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December 2019 Newsletter

Dear Parents, Carers and friends of St Mary's,

As always we are left smiling at the end of a very busy term. The smiles are due to your children and the way in which they show respect for everyone and everything they do. We have been blessed with wonderful Nativity plays from key stage 1 and Nursery, fantastic church service from key stage 2, a Christingle service which reminded us all of the *reason for the season*, and carol singing which has brightened up some dreary days. Such events are a testament to how hard pupils and staff work, and I'd like to express a huge thank you to staff and parents for supporting each and every event. At the end of a very busy term it is wonderful when parents pop into say thank you. The feedback forms have been overwhelmingly supportive and we are very grateful.

As staff we are often congratulated by members of the public when we take our children out. Recently I received this email from a governor who accompanied the trip to the panto, and I'd like to share it with you.

'Just to say how marvellous the staff were on this trip. They coped so well with the sick children and then the cleaning up and then the waiting at the end. Everyone was calm and happy throughout. A great show from a great staff - the panto was good too. Thanks for letting me share the experience.'

Twitter



Some parents have requested that we start to use Twitter so that you can see what our school is up to on a regular basis. We have set up an account, which for the moment is quite protected. You will need to request to follow and a member of the leadership team has to accept you. Apologies if you have requested to follow and we have not recognised your user name. If this is the case please come and see me in the school office and I will sort it out for you.

Please search St Mary's Primary Halton.

This is a trial basis and I am sorry we will not be able to answer any tweets or accept personal requests to ensure your children feature each time we tweet.

Netball

This term we have played in our first two league netball matches against Beechwood and The Grange. Both games were extremely close but both ended in defeat for St Mary's. The children put in a great performance with some of them playing the sport for the very first time. Great resilience and sportsmanship were shown by all. Well done!!



Christmas in the Nursery

Christmas in the Nursery got off to a good start at the end of November with the making of personal Christmas cards and lots of songs that needed to be learned for the Concert. As the weeks have gone by the children have been learning about lots of customs and traditions to do with Christmas. They drew pictures on their letters to Santa and made their own tree decorations once they had helped to put up the tree and all the other decorations in the Nursery.



The highlight of all the fun and festivity was certainly the Christmas concert that the children performed for their families on Friday 13th Dec. The Nursery was packed out and everyone was extremely proud of the wonderful show that the children put on.

Christmas wouldn't be Christmas without a good party! Children and staff had a super time at their party on Mon 16th with lots of party games and food.

Determination

This has been our value of the half term. We have all seen children determined to work hard. Next terms value is Respect. If you could talk to your children about this and ask them what they are learning in school about Respect that would be very helpful.

Important dates

- Friday 20th December – School Closes for Christmas Holiday 2 p.m.
 - Monday 6th January – School reopens
- Thursday 9th January – School Nurse drop in – 8.45 a.m.
 - Wednesday 15th January - Family Assembly
 - Wednesday 5th February - Family Assembly
- Friday 14th February – School Closes for half term

From all the staff at St Mary's we wish you and your families a very

*Merry
Christmas*

and best wishes for the New Year