



## **Autumn Second Half Term 2017**

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**Please put this somewhere safe as it contains a great deal of important information!**

### **Mr. Connelly - our school caretaker**

Mr. Connelly has been caretaker/site supervisor of St. Joseph's since his appointment in 1993. After 24 years dedicated service to our school he has finally decided to retire. To celebrate this occasion and give us all the opportunity to show our appreciation, we will be having afternoon tea from 3.15pm in the Parish Room on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November to enable parents and grandparents to pop in and say their own goodbyes. Please put this date in your diary and join us as we say goodbye and God Bless you to Mr. Connelly.

### **Masses and Liturgies**

Please come and be part of these celebrations, they are an important part of our school life and your children love seeing you there.

### **Autumn Term Class Masses and Liturgies**

Date	Year Group	Time	Location
Wed 1 <sup>st</sup> Nov	Year 3 All Saints and All Souls Feast Day	11am	Our Lady's
Fri 10 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Year 2 Liturgy	9.15am	School Hall
Fri 24 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Year 3 Liturgy	9.15am	School Hall
<b><u>Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November - Youth Sunday 11am Our Lady's Church</u></b> This Mass will be the start of our Mission Week in school. All pupils and parents are invited to attend.			
Wed 29 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Year 5 Primary Mission Liturgy	2.30pm	School Hall
Fri 1 <sup>st</sup> Dec	Meditation with Fr. Mark	From 1.15pm Class times to be arranged	School Hall
Fri 8 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Year 1 Liturgy	9.15am	School Hall

Remember the 11am Mass at Our Lady's has a very special children's Liturgy. All are welcome.

### **First Holy Communion**

This term a number of our pupils begin First Holy Communion preparations within the parish. We ask you keep them in your prayers during this special time.

### **Anti-Bullying**

Bully Busters have been elected from each Key Stage 2 class. The Year 5 and 6 Bully Busters joined one of our parent Anti-Bullying ambassadors and attended the Sunderland Anti-Bullying Conference. They have loads of ideas and will be leading activities during our Anti-Bullying Week beginning 13<sup>th</sup> November. During this week we will launch our new Anti-Bullying Policy drawn up by our Anti-Bullying Working Party and the new children's Anti-Bullying Policy. Look out for these!

### **Remembrance Day Service**

This year we are organising our service slightly differently and slightly earlier. Instead of the children entering school at 8.50 we invite all parents, carers and children to gather around our cenotaph in the school yard. From here the Year 6 children will lead us in a short Remembrance Day Service before the children enter school at 9am. We hope that more parents and carers can join us at this earlier time. If the weather is poor, the children will be invited inside for the service. Poppies will be on sale in school from Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November until Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November.

### **Children in Need- Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November**

The school theme for Children in Need this year is 'Spotacular!'. For this the staff had thought the children would like a spotty day. However, the children had a better idea. The Student Council brought the idea of a Pyjama day to Mrs. Jary. Through our 'Big Questions' Book the pupil voice was heard. They voted for a **PYJAMA DAY!** So it's wear your pjs to school day on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November. On this day we will take a collection for Children in Need- please give generously. More information about Children in Need can be found at <https://www.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk/schools/7>

### **Parish Youth Mission**

The Youth Mission Team are leading a Parish Mission from Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November for St. Robert's. This will be followed by a Primary Mission Week beginning Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November. This is a very special event in the life of our parish and we will be doing lots of exciting things during it. 'More Than Dance' will be working with our children to help us develop our prayer life through Liturgical Dance. Year 4 will be joining other Year 4 children from the parish for a shared day of Spiritual Reflection. Year 5 will be working with pupils from St. Robert's and Hannah our Parish Children's Worker will lead us in liturgy that week. Last term you received a Mission Calendar - 28 days of prayer. This can be found on our website in the Catholic Life Pencil.

### **Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box Appeal**

Last year we were approached by a number of parents about the possibility of supporting 'Operation Christmas Child' through our school being a drop-off/collection point. On Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October our Mini- Vinnies led an assembly to explain all about it and you should have received a leaflet and a letter. Final day for dropping off Shoe Boxes is Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November. Further copies of the leaflet can be found in our main Reception letter rack. We would be delighted if you could support this worthy appeal. Samaritan's Purse website <https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/>

### **Lost Property**

The lost property pile grows bigger every day. Please ensure your child has their name in all items of clothing - including hats and scarves as the winter draws near.

### **Dates for your diary**

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> Nov - All Saints and All Souls Mass led by Year 3 - 11am

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> November - Flu Vaccines

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> Nov - Year 2 Liturgy

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November - Start of National Anti-Bullying Week

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> Nov - Year 6 to lead Remembrance Day Service on the yard weather permitting 8.45am

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> Nov - Year 3 and Year 6 to attend Sunderland Film Festival

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> Nov - Children in Need- Wear your pyjamas to school day - donation to Children in Need

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November - Parish Mission 'Walk of Witness'

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November - Year 6 Science at St.Robert's

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November - Year 4 Forest School (morning)

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November - Year 4 handball competition at St Roberts (afternoon)

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> Nov - Year 3 Liturgy

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> Nov - Feast of Christ the King Youth Mission Sunday as the start of our mission Week

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> Nov- Primary Mission Week

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> Nov - 'More than Dance' in school

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> Nov - Year 4 Mission Retreat at Washington Sport's Centre

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> Nov - Year 5 Mission Day with Hannah ending with 2.30 Liturgy

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> Dec - Fr.Mark to lead meditation in school

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December - Reception visit to see Santa at Whitehouse Farm

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> Dec - Year 6 visiting teacher from St.Robert's MFL

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December - Year 3 Advent Retreat Day at Our Lady's Church

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December - Choir singing at the Galleries

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> Dec- Year 1 Liturgy

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December - Choir singing at St John's

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December - Choir singing at Durham House

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> Dec - Reception Nativity with Year 1 Choir (afternoon performance 2 pm)

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> Dec - Reception Nativity with Year 1 Choir (morning performance 9.30 am)

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> Dec- Christmas Treat - Pantomime in the School Hall 'Dick Whittington'

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December - Year 4 and Year 5 to see 'Oliver' at St. Robert's

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Lunch

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> Dec - Nursery Nativity tbc

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> Dec- Carol Service 2pm at Our Lady's Year 2-Year 6

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> Dec - Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas Party Day

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> Dec- Nursery, Reception and Year 6 Party Day

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> Dec - Year 3,4,5 Party Day

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec - Christmas sing-along in school hall from 9.15am Children can wear their Christmas jumpers

AT THE TIME OF PRINTING ALL DATES ARE CORRECT - PLEASE BEAR WITH US IF THINGS CHANGE.