ST. MARY'S NEWSLETTER

Friday 27th November '26



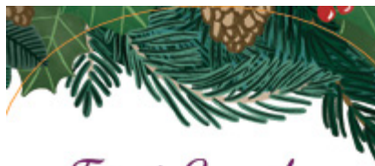
Croeso! Welcome!

Our Faith...

Sunday is the *First Sunday of Advent*. Advent lasts for four weeks and leads up to Christmas. It is a special season of anticipation, preparation and waiting as we look forward to celebrating the birth of Jesus at Christmas.

In the Gospel, Jesus says, "Be on the watch, be alert, for you do not know when the time will come." Jesus promised us that one day He would return and we must be ready when He comes again, but that we cannot be exactly sure when that will be.





First Sunday Advent

Hope / Надія

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.

Headings given in Ukrainian as well as English.

CAFOD Catholic Agency for Overseas Development

Our Faith in Action...

SCHOOL MASS ~ SUNDAY 29TH NOVEMBER



A reminder that our next *School Mass* will be celebrated on Sunday – a perfect way to start the **Advent** season. We look forward to seeing as many families there as possible – St Mary's Catholic Church at 11am. Thank you for your continued support.

Advent Almsgiving Stall



A group of children in Y5 have chosen Noah's Ark Children's Hospital 🌈

Charity as the focus of our Advent Almsgiving effort this year. The children have been busy crafting items to sell and will also be offering a selection of pens, bookmarks, pin badges, squishies, stickers and reindeer food.

The Advent Almsgiving Stall will open next week and will run during the season of Advent. If possible, please send your child into school with some loose change so they can purchase some festive items while helping to raise money for a very worthwhile cause.

All proceeds from the shop will be donated to Noah's Ark Children's Hospital Charity. Thank you for your support and generosity during this Advent season.

Christmas Craft Enterprising

In addition, each class are busy making their annual Christmas Craft as part of their Enterprise work. Classes will be calculating their profit at the end of their sale and will be choosing a ***CAFOD*** World Gift as part of our Advent Almsgiving. Thank you, in advance, for your support.

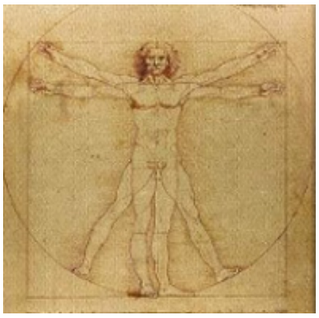
Look at some of our learning highlights ...



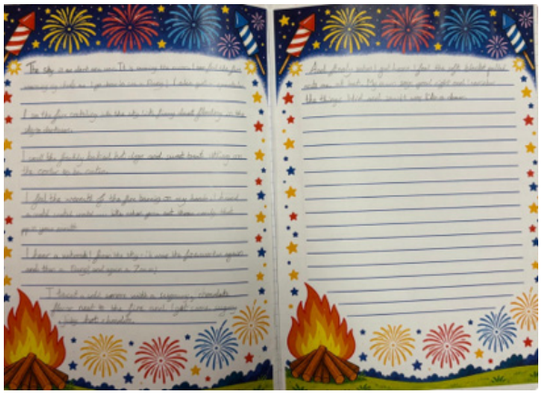


Prophecy and Promise

Eloquent AND Truthful

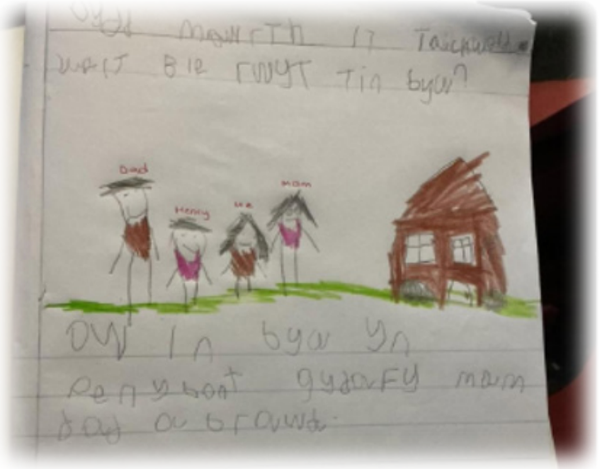


As part of their Domain, The Renaissance, Y6 have been learning all about *Leonardo da Vinci* and investigated his theory of the Vitruvian Man. They also created one-point perspective artwork, a technique that da Vinci used to create depth and realism in his drawings and paintings.



I am looking forward to reading Y4/5's latest *Writing Spotlight* on descriptive writing. The children chose to describe Bonfire Night, drawing upon all of their senses to create vivid and engaging descriptions.

Y2/3 have been writing about their families and homes in *Welsh* - ysgrifennu am eu teulu a tŷ. Da iawn!





Y2 have been learning about the the Annunciation of *John the Baptist.* They listened carefully and then used puppets to retell the story in small groups.

Children in Atelier used a *Tree Map* to sort and classify natural autumnal objects! Super!







This week's certificates were awarded to children who ***plan*** thoughtfully and reflect on their learning. They regularly review their work and make improvements to help them achieve their best. Da iawn pawb! 🌟

Christmas Hamper Donations Needed

Help Us Make Our Christmas Raffles Extra Special!

The Friends of St Mary's are kindly asking for *donations* to help create fantastic Christmas hampers for the raffles at our Christmas Concerts.

Items such as toiletries, chocolates, games, Christmas gifts, candles would be gratefully received. If you would like to donate any items, please send them into the school Office. Thank you.

Please note that the Friends do not require donations of alcohol.

Thank you for your continued support.



CHRISTMAS FAIR

Thank you to the **Friends** for organising the Christmas Fair. It was lovely to welcome a traders with their variety of crafts and items for sale. Our Choir opened the Fair beautifully with a selection of Christmas carols, helping everyone get into the festive spirit.

Thank you to all who were able to support the event. Your generosity and enthusiasm helped make the day such a success. 🎄



Tickets are now on sale!

www.ticketsource.com/smcps

Password: SMCPS

Keep scrolling for dates for your diary...





Dates for your Diary...

Date	Event	Details
Monday 30th Nov	Tree of Light Service	6pm - 6.30pm St. Mary's Church
Wednesday 2nd December	Christmas Lunch	All children will be booked a lunch unless you opted out. Children are invited to wear Christmas jumpers/accessories (***with uniform***).
Monday 7th Dec	The Forgotten Reindeer | Atelier to Year 2	Teepee Theatre return to present their new show to our Atelier to Year 2 pupils.
Thursday 10th Dec	Year 3 - 6 | Cinema Trip	For further information check Dojo Calendar or click here: https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/8KbnupUypJ
Thursday 10th Dec	Nativities	Atelier @ 10am Years 1 + 2 @ 1.30pm
Friday 11th Dec	Nativities	Years 1 + 2 @ 10am Atelier @ 1.30pm
Friday 11th Dec	Christmas in Harmony with Bridgend Male Choir	7pm - 8.30pm St. Mary's Church Tickets £5 each. Send your money into school should you wish to purchase a ticket.
Monday 14th Dec	Festival of Carols	6.30pm - 7.30pm St. Mary's Church
Tuesday 15th Dec	Nativity	Years 3 + 4 @ 10am
Wednesday 16th Dec	Nativity	Years 3 + 4 @ 1.30pm
Thursday 17th Dec	Year 1 + 2 Trip	Fonmon Castle - letters sent home.
Thursday 17th Dec	Nativity Service	St. Mary's Catholic Church | Years 5 + 6 | 6pm - 7pm Families are welcome to use Heronsbridge School for parking.
Friday 18th Dec	Last day of the Autumn Term | Toy Day	Last day of term. Children are welcome to bring in a toy or game to enjoy. Please ensure that any items brought to school are not valuable or precious, and that electronic devices are left at home.
Monday 21st Dec - Friday 1st Jan	Christmas Break	School closed.
Monday 4th Jan	INSET Day	School closed for Staff Training.
Tuesday 5th Jan	Spring Term 1 Begins	Children return to school for the start of the Spring Term.

Wishing you a lovely weekend.

Mrs. Azzopardi

As a Catholic Family, we will do our best; to live and learn as Christ taught us.

Llangewydd Road, Bridgend, CF31 4JW Telephone: 01656 815560 Email: head@stmaryscps.bridgend.cymru Website: www.stmaryscatholicprimary.co.uk

Headteacher: Mrs. Rachel Azzopardi, BA (Hons), MA, NPQH. Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Kathleen Williams, BEd (Hons).

Dates for the diary!

We are looking for volunteers to help with the following events



10th & 11th December
AM or PM sessions

15th December AM

16th December PM



17th December evening in St Mary's Church.

Please let us know if you can help by messaging Del on

07817286861.

SCAN ME!

St. Mary's Nativity Tickets



Tickets on sale: 16th November

www.ticketsource.com/smcps

Ticket purchases are password protected: SMCPS


Believe
SANTA'S TO
HAROLD
THE FORGOTTEN REINDEER
Monday 7th December
£2
Contribution
This year, join Harold the Forgotten Reindeer on his journey to spread joy and show that being different is what really makes you shine.
A heartwarming festive tale filled with fun, laughter and an important message about friendship, kindness and believing in yourself.
KINDNESS
FRIENDSHIP
BELONGING
BRIGHTER TOGETHER
"Being different is what really makes you shine."

Year 3 - 6

Cinema TRIP

Film: The Cat in the Hat (2026)

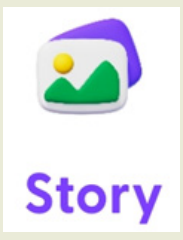
Odeon Bridgned
10th December
£12

Scan the QR code or click HERE for further information and the Consent Form.

How you can use Class Dojo to keep up to date with school life...

Class Dojo

STORY



Accessible from the top left of the home page. Here you will find all posts, those for whole school attention and those posted by your child's teacher.

PINNED POSTS DROP DOWN (ON STORY)



This is where certain posts on the story are 'pinned' to ensure they remain visible and more accessible e.g. weekly Newsletters, important notices, access to forms. Take a look!

CALENDAR



IMPORTANT! Accessible from the top of the home page. Here you will find what's happening and coming up in date order.

CHATS



Here you can message your child's teacher and other staff members who are associated with your child's class. Please note that quiet hours are set between 5pm and 8am and staff will get back to you when they can. It is not an 'instant messenger' service. Please allow 24 hours for a response for non urgent matters.

KIDS



Here you will find a record of your child's points awarded from class.

Our website also has lots of useful information: www.stmaryscatholicprimary.co.uk