



St Mary's Catholic Academy

Newsletter No.6 – Friday 7th January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas break and the new year has begun well. There is a lot of important information in this newsletter so please take your time to read it carefully, including the second page where there is a data collection link and information about two up-coming events.

Dates for your diary

Thurs 13 th Jan '22	Phonics Parents Meeting- on Teams
Tues 25 th Jan '22	Parent Forum Teams - all welcome
Tues 8 th / 9 th Feb	Parents Evening
Thurs 10 th Feb	OLoL Feast Day Mass at Cathedral
Fri 11 th Feb 2022	School closed – INSET/Half term
Mon 21 st Feb 2022	Children return to school

Parent Governor Vacancy – see separate email

Christmas Productions

Just in case you missed it or if you want to watch the KS2 production again, the link is: <https://youtu.be/wO5jO0Q6qho>

INTERNET Safety

St Mary's subscribe to a monthly newsletter that we send to you each month. **January's was sent on Tuesday – it has some top tips for e-safety!** Within the letter is up-to-date advice on how to ensure your child is safe while on-line. Start while your child is young, promoting good safe habits. The **BBC & Tik Tok** feature this month.



Feast Day – Epiphany of the Lord

We celebrated the feast of the Epiphany yesterday at church - the feast where we remember the revealing of Christ to the nations, symbolised by the visit of the wise men.

The children listened to Father David talk about the ancient tradition of the Epiphany blessing of chalk. Each family will receive a piece of blessed chalk today to "bless" their home with Christ's protection and blessings over the coming year.

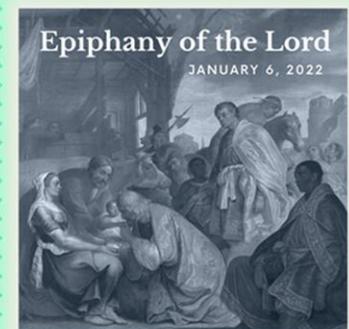
EPIPHANY BLESSING OF CHALK

The home blessing can be done as follows: Use the blessed chalk to write:

20+C+M+B+22 ...above your doorway. This means: 2022 for the year; C, M, B for the 3 Magi (kings) – Casper, Melchior, and Balthasar – and for **Christus Mansionem Benedicat**, Latin for "May Christ Bless this House."

As you are writing, pray:

Lord God of heaven and earth, you revealed your Son to every nation by the guidance of a star. Bless this house and all who live here. Fill us with the light of Christ. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



GDPR / Permission to Use your Child's Data

The data permission survey is now ready for you to complete and there is a letter below with more information about it. We need to ensure we have permission to use your child's information as you so wish. Can we use your child's photo on our website? If we attend an event, can your child be interviewed by a radio /TV reporter for their public use? Please complete this questionnaire as soon as possible so we can follow your up to date requests.

Link: <https://forms.office.com/r/z8KFVGDgUg>

Phonics at St Mary's on Teams

Date: Thursday 13th January 2022 @3:45pm

Mrs Mullen is leading a session to share our NEW approach to phonics at St Mary's. Mrs Mullen works her socks off to ensure not only F2 children, but also children in Year 1, Year 2 and beyond are tracked to ensure they become competent at phonics so they can become confident readers. Where there is confidence, reading for pleasure comes more easily.

Please join us for this meeting. You and your child will benefit greatly.

All parents/carers are welcome, but we especially encourage F2 and Key Stage 1 parents to join us. Add your name and email address to the guest list by following the link below. A Teams invite will follow next week, if you have signed up.

<https://forms.office.com/r/H12ArU6u4V>

Phonics and Reading Books

Since September, we have spent over £3000 on extending our Reading and Phonics resources.



Unfortunately, we have already had to throw away several books that have been ripped, damaged by water or lost. We are passionate about using quality, well looked after resources to ensure children are encouraged to enjoy their reading experiences.

Where books are damaged, parents/carers will be expected to pay £5.50 so the book can be replaced.

Parent Forum – Tuesday 25th January at 3:45pm – on Teams

Save the date! The Parent Forum meeting is a chance for all parents/carers to share their views on aspects of St Mary's School life. A flyer will follow with a suggested agenda. All are welcome.

Synod 2021 – 2023

The Synod is a meeting of bishops to discuss matters of the church and is a chance to seek advice from the Pope.

In preparation for this meeting, we have been **asked by Bishop Patrick** to gather the children's views. He writes:



Today, I really want to listen to you! I want to hear all about what you think and what you feel about being part of God's family. As His children you are loved and cherished by Him, so it is very important that we listen to you.

I'd love to know, most of all, what your dream is for God's Church. How would you like it to look? What do you like about God's Church? What would make it better? Who would you like to invite to church?

This half term we will be talking about these questions in school. It would be really helpful if you could also chat at home and encourage your child/ren to share your discussions with us.

CONSENT FORM – PUPIL PERSONAL DATA

During your child's time with us, at Our Lady of Lourdes Trust and St Mary's Academy, we will gather information about your child which we will use for various purposes. A Privacy Notice has been provided for you in relation to the use of this information, which is also available on the school website.

There are some things that we cannot do unless you tell us that we can. These are in the online survey we have asked you to complete. Please could you read the survey very carefully and select 'yes' or 'no' appropriately. This will let us know which of these things you are happy for us to do, and which you are not.

If you are not happy for us to do any of the things in the survey then this will not affect your child's place at the Trust/School. You are completely free to refuse to provide your consent to any of these things. You do not have to provide reasons for refusing your consent, but we are happy for you to give us additional information if you choose to so that as a Trust/School we understand any concerns that you have and can take appropriate steps where necessary.

Photographs and Videos

Some of the information in the attached survey includes the use of photographs and videos of your child. We assure you that as a Trust/School we take very seriously the issue of potential misuse of photographs and videos of our pupils. We ensure that we have internal policies and controls in place to ensure that personal data is not lost, accidentally destroyed, misused or disclosed, and is not accessed by anybody without the required permissions. These controls include:

- Standard Code for School Uniform (ensuring pupils are dressed correctly)
- Data Protection Policy
- CCTV Policy
- IT Security Policy & Usage Policies
- Retention and Destruction Policy/Schedule

Where appropriate consent has been given, the Trust/School may provide photographs and videos to the media, or the Trust/School may be visited by the media who will take videos and photographs. When these have been submitted to or taken by the media the Trust/School has no control over these.

You may change your mind in relation to any of the consents that you provide at any time. This includes withdrawing your consent to anything that you agree to on the online survey. To withdraw your consent to any aspect, or to otherwise amend your position, please write to us at:

Mrs Carnell: admin@smca.nottingham.sch.uk or DPO Karen Rich dpo@ololcatholicmat.co.uk

This consent will otherwise continue until your child leaves the Trust Company/School or your child reaches the age of 12/13 years old (enters Yr8) at which point the Trust Company/School will seek consent directly from your child in relation to the above matters.

Please follow the link below to complete the consent.

<https://forms.office.com/r/z8KFVGDgUg>