



**St Michael & St John's RC Primary School**  
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*Following the example of Jesus, together we learn, love and respect one another to be the best we can be.*

Dear parents/carers

We are fast approaching a special time of the year for the Children. There are lots of activities planned for them over the coming weeks and we will keep you up to date with them by way of the newsletter and texts.

### **The Lampedusa Cross**

On Monday, our new governor Tom Clay kindly came to our whole school assembly and brought with him the Lampedusa cross which has been in our church this week. The cross is made by Sicilian carpenter Francesco Tuccio and is made from driftwood from a boat that sank off the island of Lampedusa carrying 500 refugees, 349 of whom sadly died when it capsized. The local carpenter carved and offered crosses to survivors as a sign of hope. One of his crosses was recently carried through the great Door of mercy at St Peter's basilica. Cafod has commissioned a cross for each Diocese as a sign of solidarity and hope for the refugees. This is one of the crosses. After assembly, the children were invited to draw a picture or write a prayer/message of hope for refugees which will be passed on to refugees either in the UK or around the world.

### **Advent Masses**

This week Father Kevin celebrated Advent Class Masses on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. The children were very well behaved and Father Kevin, once again kindly commented upon the children's reverence and wonderful reading and singing. A special mention to our reception children for whom this was their first full class Mass, during which they all received a blessing from Father. Thank you to our year 4 children who supported them so well.



### **Year 3 Spanish Day**

On Thursday the children in Year 3 enjoyed a Spanish day. They came in their own clothes of Spanish influence, learnt a Spanish song, tasted Spanish cuisine, made their own musical instruments of a Spanish theme, and learnt how to dance Spanish style! A busy but enjoyable day!





### Well done

Thank you to staff & volunteers who accompanied the choir to sing at the Markets on Saturday. We raised £ 69.00 for Manchester Children's hospital which is the Charity we are fundraising for.

On Wednesday, our choir along with Mrs Mabbott, Mrs Lambert and Miss Acklam sang at Manor House nursing home for Alice Wells who was 100 years old! We received this lovely message of thanks from her daughter "Please could you thank the children as well as the staff for coming to the Manor House for Mum's 100th birthday today. Thanks to you for suggesting it and allowing the children out of class. Mum had a wonderful day and the children added to all the other things that took place"



### Christmas Cards

Children can bring in, to class, Christmas cards to send to their friends. Please remind your children to put the name clearly on the front of the envelope and the class. If you wish to donate to the food bank instead by way of money or food please do so. Any donations for this good cause are gratefully appreciated at this time of year.



### PTA Christmas Fair

This will take place next Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December. **No celebration assembly**. The fair will begin at 3.45 and we ask that parents remain outside the school gates, collect the children as normal and then we will open the door by the Dining room to allow parents to come in. This is for safety reasons so we can ensure all children are handed over and collected safely.

**NON UNIFORM DAY - Tuesday 6th Dec** for chocolate or new and 'nearly new' items for the tombola. Also any further volunteers to help on the stalls and to set up (from 1.30)/tidy afterwards much appreciated.

### Celebration Assemblies

Today is the final celebration assembly until the new year due to Christmas events in school.

### Holiday pattern 2017-18

This was sent out on Tuesday via email. If you require a hard copy, these are available from the office. Please remember, where possible, to book holidays out of term time to ensure your child receives a full education.

### MILK for life discount code

The new discount code for milk is M4L-06LA



### **Secret Santa -**

We are collecting for the secret Santa stall at the Christmas Fair. If you wish to send a gift in please spend around £1 and label clearly whether it is for a boy/girl/man/woman/Grandma/Grandad etc . These can be sent in to the office.



### **Sports Clubs**

Thank you for all the forms we have received back for next year's sports clubs. They have again proved very popular. We currently have spaces in Basketball on Friday mornings and handball on Thursday Mornings, so these are now opened up to years 3&4.

If you are allocated a place on any of the clubs, to secure the place payment must be sent back in straight away. Letters will be sent out next week confirming places and cost. Any money not received by Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December will result in the place being given to another child.

### **Admission to Reception Class September 2017**

The online admissions have now opened. Should you wish to apply for a place for reception class 2017 please log on to [www.lancashire.gov.uk/schools](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/schools). The closing date for applications is 15<sup>th</sup> January 2017.

### **Next week**

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> Dec Non uniform for Chocolate

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> Dec - Choir singing at Booths 3-5pm

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> Dec- school Christmas Fair

**No celebration Assembly**