

Newsletter



Guide Us O God To Be The Best We Can Be;
In Every Thought, In Every Word And Every Deed

December 2024



This Month's News:

What a busy and joyful month we have had in school! A huge well done to the Eagles children, who represented us so beautifully at the Advent service for OLSHS, and to the Owls children, who led our whole-school Mass – we are very proud of you. A massive thank you and well done to our EYFS and KS1 team for delivering a truly amazing Nativity performance. It was heart-warming to see so many families join us, and we are grateful for your generous donations to Church. Congratulations to the children who took part in the Rocksteady concert – your musical talents shone brightly! Earlier this month, our wonderful choir visited BrainKind and sang beautifully for the residents – thank you to Mrs Williams for organising such a special experience. Finally, as we draw this term to a close, we want to express our heartfelt thanks to our children, families and staff for their hard work, support and enthusiasm. You are what makes our school community so special!

A message from the SMSA team:

As we journey through the season of Advent, we are reminded of the hope, joy and love that this special time brings to our lives. Advent is a time of waiting; preparing our hearts and minds for the celebration of the birth of Jesus, the light of the world. At school, we have been reflecting on the true meaning of Christmas – kindness, compassion and the gift of giving – values that bring us closer together as a community. As we approach the Christmas break, we hope that this time is filled with peace and joy for all our families. May you enjoy moments of togetherness, gratitude and celebration, cherishing the blessings of family and friends. From all of us at SMSA, we send you our warmest wishes for a joyful and restful Christmas and a happy New Year.



Events Coming Up:

We encourage families to continue to check the online school calendar for upcoming events:

<https://www.st-mary-standrews.lancs.sch.uk/calendar/?calid=2,1,3,4&pid=10&viewid=2>

6th January – back to school!

13th January – Eagles Empathy Workshop

21st January – KS2 Water Assembly

PTFA Christmas Fair:

A huge thank you to our wonderful PTFA for a really successful Christmas Fair. They worked so hard, setting up all of the stalls and making the school look very festive! We were able to raise an amazing £650! We will also be able to add the raffle money to this amount in January. Thank you again from everyone at SMSA!

Sporting News:

Our KS2 pupils showed incredible determination and positivity during the TriKidz Resilience Morning, tackling challenges that were both tough and rewarding. As always, the TriKidz team were impressed with all the children's resilience, effort and ability to work as a team. We must also say a big thank you to Ms Foy for organising the festive Reindeer Run; it was such a fun-filled event, and the children loved every moment. A huge congratulations to the Year 6 boys football team who have remained undefeated in their league matches and have finished champions of Division 1. They have also progressed to the next round of the Harold Slater shield and will play St Andrews in the next round in the new year! Well done boys!

Attendance:

Despite the cold weather and nasty coughs, our attendance continues to be excellent! Well done and thank you to all of our families for understanding the importance of attending school every single day. We are above our 97% target for the whole autumn term Well done, Team.

St Mary and St Andrew's Catholic Primary School, ...

Current academic year up to Thursday 19 December 2024

Number of pupils	Overall attendance %	Overall absence %	Unauthorised absence %
133	97.4%	2.6%	0.3%
Persistently absent		Severely absent	
Number of persistently absent pupils	Percentage of persistently absent pupils	Number of severely absent pupils	Percentage of severely absent pupils
9	6.8%	0	0.0%
Last 5 days (13 December 2024 to 19 December 2024)			
Overall attendance %	Overall absence %	Unauthorised absence %	
96.2%	3.8%	0.2%	

Parking:

A polite reminder to be please considerate when parking around school. We are aware that our parking offer is not the greatest, but please do be careful when parking in order to ensure we are not blocking entrances and/or other cars. Thank you again for your support in these efforts.

