

Newsletter

St. Mary's Catholic Primary School
Ysgol Catholig Santes Fair

Hope

“Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come.”

Mark 13:33

Dear Families,

Our Faith...

Sunday marks the beginning of Advent. The word 'Advent' means 'coming'. It is a time of *preparation* for the celebration of the birth of Jesus. Advent lasts for 4 weeks. We prepare our hearts and minds for the coming of Jesus at Christmas. It is a time of prayer, reflection and almsgiving.

In the Gospel on Sunday, Jesus tells us that He will come again. He says that we need to be ready. We have to wait and watch for him.

Our Faith in Action...

For our Advent almsgiving efforts this year, we will raise money for a local children's charity, Y Bont.

Y Bont is a unique child and family centre located in the grounds of Heronsbridge School, Bridgend. They are an independent Charity that was established in 1997. Y Bont provides a range of services that support disabled children and their families.

We will provide more information next week.

School Mass – Sunday 1st December

Please make every effort to join us for School Mass on Sunday at 11am. It will be a beautiful celebration to mark the start of Advent.

Our News...

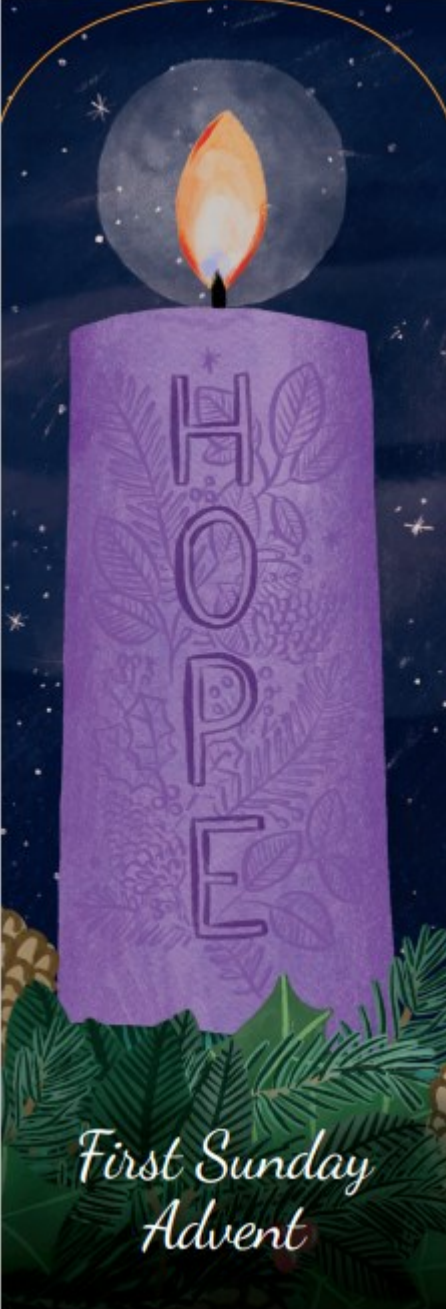
DARPL

Yesterday, I attended training with DARPL (Diversity and Anti-Racist Professional Learning). The Welsh Government is committed to creating an Anti-Racist Wales by 2030.

We are so proud of our multi cultural community at St Mary's and are committed to continually reviewing our curriculum to celebrate and integrate diversity.



This week's certificates were awarded for children who *plan* their learning carefully. Well done to all children who were awarded a certificate. It was lovely to hear examples from teachers.



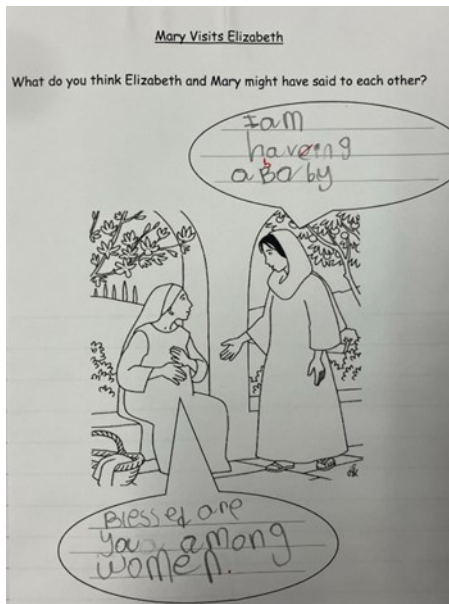
Look at our Learning!



Year 6 enjoyed their first transition visit to **Archbishop McGrath High School** earlier this week. They experienced a fun and engaging Science lesson. Please note that the deadline for Year 6 applications to **ABM** is 20th December 2024.



Year 3 investigated if they could change the colour of flowers after reading the story of Beauty and the Beast.



Beautiful writing in Year 1 when they reflected on the Visitation story when Our Lady visited her cousin, Elizabeth and shared her wonderful news!



Our children in the Atelier have been busy painting masterpieces this week.

NOTICES

Every Minute Counts: The Impact of Late Mornings

The number of children arriving late to school has increased over the last couple of weeks. **Arriving late** to school can have a significant impact of a child's learning and also causes disruption to the classroom environment. Children can feel flustered and unsettled which can affect their focus and confidence. **Arriving on time** ensures that your child begins their day calmly and fully engaged, ready to participate in their learning.

We understand that occasional delays happen and we really appreciate your efforts to minimise them. Thank you for your support.



Reminder: Tuesday 17th December

Children are busy preparing their Christmas crafts in class. To develop **enterprise** and **entrepreneurial** skills, children will be involved in the whole process: planning, design, budgeting, creating, costing and profit.

Classroom doors will be open from **2pm on Tuesday 17th December**. Please come along, any time after 2pm, to purchase your child's Christmas masterpieces. (Year 1 parents, please come to the hall doors as you would usually).

Any profit will be spent within classrooms and children will be involved in deciding what to invest in. If you are unable to join us, please send money in for your child's craft and teachers will send products home. Teachers will share further information. *Thank you for your continued support.*

Children are excited to share their **Nativity And Advent presentation** with families and friends over the next couple of weeks.



Next **Friends** (PTA) meeting – Monday 2nd December @ 2.30pm in the school Library.

Diary Dates

Sunday 1st December	School Mass	11am, St Mary's Catholic Church, Ewenny Road.
Monday 2nd December	Year 1 and 2 Christmas Trip	
Monday 2nd December	Friends (PTA) meeting	School Library @ 2.30pm
Monday 2nd December (pm)	CHOIR – Tree of Light	St Mary's Church – arrival 5.45pm.
Wednesday 4th December	Christmas Lunch	
Thursday 5th December	Year 5 & 6 Nativity – 10am Year 3 & 4 Nativity – 1.30pm	
Friday 6th December	Year 3 & 4 Nativity – 10am Year 5 & 6 Nativity – 1.30pm	
Friday 6th December (pm)	CHOIR – Bridgend Male Choir Friendship Concert	St Mary's Church – arrival 6.45pm.
Tuesday 10th December	CHOIR – SVP lunch	St Mary's Church – during school day.
Wednesday 11th December	Atelier Nativity – 10am Year 1 & 2 Nativity – 1.30pm	
Thursday 12th December	Year 1 & 2 Nativity – 10am Atelier Nativity – 1.30pm	
Friday 13th December	Year 3/4 - Y6 Christmas Cinema Trip	Children need a packed lunch.
Monday 16th December	CHOIR – Festival of Carols	St Mary's Church – arrival 6.15pm.
Tuesday 17th December	Tee Pee Theatre Christmas play	Atelier – Y2. Please send in £1 on the day of the show. Thank you.
Tuesday 17th December	Christmas Enterprise	Class doors open at 2pm for sales of children's craft.
Wednesday 18th December	Advent Reconciliation	During the school day.
Friday 20th December	Last day of Autumn Term	

Welsh Phrase of the Week:
Mae'n ddrwg gyda fi.
I'm sorry.

Pray together...
We stay awake, watch and wait, for we do not know the hour or the day of your arrival.
Come, Lord, bringer of hope.
Create in us a desire for a world transformed to reflect your glory.
Come, Lord, bringer of hope.
Lead us in your ways, as together we make a change, to dispel the darkness of poverty.
Come, Lord, bringer of hope.
CAFOD

Wishing you a lovely weekend.
Mrs Azzopardi

