



Dear Parents,

As we enter in the very special season of Advent we ask that you keep those less fortunate than ourselves in your prayers. The children celebrated with a very special liturgy which was beautifully lead by Y6. We have lit the first candle on our wreath, the candle of Hope and look forward to counting down the days until we can celebrate the true meaning of Christmas.

A Huge WELL DONE must go to our wonderful children in our Blossoms, Acorns and Reception class who performed their Nativity for the school on Tuesday. I'm looking forward to watching the video that will be available on

the website soon.

Thank you for your understanding about the new guidelines for not allowing other adults into the school building. I really appreciate your messages of support and hope that we can stop the spread of this virus.

You will have all received a copy of your child's school report and a letter that the children have written to you. I do hope you enjoy reading them and if there are any issues you wish to discuss with your child's class teacher then please do make an appointment for a telephone conversation.

Staffing

We will wave goodbye to Miss Ollerenshaw at Christmas as she embarks on a new adventure in a new Primary school. We will miss her lots and wish her every happiness in her new school. Miss Ollerenshaw has been at SMG for 7 years ever since she qualified as a teacher and is looking forward to a new challenge.



It is with great pleasure that I announce 2 new members of teaching staff who will be joining us soon. Mrs Kerry Holt will be joining the KS2 teaching team and will be teaching alongside Mrs Bailey in Y6 for most of her time and Mrs Vicky Sergeant who will become our new Reception class teacher. Both ladies are experienced class teachers and are very excited to be joining team SMG. I know you will welcome them both with open arms.



Message from Chair of Governors

Hi my name is Chris Wilson and have recently accepted the role of Chair of Governors at SMG and thought it would be a good idea to introduce myself to you as some of you may not know me.

I joined the governing board in 2018 as a foundation governor so have been involved in getting to know and understand the school for a few years now. I am quite excited about this role and look forward to working with everybody and hope you will support me and the school to strive and achieve the very best for our children.

We currently have 2 parent vacancies so if you would like to join our governors please pop a quick message to Mrs Rich by Friday 10th December

head@st-mariagoretti.lancs.sch.uk

Thank you.

Free School Meal Vouchers

We can confirm that approval has been granted for schools to order the vouchers to cover the 2 week Christmas period. Each eligible child will receive a £30

School Places

If you would have a child who will be starting school in September. the closing date for applications is 15th January 2022. Please apply online to www.lancashire.gov.uk

Hothersall Lodge

Y6 leave for their residential on Monday 6th December. We wish them warmth and good fun on what will be one of the most memorable times at Primary school. May I remind the children who are not attending that they must still attend school this week.

Christmas Lunch

It is Christmas jumper day and Christmas lunch on Friday 10th December. If you would like your child to have a lunch please order and pay at the office. A letter regarding school dinners was sent out earlier this week. Year 6 will be having their Christmas dinner and jumper day whilst at Hothersall Lodge.

PANTO

The whole school will be visiting King Georges Hall, Blackburn for the Snow White Panto on Thursday 16th December. FULL SCHOOL UNIFORM must be worn but children can wear a Christmas headband/hat. We will be returning to school at approx. **4:45pm (please allow for traffic etc)** this evening. Please allow the children to exit the coaches and go back to their classroom where they will be dismissed as usual. A permission letter for this trip will be sent out early next week.

Costumes

We would have loved nothing more than to have celebrated our Christmas show by inviting parents into watch however we know this has not been possible. Children are still working hard practising their singing and dancing so that they can be filmed for you to enjoy. Your child will be coming home with a letter to ask for support with costumes. Please try your best to support your child by helping them with their costume. If you need any help with this then please contact class teachers via dojo.



I would like to thank you all for all the get well wishes I have received. They really do mean a lot! Barry and I miss you all and can't wait to be out of isolation next week.

As always if you have any queries, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Mrs Rich