



# Academy News

St Mary Queen of Martyrs VC Academy takes seriously its responsibility to safeguarding all children and adults and has a rigorous procedure in place to do so. The Academy does not tolerate bullying and deals with all forms very seriously

## Messages from the Head of School

**Christmas events** It was lovely to welcome so many family members to the first of our Christmas performances this week. Our EYFS children looked amazing and really enjoyed performing The Christmas Story. Check the dates below for other Christmas events.

**Christmas Fair** This was a huge success! There was a buzz in the hall and the smell of candles, cakes and hot dogs was wonderful. Thank you for turning out in such numbers to support our school. We raised **£726.73** which is fantastic.

**Christmas cards** As you know, the tradition in our school is not to send individual Christmas Cards but to send one card to the whole class. We ask that the money that would have been spent on cards, is donated to CAFOD. Each phase will be choosing a project that will help to make a difference to people's lives. Thank you for your generosity.

**Memory tree** In our entrance, we have a memory tree. This is so we can remember at this special time, all of our loved family and friends who are no longer with us. Please feel free to fill in a card and hang it on the tree.

**Parent Pay** It is with regret that I once again have to remind parents to ensure their accounts are clear. There are several families who owe a considerable amount of money. Accounts must be cleared before the end of term or children will not be able to access Breakfast Club or school meals in January. It is important that you speak to us if you are experiencing hardship.

**Christmas Hamper** Tickets for the hamper are on sale at all performances and craft days. The raffle will be drawn at the KS2 music concert on Friday 13th December.

**Attendance** Following the local authority initiative 'Attendance matters,' during November, the winner will be announced on Friday 13th December 2019. This will be done via a Facebook Live announcement. Should the child attend our school, we will be notified prior to public announcement.



**Chaplaincy Commissioning Day** Our new Junior Chaplains had a wonderful time at St Richard's VC Academy last week. Working with other chaplains from across St Cuthbert's Academy Trust, they explored how they have been called to serve others. It was a lovely day, filled with fun, laughter, prayer & song. They're really looking forward to their new roles, especially leading their own acts of worship, including our Advent Liturgies.

**Apostleship of the Sea - Our Mini Vinnies** also took the opportunity to remind the children to support us in our hat stuffing appeal by donating the following items: shower gel & soap; shaving foam & razors (packaged); toothpaste and toothbrushes (packaged); small combs; notepads & pens; small chocolate bars & sweets. We're really looking forward to stuffing our hats. Please help us to beat our target of 50!



**Apostleship of the Sea**  
Supporting Seafarers Worldwide

### Attendance EVERY DAY COUNTS

Please contact the office if you child is too ill for school.

**Whole school attendance— 95.10%**

The school day starts at 8.50 am please make every effort to be punctual.

Every minute counts

**LATES—212 school minutes missed this week.**

9 <sup>th</sup>	1pm Phase 2 Christmas craft afternoon	18 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas dinner and parties
10 <sup>th</sup>	1.30pm Christmas play for Y1 parents	19 <sup>th</sup>	9.10am End of term Mass and RE prizes
11 <sup>th</sup>	1.30pm Christmas play for Y2 parents	20 <sup>th</sup>	9.10am Citizenship Awards
13 <sup>th</sup>	1.40pm KS2 Music concert		2pm Christmas Liturgy
16 <sup>th</sup>	FS Craft afternoon 1.30pm		School closes for Christmas
17 <sup>th</sup>	Phase 1 Christmas Craft Day	Jan 6	School Re-opens



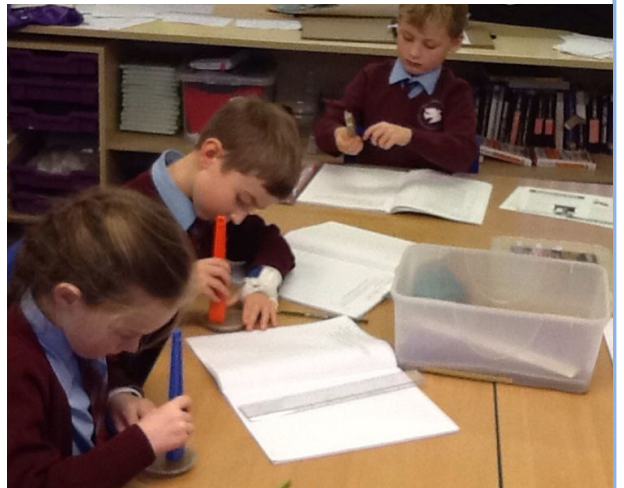
**Foundation** This week we performed our nativity, 'The Story of Christmas'. It was a huge success and the children excelled themselves with their behaviour and attitudes. Thank you for supporting your child by providing them with wonderful costumes; I'm sure they'll

want to wear them on Christmas day! The Foundation staff would just like to take this opportunity to say thank you for all your support so far this year and wish you all a happy Christmas enjoying time with your lovely children.



**Phase 1** All the children in Phase 1 have worked very hard this week! In Maths, Year 1 have been learning about subtraction and Year 2 have been using money. They can now make different amounts with a range of coins. Both year groups have been using Talk For Writing to learn new stories. They are now planning their own writing using story maps, signifiers and a toolkit. Thank you for all the support you have given in helping your child prepare for the Christmas performance, including learning lines and providing costumes. We look forward to entertaining you next week!

**Phase 2** Our Year 3 and 4 pupils have had a great few weeks learning new pieces of knowledge and developing their skills across the curriculum. Our Forces and Magnets topic has taken off and this week all classes have been classifying materials based upon their magnetic value. Working as scientists, they know the importance of collecting results and so had previously been exploring the impact of friction on transport. In English, we have recently completed our independent long writes and the staff have been blown away not just by the presentation of the work, but also by the quality of the sentences. These final 2 weeks of the term will be spent building up to the next independent long write based on newspaper reports. We know they will use their writing to finish the term in style. Thank you to all those who are encouraging their children to read every night. This is a non negotiable in Year 3 and 4. We look forward to welcoming many parents at our Christmas Craft afternoon on Monday at 1pm. Finally, if you haven't already, please remember to pay £3 on Parent Pay for our trip to Hull Truck Theatre on Thursday 12th December.



**Phase 3** Phase 3 have been busy as always over the last couple of weeks. We had a chilly but wonderful time visiting Eden Camp, where the children not only learnt some wonderful historic facts but were also amazing ambassadors representing our school. In science, Year 5 have been learning all about the movement of the earth and moon creating models to represent this whilst Year 6 have been investigating with electrical circuits. Today we held our annual Christmas craft day; it was lovely to see the children and their families sewing, quilting and creating pom-poms. We hope you enjoyed the day.