



Mr John Shannon, Head Teacher.

Newsletter no.6

15 December 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you know I will be leaving St Mary's today. Although I was appointed as Interim Headteacher until March I always made it clear that I would be prepared to leave in December if it was in the best interests of the school to do so. The plan was to appoint a permanent headteacher for March 2018, but when that recruitment campaign was unsuccessful it made sense to provide a longer-term solution from January.

I would like to thank all the children, staff, parents and governors for supporting me in my role as Headteacher this term. You have been very welcoming and I have really enjoyed getting to know you and your children. Indeed, your commitment to our school is one of its key strengths.

Another strength is our fantastic music. I have been absolutely amazed by the quality and range of musical ability I've witnessed at St. Mary's. Playing, learning, singing, performing, listening; all are incredibly valuable ingredients for a successful, happy and full life. I would encourage you to read the following Guardian article that outlines how a school was transformed through a committed approach to music teaching. <https://www.theguardian.com/education/2017/oct/03/school-results-music-bradford>

Overall it is clear to me that our school has great potential and I am confident that, once a permanent headteacher is in place, St Mary's will go from strength to strength.

I wish you all the very best for the future and hope that you enjoy a relaxing and joyous Christmas with your family and friends.

Start of School day

Please take your child to their classroom in the morning as there is not always a member of staff on the gate.

Parking and dropping off

We have had a telephone call from Pippins. They have said that it is getting very busy in their carpark for collecting and dropping off. Whilst they are still happy for us to use their carpark, they have noticed that some parents/carers are leaving their cars there for longer periods of time. Please only use it for collecting and dropping off at school times.

Living, loving and learning with God

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Please do not use the school carpark to drop off your child, even if you are late. The area is becoming very congested and there have been a number of near misses recently. Please respect the safety of all our children and parents.

Key stage 2 P.E Next Term

Next term Mr Murnane will be doing Quicksticks for PE for all of key stage 2. It is a necessity for the health and safety of the children that they **ALL have gumshields and shin pads**. As such, please could you make sure they are in school each Thursday ready for them to take part in P.E lessons. This will commence on the first Thursday when we return back after the Christmas break.

Christmas holiday football camp.

Please see attached poster which includes details of the Christmas holiday football camp. This is being run by Mr Murnane. If you would like your child to take part, please contact Dan directly.

Clubs

All clubs will commence on week beginning 15th January. The clubs letter will go out on the second week back.

Children return to school on Wednesday 3rd January 2018.

We hope you all have a lovely Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Kind regards,

John Shannon
Headteacher