**St Mary’s Catholic Primary School**

**News Updates December 2019**

**Advent Service Monday 16th December at 9.00am.**

**Christmas Shopping Day Friday 13h December**

**Non Uniform Day for Little Princess Trust Wednesday 18th December**



Thank to all of the parents who have supported the Nativity this week. It has been a lovely way to share the Christmas message and the children were so full of joy.

We look forward to seeing you for the KS2 Advent Reflections on **Monday 16th December at 9.00am.** This will be a sharing of seasonal Advent songs and children’s learning about this special time of the year.

Advent is the time we give to preparing for Christmas, which in the church year begins with the birth of Jesus on Christmas Eve. Advent helps us to be ready. At school we have been thinking about all the joys of Christmas and all of the tasks that make it work and being thankful for that. We have also been giving time to think about how we can find peace at this busy time.

**CHRISTMAS SHOPPING DAY FRIDAY 13th DECEMBER**

A reminder that Christmas shopping day is this Friday 13th December.

Class by class the children will be invited into the Christmas shop which the PTFA set up in the library and once they have chosen items they will then be wrapped.

This is a lovely opportunity for your child to select gifts themselves for family members. Each item costs £1.00.

All funds go to the PTFA.

Parents have been extremely generous and provided the PTFA with many items for all ages.

**Why Not Christmas Jumper Day at St Mary’s ?**

I understand that parents have been querying on the St Mary’s Facebook page why we did not take part in the Christmas Jumper Day event on the 6th December. I have had two parents ask me over the last few weeks. Below is the explanation I gave :

Over the year we try to do a mix of local, national and international charities. Our international charity is CAFOD and we have as a school also begun to work with UNICEF as part of achieving the Rights and Respects Award. Christmas Jumper Day is a fund raiser for Save the Children. This is a very worthwhile international charity but it is not one that we have traditionally supported.

As a school we try to plan the termly fund raising events to work with the PTFA and ensure that there isn’t an overload. December has traditionally been a time when there are lots of PTFA fund raising events and we also do like to respect the fact that parents have to plan for all of the additional costs that Christmas can bring.

For these reasons the Christmas Jumper Day was not planned into the year.

**NON UNIFORM DAY for The Little Princess Trust Wednesday 18th December**

So that children can wear their Christmas jumpers, or other Christmas celebration clothing, can I propose that we do this on the Christmas dinner day. In addition if you could send your child in to school with a donation we will give all monies raised to The Little Princess Trust Charity.

On January 3rd , Evelyn , one of our year 4 pupils is having her long hair cut into a bob. Her hair, along with her own sponsorship money, will go to The Little Princess Trust.

We would all wish that this charity did not need to exist. Part of their work is to support research into less harmful treatments for children but in the shorter term they do provide real hair wigs which is a very positive contribution to children’s well being at this very difficult time for them.

The teachers in school had already planned to sponsor Evelyn so I hope that you agree that it is a worthy focus for any monies raised by a non uniform day.

<https://www.littleprincesses.org.uk/our-story/>