

# St. Mary's Primary, Wingate

## November 2015 Newsletter

We are leading up to a very busy time of year as you will be aware. There will be many opportunities for you to visit us during our various celebrations and we look forward to seeing you there. Please particularly take note of the dates for your diary so that you don't miss out on anything.

### Admissions to School - September 2016

Please note that the closing date to send applications to start Reception at Primary school in September 2016 is **January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016**.

### Winter Weather

Please make sure your children come to school with a change of shoes & warm outdoor gear like hats & gloves. They do like to play in the snow, but we can only take children out who are appropriately dressed.

A change of shoes is really important so that they are warm all day, & so that our school floors don't get too slippery.

Please listen to the local radio stations (Metro, Galaxy & Durham FM) on a snowy morning in case we have to close - this would only be in the most extreme circumstances, as we do like to stay open. ***Our school website will also immediately be updated if we close the school and, if possible, we will send out texts.***

### Christmas Fayre

The Friends of the School are organising a Christmas Fayre on this Friday at 2pm. Please put the date in your diary. We are still raising funds for a variety of school items & events. Our thanks to the Friends of the School for all of their efforts.

### Harvest Week

Our children raised £87.40 for CAFOD during Harvest week and Class 3 celebrated a lovely harvest mass. It was lovely to see so many families with us at the mass & tasting the delicious soup afterwards. Thank you to Mrs. Greener & Mrs. Pattison for helping us with this.

### Children in Need

Again, thank you to all of the children who took part in the 'Children in Need' day. This time **£65** was raised. What wonderful children we have.

### Advent

During Advent, we will be collecting our 'Coppers for CAFOD' again - to raise money for this amazing cause. Could you please raid all of your coppers and 5p pieces for this? Thank you.

Our Mini Vinnies are also organising a biscuit collection for refugees who are in the North East of England, and food donations for our local Food Bank. Please send in any donations after Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November.

Aren't we lucky to have such caring children!

### Thomas Kenny VC Memorial Events

Some of Class 3 took part in a lovely ceremony on the 4<sup>th</sup> November at Wheatley Hill Cemetery to remember Thomas Kenny's act of bravery - exactly 100 years to the day. Some of them laid wreaths & they all read the amazing poem that pupils of St. Mary's wrote when Thomas Kenny visited the school after winning his Victoria Cross. They were even on Tyne Tees News!!!

I'd also like to congratulate all of the staff and children for the wonderful assembly in school for remembrance of 100 years since Thomas Kenny earned his Victoria Cross. I know all of you enjoyed it too. They did so well and it was a very moving occasion, and one in which the family and dignitaries who visited enjoyed thoroughly. If you haven't seen the memorial stone in the school grounds - come and have a look (I'd like to thank Mr. Wilkinson for placing it so well in the grounds). Well done!

### Twitter

Just a reminder that you can keep a weekly update of what our children have been doing at school via our Twitter account:

@StMarys\_Wingate

Our thanks to Mr. Jones for keeping this up to date.

### Dates for the Diary

- 27<sup>th</sup> November - 2pm - School Christmas Fair - all welcome
- 3<sup>rd</sup> December - Class 2 at gymnastics festival
- 4<sup>th</sup> December - 9.15am - Advent Mass - all welcome
- 8<sup>th</sup> December - Children have their Christmas lunch
- 10<sup>th</sup> December - Children watch a Christmas music performance in school
- 6pm - Wingate Parish Carol Service - some of our children taking part
- 11<sup>th</sup> December - Children watch St. Bede's music concert in school
- 11<sup>th</sup> December - 2pm - **Key Stage 1 nativity play- please bear with us with the change of staff in Class 1 - this may change! (not time or date)**
- 14<sup>th</sup> December - Class 1 trip to Beamish
- 15<sup>th</sup> December - 2pm - Class 2 & 3 Carol Concert
- 16<sup>th</sup> December - Year 3, 4, 5 & 6 Christmas party
- 17<sup>th</sup> December - Reception, Year 1 & 2 Christmas party
- 18<sup>th</sup> December - BREAK UP FOR CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

**Return to school on TUESDAY 5<sup>th</sup> January**

