



# St Mary's News

St Mary's Catholic Primary School  
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Head of School: Mrs G Quinlan

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2017

## Second Sunday of Advent

### Catholic Life of the School

The coming of St John the Baptist was the herald of an invitation to us to change direction or undergo a change of heart. The man with many tunics was encouraged to be generous and give some away. Tax collectors were urged not to build exorbitant commissions but to collect the correct taxes. Soldiers were cautioned against corruption, abuse of power and complaining about their pay. Making a straight path wasn't an abstract theory – but involved a different way of thinking and acting.

Blessed John Henry Newman said: *'to change is to live and to change often is to be perfect'*.



### Thank you Parents

**£2400**

Thank you to all our families who have made our Christmas Fayre last week such a huge success. From face painting to a visit to Fr Christmas there were many activities to ensure the fayre was a great occasion for St Mary's families. There was much excitement throughout the afternoon. We are delighted to announce a staggering **£2400** has been generated from this event.





**Arts Week at St Mary's** – Last week the children took part in Arts Week. Throughout the week the children were given the opportunity to develop the four shading techniques of hatching, crosshatching, blending and stippling in the context of a still life drawing. The children were able to show their interpretations of the still life they drew with textures and colours they could see.



## Brent Cross County Championships

On Friday afternoon Mr Garcia took a group of children to the Brent Cross County Championships. Congratulations to all the children who took part in this event. Mr Garcia reported that he was very proud of the efforts made by the children. The children took part of this 1 mile competition where more than 16 schools from Brent participated. All of our children did their best being able to finish with positive attitude and effort in all the races. Special mention to Rayane, from year 6, who was able to make the top 20 in a race with nearly 100 competitors, congratulations to all them for the hard work!



**Heather O'Reilly** - Earlier this week we welcomed a special visitor to St Mary's. Heather O'Reilly is an American professional soccer player who plays as a midfielder for Arsenal Ladies of the FA WSL and played for the United States women's national soccer team (USWNT), with whom she won three Olympic gold medals and a FIFA Women's World Cup. She signed with the Arsenal Ladies Football Club in January 2017. Heather previously played for FC Kansas City of the National Women's Soccer League (NWSL), Boston Breakers (NWSL), Sky Blue FC of Women's Professional Soccer (WPS), and at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

At the age of 32, she is one of the world's most capped soccer players with over 200 international appearances to her name. She is also the eighth most capped player in USWNT history.

Heather talked to the children about determination in everything that they do in their school lives. There are no obstacles to learning; she told the children they had the capacity to knock down any obstacles preventing them from learning. During the assembly she challenged Mr Garcia to a 'keepy uppy' challenge. She confidently won this trial too.



## Star of the Week

Nahom	EYFS 1	For engaging in many more of the classroom activities.
Aniel	EYFS 2	For reading for the first time.
Noah	1P	For always trying his best in all areas of the curriculum.
Julian	2M	For excellent effort in Mathematical investigations.
Brook	3M	For working hard to improve his maths targets.
Leona	3Q	For consistent hard work in Maths and practising her times tables
Ida	4A	For thinking creatively and producing lovely artwork.
Yannick	4G	For always trying his best and working hard in all lessons.
Borislav	5O	For consistently putting 100% into all of his work.
Rhianna	5P	For always putting her best into all aspects of the curriculum.
Ella	6H	For using figurative language and poetic features to write poetry.
Gloria	6M	For working hard to improve her knowledge of fractions.

The children were delighted to receive their certificates and signed photographs from Heather.



**Attendance School attendance** - Congratulations to the children in 3Q as they achieved 100% attendance last week; Congratulations are also due to 6H who have the highest attendance since September 2017 with 99.1%. Which class will hold the record at the end of this term?

**The Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish events** – Fr Alex has asked us to share events at his parish with all parents. You do not have to be in his parish to attend the services, **all** families are welcome.

Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	10.00am	Reconciliation Service
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> December <b>Christmas Eve</b>	7.00pm	Nativity Play and Carols
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> December <b>Christmas Eve</b>	8.00pm	Christmas Eve Mass. After Mass Santa will be in the church hall – join him for gifts, refreshments and a celebration.
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> December <b>Christmas Day</b>	9.00am 11.30am	Mass Mass
Sunday 31 <sup>st</sup> December <b>Holy Family Feast Day</b>	9.00am 11.30am	Mass Mass
Sunday 31 <sup>st</sup> December <b>New Year's Eve</b>	7.00pm 8.00pm	Thanksgiving Service Mass
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2018 <b>New Year's Day</b>	9.00am 11.30am	Mass Mass
Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup> January Epiphany of the Lord	9.00am 11.30am	Mass Mass

**Key events in December** - We would like to remind our parents of some of the key events which take place next week:

Date and event	Event	Costs
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December from 3:15-4.30pm.	Year 5 and Year 6 Music showcase.	Places are limited to Year 5 and Year 6 parents only. Tickets cost £2.00 which can be purchased on the even- ing.
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December from 3:15-4:30pm	Year 3 and Year 4 Music showcase	Places are limited to Year 3 and Year 4 parents only. Tickets cost £2.00 which can be purchased on the even- ing.
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Staff Inset for St Mary's	Children stay at home.