



St. Austin's Catholic Primary School A Catholic Voluntary Academy Weekly Newsletter: Friday 8th December 2017 No: 13



Spiritual Reflection—Mary

Today is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, one of the several feast days of Our Blessed Lady which centres on her motherhood – the Mother of God. It celebrates Mary's unique role and her cooperation with God in the mystery of redemption, in the Word made flesh. It celebrates her uniqueness. She is unique, in that she is conceived without original sin. Mary always leads us to Christ. She is the one who shows us how to live lives of holiness.

It is most appropriate that this Feast Day be celebrated during the Advent season in which we prepare for the coming of Christ. We celebrate His birth and we await His second coming. We celebrate this Feast Day recognizing that the incarnation, redemption, and salvation were made possible through Mary's words, "May it be done to me according to your word."

Mary shows us, through her obedience, through her trust in God, how to be holy. She is fully human. She is what God wants for every human person. His deepest desire is that we respond to His call.

Through our devotion to Mary, may we be able in our own weaknesses and in our own struggles, to speak the words of Mary and make them our words, "Behold I am the servant of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word."



Christmas Productions

UFS	Years 1 and 2	Years 3 and 4	Years 5 and 6
Monday 11th December at 2.00pm	Tuesday 12th December at 9.30am	Wednesday 13th December at 6.00pm	Thursday 14th December at 6.00pm
Tuesday 12th December at 2.00pm	Wednesday 13th December at 2.00pm	Thursday 14th December at 2.00pm	Friday 15th December at 2.00pm

Week beginning Monday 11th December

Monday 11th December
2.00pm UFS Christmas Play

Tuesday 12th December
9.30am Y1/2 Christmas Play
11.15am Violin Lessons (Miss Ghent's Students)
2.00pm UFS Christmas Play
3.30pm After School Club—Lego
3.30pm After School Club—Chatterbooks
3.30pm After School Club—Christmas Crafts

Wednesday 13th December
2.00pm Y1/2 Christmas Play
6.00pm Y3/4 Christmas Play

Thursday 14th December
2.00pm Y3/4 Christmas Play
3.30pm After School Club—Choir
6.00pm Y5/6 Christmas Play

Friday 15th December
8.50am UFS Stay and Play until 9.30am
9.45am School Choir Singing at Sainsburys
2.00pm Y5/6 Christmas Play
3.30pm After School Club—Dance (Parents invited)

Our School Christmas Fair



**** TODAY ****

From 3.45-5:30pm

FOSAS are holding the St. Austin's Christmas Fair at the end of the school day THIS AFTERNOON

We hope to see you there!

School Library Service Visit

Yesterday we welcomed the School Library Service into our school for story time with our younger children. The children had a fabulous time and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. We are so grateful for the support the Library Service give to our school.

After School Dance Club

If your child has been taking part in the after school Dance Club on a Friday afternoon you are invited to come in to school on Friday 15th December at 4.15pm to watch a short presentation of their work.

Christmas Plays

As you can see from the weekly diary the Christmas Plays for all Key Phases will be happening next week. We look forward to welcoming you to these special events. As has been the case in previous years we will be asking parents to refrain from taking photographs **during** the performances and from moving out of their seats to the sides and rear of the halls. We will give all parents plenty of time after the performances to take photographs.

We will have evening performances of the Y3/4 and Y5/6 plays. We ask that **all** children come back to school for these performances. Every child has a vital role to play. They should be brought back to school no earlier than 5.30pm please.

Diary Dates

Friday 8 th December	Christmas Fair at St. Austin's School – 3.45pm—5.45pm
Monday 18 th December	Christmas Concert 'The Great Light' for Grandparents and Parishioners – 10am Blessing of Advent Crib – UFS & KS1 – 2.30pm
Tuesday 19 th December	Christmas Dinner Day followed by Party Afternoon—all Year Groups
Wednesday 20 th December	Whole School Mass – 9.30am in KS2 Hall Christingle Service led by children from Years 3 and 4—2.45pm in the KS2 Hall
Thursday 21 st December	'Christmas Peace Message' - Liturgy led by children from Years 5 and 6—2.45pm KS2 Hall
Friday 22 nd December	School Closes for Christmas Holiday
Monday 8 th January 2018	Spring Term begins



Hot Chocolate Friday

The following children have been rewarded with 'Hot Chocolate with the Head' for their super behaviour and excellent attitude towards all aspects of school.

Class RW - Loyiso Bhebhe
Class RK –Elissa Bennett
Class 1T-Sofia Barr
Class 1/2C-Victoria Ziolkowska
Class 2V –Raul Mahmood
Class 3W –Aqsa Hussain
Class 3/4JT –Diya Joji
Class 4N –Kinga Bieniek
Class 5B-Oliver Cunniff
Class 5/6C-Agron Hajrullahu
Class 6CD-Oliver Ellis



Adverse Weather

We are aware that according to the forecast there may be snow in our area on Sunday evening into Monday. This could affect the morning rush hour and we will take this into account if pupils arrive later at school because of snow or ice.

In the event of more significant snowfall which might affect opening of the school please look on the website on Monday morning or to the closure broadcasts on our local radio station Ridings FM on 106.8 frequency.

Outdoor Crib

As in past years we have a larger nativity scene in the prayer garden in KS2. Please come and have a LOOK and bring your children! This can be accessed through the gate leading into the Y3/4 playground keeping left and entering area that is fenced with wooden panels

E-Safety Advice:

Ensure parental controls and privacy settings meet your expectations.

Groupcall Xpressions

Please can we remind you to download the app from the app store on your smartphone! Xpressions is a very easy to navigate information source to keep you up to date with any school events, messages, etc. If you have any technical issues installing the app contact the school office for support.

Attendance

Congratulations to 2V who are this week's KS1 attendance winners with 100% and also to 3W and 5B in KS2 both with an attendance of 99%.

Just a reminder that the school doors open at 08:50 and the day begins at 08:55. If you can ensure your child arrives on time. Thank you.



Parenting Course—'Helping Families to Help Themselves

Beginning in January 2018 our Parenting Course will begin. The facilitators of this course will be: Mrs. Bray, Mrs. Nadeem, Mrs. Samardzija and Mrs. Workman. Further details will be sent out at the beginning of the Spring Term.

We also draw your attention to an online course helping families to understand low mood and depression in young people. The course is aimed at parents, teachers, school staff and other professionals working with young people with depression.

<https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/depression-young-people?lr=38>

Parish Mass times this weekend are:

St Austin's:

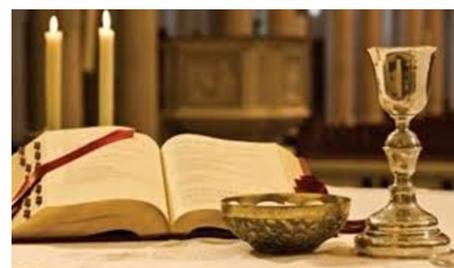
Saturday at 6.15pm, Sunday at 8.15am, 11am and 6pm

SS Peter & Paul's

Saturday at 5pm, Sunday at 9am and 10.45am

For further information please see the newsletters on the parish websites:

www.peterpaul.org.uk and smartinswakefield.org/index.



Mr K Flood
Headteacher

Mr J Molyneux
Deputy Headteacher