recommended that parents/carers make their own enquiries to satisfy themselves as to the suitability of these. Under no circumstances will either St Mary's School or Plymouth CAST accept any responsibility or liability for any such activity/service.

Party Clothes

All children can wear their party clothes on the last day of term, so they are ready for the Class Christmas parties.

CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCES 2019

We're looking forward to welcoming you to our Christmas performances. This year the performances are more low key and shorter. The programme for the performances is as follows:-

9th December	Reception Class	2:00pm
10th December	Classes 1 & 2	1:30pm & 6:30pm
11th December	Classes 3 & 4	1:30pm & 6:30pm

Tickets have been issued but please return any unwanted tickets to be redistributed to those who have requested additional seats.

PLEASE NOTE ENTRY WITHOUT A TICKET WILL NOT BE PERMITTED.

Afternoon Performances

Parents and visitors are politely asked not to arrive on before 1:40pm on Monday and 1:15pm on Tuesday and Wednesday as lunches are served from up until 1:00pm. The hall has to be cleared and set up for the afternoon performances. Entrance will be through the green gate leading to the Reception Class playground for afternoon performances.

Evening Performances

Entrance to the school for the evening performances is through the front door.

Every year we ask parents **not** to return their child/ren for the evening performances before 6:00pm as the school is **closed** until staff are back on the premises to supervise them. As all St Mary's pupils will have seen the performances, please ensure seats are **strictly for adults only as space is limited.**

Your co-operation is greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Photographs/Videoing

Many parents and grandparents wish to take photographs and recordings of their child/ren performing for their own personal use. Therefore, if parents wish to photograph or film they are free to do so. ***Please note that any photographs or videos taken of your child are for personal use and should not be posted on social media without the permission of the parents involved.***

Please contact the school if you have any queries or concerns about this **before** the first performance on Monday 9th December.

HELP NEEDED!

We are looking for parents who can assist with dismantling the stage and scenery early Thursday morning from 8:00am on the 12th December. Please let the school office know if you are able to spare half an hour.

HELP NEEDED!

Christmas Dinner Helpers - the catering department are looking for volunteers to help in the kitchen on Tuesday and/or Wednesday, 17th and 18th December. Please see Sarah Slater, our School Chef if you are willing to help.



EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSURE PROCEDURES

For those families who are new to the school, the emergency school closure procedure is as follows. We strongly recommend that you listen to updates on BBC Radio Cornwall, Pirate FM or Heart FM for up to date information on school closures which will also be posted on the radio stations websites. We will endeavour to contact all parents via the Schoolcomms system. This system sends a message to parents' mobile phones. If you have recently changed your mobile number, please inform the school office.

Alternatively, log on to our school website for the latest details about emergency closure. www.st-marys-fal.cornwall.sch.uk

In the event for example of heavy snow during the school day, you the parents are in the best position to assess the road conditions etc. where you live. If you need to collect your child early then this is acceptable. The school will remain open until all pupils have been collected.

Diary Dates

December

- 8th St Mary's Choir at the Live Nativity
- 9th Reception Christmas Play 2pm
- 10th Y1&2 Christmas Play 1.30pm & 6.30pm
- 11th Y3&4 Christmas Play 1.30pm & 6.30pm
Bags for School Collection (morning drop off)
- 12th Last Y5 & 6 Swim (fun session)
- 13th St Mary's & Truro Male Voice Choir Concert at 7pm St Mary's Catholic Church
- 15th Christingle Service at St Mary's Catholic Church 5.30pm
- 20th Last day of Autumn Term Infants finish at 3.15pm & Juniors at 3.30pm

January 2020

- 7th New Term commences