



St Mary's Catholic Primary School School Bulletin

26th November 2021

SUBJECT	YEAR GROUPS RELEVANT TO	STAFF CONTACT
Football Tournament	5&6	Mrs Piper

Year 5 and 6 Football tournaments

Earlier in November, children in years 5 and 6 represented the school in boys and girls football tournaments. They competed against many of the other local schools. All the children played really well and thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

The children showed collaboration and resilience, which are two of our school's learning values. They behaved well and showed great sportsmanship to each other and the other teams, as well thanking their referees at the end of their matches.

We were very proud of all the children that took part.

Swimming Gala	Key Stage 2	Mrs Piper
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Swimming Gala 23rd November 2021

On Tuesday, children from key stage 2 represented the school in an inter-school gala. St Mary's came second place which was a huge success. The children swam fantastically and showed great sportsmanship in cheering for their own team, as well as children from other schools.

I was incredibly proud of a number of children who stepped up and filled in for other children. Some swimming for a year group older than them. The children were a real credit to the school.

I would like to take this opportunity to also thank Mrs Tanner and Mrs Kirby for all their hard work in preparing the children for this event.

Weekly Online Safety Update	All	Mr Getty
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TIK TOK

Over the past couple of years, a range of new popular Apps have emerged, making the task of staying up-to-date with the technology children are using very challenging!

One of the most popular Apps you will likely hear children referring to is one called 'Tik-Tok'.

I have attached a poster with very clear explanations of how this App could be harmful for our children (such as the example extract below!) and ways of helping to keep them safe.

Whilst 'Tik-Tok' might seem harmless and lots of fun, it is important that we educate ourselves in what our children are being (or *might be*) exposed to when using the App.

Please note: Tik-Tok has an age limit of 'Aged 13 and over' - therefore no children at St Mary's should be using this App.

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Most videos appearing on a child's feed are light-hearted and amusing. However, some clips have been reported for featuring drug and alcohol abuse, themes of suicide and self-harm, or young teens acting in a sexually suggestive way. The sheer volume of uploads is impossible to moderate entirely – and since TikTok Jump's introduction in mid-2021, users can view third-party content outside the app.



CENSORED



Withdrawal from Learning

All

Office

Please can we remind parents to complete a Withdrawal from Learning form BEFORE they consider taking a child out of school. We must know in advance if a child will not be attending school so we can officially record their absence in the appropriate way.

Please see attached Withdrawal from Learning Application form or complete one in the school office in advance of any arrangements.

WHAT IS GOOD ATTENDANCE?

190 days	180 days	178 days	163 days	161 days	143 days
100%	95%	94%	86%	85%	75%
Good		Worrying		Serious Concern	
					
Only 1-2 day missed per term		Between 3-8 days missed per term		More than 9 days missed per term	

Lost property

All

Office

Our lost property hamper is over flowing with un-named items, mostly cardigans and jumpers but also coats, waterproof jackets, swimming towels etc. We will put these items outside along the wall periodically if the weather permits at the end of the day, but please do take the time to come into the office and look for missing items if you do not normally come down the school drive to collect your child.

The hamper will be emptied at the end of term for the Christmas break. Uniform items will be given to the second-hand uniform sale and other items, such as lunchbox Tupperware, will be disposed of.

Named items are easily returned to pupils during the school day. Please make sure that all of your children's items are named, even if only with a permanent marker like a 'sharpie' pen. If you have bought items second hand, please ensure that your child's name is written in the label and previous names are removed.

Thank you.

Christmas Jumper Day

All

Office

The school will be supporting the Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day on **Wednesday 8th December 2021** to coincide with their Christmas lunch day. See below.

Children are allowed to come into school wearing a Christmas jumper if they wish to instead of their normal school jumper. Otherwise, normal school uniform should be worn.

We will be collecting any money that you wish to donate towards the Save the Children charity. The money collected will be sent to Save the Children who will use donations to provide essential food, healthcare, education and protection to millions of children around the world who are missing out.

Christmas Lunch	All	Office
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On Wednesday 8th December we will be serving our Christmas Lunch in school. Next week we will be sending home a form to complete to make their menu choices for the day. If they are not having the Christmas lunch, please also return the form to confirm they will be bringing a packed lunch that day. It is a very popular occasion for the children to have a Christmas lunch together and so we need to have the numbers for the kitchen in advance.

For children in KS1 the lunch is free of charge. For key stage 2 the charge is £2.15. This is payable via ParentPay in the usual way. If your child is in Key Stage 2 and does not normally have school meals but would like to have the Christmas lunch, please contact the office to get your ParentPay account activated.

Thank you



Christmas Events	All	
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Parents and carers are invited to our Christmas events to be held in the school hall.

So that as many parents/carers as possible can enjoy the performances, the children will be performing both the nativity and the carol services twice, as detailed below.

Monday 13th - @2.00pm KS1 Nativity Performance Red, Orange and Yellow classes

Tuesday 14th - @9.30am KS1 Nativity Performance Red, Orange and Yellow classes

Wednesday 15th - @9.30am KS2 Carol Service, Green. Blue, Indigo and Violet classes

Thursday 16th - @2.00pm KS2 Carol Service, Green. Blue, Indigo and Violet classes

For KS1 parents/carers, we ask please that you only come to watch **one** of the nativity performances on either the 13th and 14th, not both, to give more people the opportunity to attend. Similarly, for KS2 parents we ask you only to come to **one** of the Carol Servies on either the 15th or 16th.

While we understand that many people would like to see the children's performances, due to limited space this year, we must restrict tickets to **2 adults per family**.

If you have children in both KS1 and KS2 you may apply for **2 tickets per family** for the nativity as well as the carol service performances. Tickets can be reserved via ParentMail from today. Please go to the SHOP section where you will see the event for each performance relevant to your child/children. There is no cost for the tickets, please select the performance that you wish to attend and select the number of tickets, **maximum of 2 tickets/family**

There is a limit to the total number of tickets for each performance so they will be allocated first come first served from the time booked on Parentmail.

No tickets will be sent home but we will have a list of the ticket orders made on the door to check off on your arrival. **If on the day of the performance, you are displaying any symptoms of Covid-19 you must not attend.**

If you need to bring pre-school children to the performance, they will need to be seated on an accompanying adult's lap, due to limited space. Pushchairs can be left in the parent's shelter.

We do hope that all the Christmas events will be able to go ahead as planned. However, if Covid cases rise further locally, we may have to make decisions to cancel, or review whether it is appropriate to have parents/carers attending these events.

FSM Christmas Fair	All	FSM
<p>The Friends of St Mary's are holding a Christmas Fair on Wednesday 15th December after school. Please see attached poster for more details.</p> <p>We would like to ask for your support in creating raffle prize hampers for the raffle for the Christmas Fair on Wednesday 15th December. We would very much appreciate your donations of a raffle prize with a colour theme of gold, silver or red and adding them to the corresponding-coloured box in the office. The finished hampers will then be raffled off at the Christmas Fair.</p> <p>Thank you for your support! This has always been a great success and some lovely hampers have been created through everyone's kind donations.</p>		
Santa Needs Help	All	Staff
<p>Please see attached poster with details of a local community project to provide two local care home residents and staff with festive care packages in time for Christmas.</p>		
Invitation to St Gregory's Carol Service	All	Office



Christmas Masses at St Mary's Church	All	Fr. Dominic
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<https://www.stmaryscrowborough.org.uk/recent-announcements/christmas-masses-2021>

Christmas Mass Times at St Mary's 2021

Fr Dominic would like to welcome everyone to join him in the celebration of Christmas at St Mary's. Masses will be held at **4pm and 8pm on Christmas Eve** and at **9am on Christmas Day.**

Numbers at each of these three Masses will, unfortunately, need to be limited to a maximum of 80 people and tickets will therefore need to be booked in advance.

For further details and to book your place, please use the Eventbrite link below.

www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/christmas-mass-booking-at-st-marys-catholic-church-crowborough-e-sussex-tickets-130905783723

If you are unable to book a ticket yourself, please ask a friend or neighbour to do so for you.

Wishing you a joyful and peaceful Christmas and we look forward to seeing you then.



Cake Sales	All	Office
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Please note that further to previous notifications in the school bulletins before and after half term, the class cake sales have been postponed until further notice. We hope to be able to reschedule new dates in the near future.

Thank you

Morrisons Good to Grow	All	
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Thank you to all those who donated their tokens for the Morrisons Good to Grow scheme. We had a total of 2286 tokens donated and we have been able to order some lovely new gardening equipment including;

Garden Secateurs, Outdoor Garden Scoop, Invincible Bucket, Gloves, Autumn & Winter Veg, Herb Garden, Sunshine Wildlife Flowers, Mini Meadow Seeds.

We look forward to putting these items to good use once received in the new year.

Thank you for your support.

Diary Dates	All	Office
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November

29th – Advent Reconciliation Service (9am)

December

8th - Christmas Jumper Day for Save the Children

8th - Christmas Lunch in school

13th - @2.00pm KS1 Nativity Performance Red, Orange and Yellow classes

14th - @9.30am KS1 Nativity Performance Red, Orange and Yellow classes

15th - @9.30am KS2 Carol Service, Green. Blue, Indigo and Violet classes

15th - Friends of St Mary's Christmas Fair 3pm to 5pm

16th - @2.00pm KS2 Carol Service, Green. Blue, Indigo and Violet classes

17th - Last day of term – **1pm finish for all pupils**

January 2022

4rd - First day of term 3

6th - Epiphany Mass 9.30am

24th - 28th Science Week

February 2022

1st - Candlemas Celebration

8th - Safer Internet Day and E- Safety Assembly

11th - Last day of term for pupils (3.15pm finish)

21st - First day of term 4

Attached		
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FSM Christmas Fair Poster

Santa Needs Help – Community Charity Action