



# ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

# NEWSLETTER

No. 144

*A Community Where we Live, Learn and Laugh Together in God's Love*

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**RIPON RETREAT (Y6)** Our Y6 pupils went to Ripon on Wednesday last week to celebrate the Feast Day of St Wilfrid at the Cathedral – a place of Christian worship since the 7<sup>th</sup> Century. They were joined by around 400 other Y6 pupils from across the whole Diocese of Leeds and after Mass and a picnic they walked the 3½ mile journey to Fountains Abbey, where we looked round the ruins (destroyed by Henry VIII's soldiers in 1539) and held a short Liturgy in the open air..... The children were a real credit to us and they had loads of fun and exercise!

**HARVEST CELEBRATION** Our Y3 and Y4 classes will be leading the Harvest Liturgy this year on **Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> October from 2.15pm**. All members of our community are invited to attend. On the day we would appreciate all the children bringing tins of soup (preferably tomato or chicken) **OR** an item of household cleaning product or equipment: Washing up liquid, cleaning sprays, tea towels, dusters, cleaning cloths, cutlery, air fresheners, soaps, hand wash, tissues, wet wipes etc. The children can come in their 'brightest and wackiest' clothes on this day as a thank you for their generosity. Thank you very much!



**ZOOLAB** Our Y3/4 children were very excited on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October because they were visited by several amazing, exotic and creepy creatures! A snake, a spider and rat were among the visiting guests for the afternoon. The children followed the visit up with a lot of writing work and they produced some wonderful pieces of writing!



**DEFIBRILLATOR NEWS** We have taken delivery of our new Defibrillator Unit, which has been bought with help from the Danny Jones Charity and a generous donation from parents of a child who left us to go to High School in July. The unit needs to be fitted and then we will train 12 members of staff to use it in an emergency situation.

On a similar note..... we have made arrangements to have most of the children in KS2 trained in CPR and 'Save a Life' techniques over the next few months. This was partly inspired by the story of Danny Jones but also by two boys in our school who have recently done the training and impressed us with their knowledge and skills! Thank you Harlee and Leo!! Y6 will be doing their sessions with Mr John Casey tomorrow.

**YEAR 6 ASSEMBLY** A fabulous assembly led by 6F on Friday was a very concise overview of music history from the 1940's to the present day. The children had some opportunities to sing along to some favourite pop songs and they even re-created a slightly turned-down version of a 'Rave' at the end!!!

**PARENTS' EVENINGS** It was great to be able to share some time with so many parents on Tuesday and Thursday last week. We always appreciate the opportunity to keep you informed and to get your support. Thank you especially to everyone who completed online registration for Ofsted's Parent View Survey. Any



parent in school is able to complete this 5 minute survey once per academic year and if we have an inspection the team would use the results to help them make their judgements so it is important for us to have a good representative body of parents completing it.

<https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/login?destination=give-your-views>

**ATTENDANCE** Our attendance **CHAMPIONS** for the last fortnight were Mrs Land's class with 98.9% attendance.. Well done to everyone who managed to get over the school target of **97%**.

Class	Attendance 2/10/17–13/10/17
FS	93.2%
1/2D	<b>91.7%</b>
1/2H	95.7%
2M	92.0%
3/4C	96.5%
3/4R	96.3%
4R	98.0%
5BT	93.3%
5G	95.5%
6F	98.2%
6L	<b>98.9%</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>95.2%</b>

**DO YOU HAVE AN INTERESTING JOB?** We are delighted to say that several parents have volunteered to come to school to talk about the jobs they do with the KS2 children. Charlie Murphy's dad will be speaking to KS2 on Tuesday afternoon about being an Actor!! You might have seen him in the Aviva adverts or even (if you have been looking closely) Star Wars and Harry Potter films! He is in pantomime over the Christmas season! Also, Mr Tomkinson's cousin is going to be speaking to Y5 and Y6 about being a doctor on Tuesday. We have had several other volunteers and if you would like to offer your time, please let us know. The objective is to give our children ideas about the world of work and the many different types of jobs there are to choose from.

We hope that many of our pupils will have the opportunity to go to University one day and we have recently arranged for some of our children to spend a day at Huddersfield University. Parents of these children will be informed nearer the actual visit.

**AFTER-SCHOOL CLUB** We are delighted to announce that Mrs Suzanne Smith has recently been appointed as the permanent Play Leader of this provision which has been under the school's control since September. We hope to make a change to the name and branding of the club by Christmas and Mrs Smith has already booked a series of fun Clay Workshops which all club members can access for a small additional charge. We expect some places to still be available and these will be offered to other pupils who don't normally use the club. Details of how to book a place will be sent out immediately after half-term.

**The club has reduced its charges for the first hour after school..... 3.30pm to 4.30pm is now only £3. If you want to book your child in, please contact the school office and pay in advance on our 'School Money' app.**



**ROOFING NEWS** Work will start in the holidays on the first phase of a long term project to re-surface the felting on our roof. This first phase will involve the roof above Foundation Stage, Mr Morley's classroom and the Parents' Room and Star Centre. There should be very little disruption to our normal school routines, though some of the carpark will be occupied by a contractors' compound and on rare occasions we may need to ask children to come into the building via different entrances.

**HALF-TERM MULTI-SPORTS CLUB** We still have some places available for this holiday club, which will run on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday during the half-term holiday. The club will be run by Mr and Mrs Dyson, and Mrs Suzanne Smith. **Cost: £12 per child per day (£30 for all three days).** If you are interested please contact the office before Wednesday this week.

**Y6 – KING ARTHUR** The Y6 classes will be attending a performance of Michael Morpurgo's 'King Arthur' at the Square Chapel on Wednesday this week. Our KS1 and FS children will be going to watch a performance of Oliver Jeffers popular book, 'Lost and Found' on the first Tuesday after half-term.



### **HALF-TERM**

**We break for half-term on Thursday this week. Children return to school on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November.**