



St Mary's Catholic First School
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Head Teacher: Mrs Paula Fearn



27th November 2020

Dear Parents

We have had a lovely week at St Mary's, the children have been drawing some colourful Christmas pictures, some of these pictures may appear in the fundraising film being produced by the Dorchester Choral Society & Dorchester at Christmas project. Our Year 4 class were filmed singing Away in a Manger as part of this project. We will let you know how to view this once it has been completed.

We are almost in December and the countdown to Christmas is here. Please find attached to the newsletter email a leaflet giving details of the Christmas activities at St Mary's during December. There is a hard copy of the leaflet coming home with your child.



The PTA have given out quite a number of uniform items to families, if you need any uniform for your children, please email the school office or let the PTA know via your year's Facebook pages.



As mentioned last week, we will be re-establishing the PTA after Christmas and plan to have a zoom meeting where we will invite parents who would be interested in being part of the PTA or have ideas to put forward for future fundraising activities/events. Please have a think about being involved or giving us your ideas in the New Year.

We are trying to raise funds for St Mary's and as you know many of the PTA fundraising events that we would normally run are not possible at the moment. However, we know that many people are ordering online at present and we can raise funds by using the easyfundraising site, please see the information below and on the flyer coming home with your child.

Help to raise funds for St Mary's – easyfundraising

We have registered St Mary's School with the easyfundraising site and we would be grateful for any parents who are happy to register on this site to help raise funds for our school.

There is no cost to you, just register some basic details and when you are shopping online, if you login to the easyfundraising site first, then search for the website of the online retailer you wish to shop at, you can see if they offer a donation to the school.

You can then just click on the link to go to that retailers official site and shop as normal and where applicable, a donation is made to the school.

You can set up a reminder on your browser to remind you to use easyfundraising as it is easy to forget to use it when looking online but during the current situation, we believe this could really help St Mary's.

The link to the site is <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stmarysfirstschool/>

Many thanks if you are happy and able to support us in this way.

As mentioned last week, we have purchased two new Picnic benches for the children to use in the playground, this was made possible by PTA funding. Many thanks to Mr Tozer who is putting them together for us. Here is one of the new benches:



Sleep on the Floor for a Night

We are supporting the Catholic Children's Society during December by being part of their sponsored Sleep on the Floor for a Night. This event raises funds for their Essential Grants Fund which we mentioned last week.

The Sleep on the Floor for a Night can be held at any point during December and they are simply asking children (and adults if they like), to put themselves in the shoes of other less fortunate children, some of whom do not have a comfy bed to sleep in every night. This is part of their Good Shepherd programme from which they purchase beds and mattresses for vulnerable children sleeping on the floor.

If you would like to take part in this, pick a night at home and if you are able to gain some sponsorship, this would be much appreciated. We will email out more information early next week.

Bike it Bear

Last week's winner of the Bike it Bear was **Archie T**. If your child finds a laminated picture of a teddy bear on their bike or scooter on a Thursday, please come and hand this into the school office and let them know your child's name as the winner.

Many thanks.

I hope you have a good weekend.

Yours sincerely

P. Fearn

Mrs Paula Fearn
Head Teacher