



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

Note from our Head of School

EYFS Christmas Performance This week the EYFS children entertained the whole school, parents and families with a superb retelling of the Nativity story. They used their Talk for Writing strategies and signs to ensure we all received the Christmas message. The children looked fantastic and made everyone involved proud. Well done.

Christmas Craft Days We look forward to welcoming parents into school to our craft sessions. They are always well attended and good fun for all.

CAFOD Thank you for all the kind donations we have received this week towards providing medical outreach. Phase 3 have been especially generous- thank you.

Christmas Craft Fair Our School Christmas Craft Fair will be held after school 3-4 pm on Thursday 20th December

First Communion Group Congratulation to the First Holy Communion group from SMQM and St Francis Parishes who received the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time last night. They will continue their preparation in the new year, before making their First Holy communion in June.

Bishop Terry I received a letter this week from Bishop Terry. He will be visiting our school in March. We look forward to welcoming him and giving him the chance to meet our pupils and staff.

Phase 1 Christmas Performance We hope to see many of our Year 1 & Y2 parents this week when Phase 1 entertain us with their Christmas performance of, "Lights, Camel, Action."



Junior Chaplaincy Team -This week, our junior chaplains helped us to look out for signs of Jesus' coming. In their whole school Act of Worship, we learned all about the Advent Wreath & the First Sunday of Advent. We prayed and sang our hearts out, sharing the HOPE the Christ Child brings. **Act of Kindness** - Remembering the Christmas message, our Mini Vinnies reminded us to bring gifts to stuff hats for our brave seafarers.



Attendance

If you do not provide a reason for your child's absence, he/she will receive an unauthorised mark for the day. An accumulation of unauthorised marks within a term may result in a penalty notice fine.

Mr Guthrie's class will receive best class attendance this week—99%

Whole school attendance—95%

It is trust wide to scrutinise attendance to ensure that all pupils can fulfil their potential.

| Date | Event |
|-------------|---|
| 10th | Year 5 & 6 Christmas Craft Day |
| 11th | 1:30 pm Year 1 parents only Christmas Play |
| 12th | 1:30 pm Year 2 parents only Christmas Play |
| 13th | Year 3 & 4 Christmas Craft afternoon |
| 14th | 1.30 pm F.O.S gift wrapping Y5/6 Carol Service in Church 1:30 pm |
| 17th | Phase 1 Christmas Craft Day |
| 19th | Christmas Dinner followed by Class parties |
| 20th | 9:10 am Mass and presentation of RE prizes |
| 20th | Christmas Craft Fair 3—4 pm |



Foundation Reading - Home Reading: SR—32%, AG-30% Word of the Week:

Advent. Rhyme of the Week: Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer. What a fantastic week we have had in the FSU. We all practised so hard this half term learning to tell the story 'An Angel Came From Heaven' which is part of our Literacy/Talk for Writing lessons. We did three performances of our Nativity to: the school, F1 and F2 parents. The positive comments and praise have not stopped rolling our way. Thank you all so very much for your continued support. This week we have been learning about 2D and 3D shapes, we have been exploring weight and comparing the weight of different objects using the vocabulary: heavy, heavier, heaviest, light, lighter, lightest. The Foundation 1 children have been making calendars and Christmas cards, which they will be bringing home soon. In RE we are learning about Advent and the importance of this time of waiting for the birth of Jesus. Ask your children how we are celebrating Advent in school. Happy Advent!

Phase 1 Home Reading: KA-83%, JF-89%, JH-85%

We have enjoyed this week! As Christmas approaches, Phase 1 are enjoying decorating our locker area and turning it into a Christmas grotto. Please feel free to bring any home-made decorations into school and we will display them. Buddy the elf has made an appearance again this year and he is still up to his naughty tricks! As we are now in Advent, we have been reminding our children to think of others less fortunate than ourselves. We are encouraging the children to bring any spare pennies they may have to raise money for CAFOD. As a school we are saving up for medical supplies for those less fortunate. Phase 1 staff have donated some sweets and we are having a 'guess how many sweets there are in the jar?' competition and it is 20p a guess. Children can have more than one guess. All proceeds will go to CAFOD. Please ensure you bring any play costumes into school on Monday if you haven't already done so. Have a good weekend!

CAFOD
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**Phase 2 Home Reading: JG-71%, CB-79%, ME-69%**

As we get in the December swing of things, we have begun to get in the festive spirit with preparations of Christmas songs ahead of next Thursday's craft afternoon. In our Topic and Literacy lessons, we have written a cross curricular piece of writing on the Roman way of life. The whole phase has shown great research skills to find the correct information. Our budding scientists have learnt how to write scientific conclusions to their rock investigations. As well as this, great fitness has been on display in PE lessons as well our class 'A Mile A Day' runs. Whether the PE lessons be inside or out, the pupils have shown enthusiasm and all have certainly felt their heart rate increase! **We look forward to welcoming many of you to our Christmas Craft Afternoon next Thursday 13th December at 1pm.**

**Phase 3 Home Reading: LA-87%, NA-79%, MN-93%**

Well the results are in and Year 6 are the clear winners in our phase 3 times table rockstars 'Battle of the bands' beating Year 5 by a whopping 113,000 points-well done Year 6! This week has been action packed. In science, we have explored Isaac Newton's theory of light and used prisms to refract light creating the colour spectrum. It was wonderful to see the colours of the rainbow appear on our paper. In topic, we have been busy writing newspaper reports to recount Harold Carters discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb. Don't forget it is our Christmas craft day on Monday, we look forward to seeing you if you are able to join us for one or more of the sessions.

