



St Mary's News



9th December 2022

Wow, what a joyful advent we've had so far. We have been enjoying the real meaning of Advent this year – waiting and preparing – and remembering it's not Christmas just yet! Our preparations so far have included the lighting of our advent wreaths, looking carefully at our crib scenes, singing carols and decorating our classrooms. There is definitely a Christmas buzz in the air!

Ukulele Concert

Last week Y3 entertained us all with some super ukulele playing. They have had 10 lessons with Mr Sayer and we were so impressed with their musicality and confidence. Y3 will learn the ukulele for the whole year so we can't wait to see what they can do by the summer!



Christmas Tree decorating

This week we decorated our beautiful Christmas tree, each child put a decoration on the tree and the result is gorgeous! A huge thank you to Mr Capper and his family who kindly donated our Christmas tree (again!) – we are ever so grateful.



Choir

The choir delighted Lakeside shoppers again this year with their beautiful carolling. They sang both traditional and modern carols – some in several parts which is very sophisticated for children of their age. The choir were a real credit to our school community in both their singing as well as their excellent behaviour throughout. A big thank you to Mrs Smith for her super playing and accompaniments.



Early Years Nativity

Oh, my goodness what a delight we had on Thursday watching Nursery and Reception tell the Christmas story. They spoke, sang and danced beautifully and it was hard to believe these children are only 3-5 years old! A huge thank you to the Early Years team for preparing the children so well.



Reception Class 2023-24

If your child is currently in the nursery or will be ready to start Reception class in September 2023 don't forget to make your application. Fr. Anthony will be available to sign secondary school Certificate of Catholic Practice forms from Monday 5th December 2022. Applications close Friday 13th January.

Tilbury	Every Monday and Thursday after 9.00 a.m. Mass and Thursday and Friday evening 7.30 – 8.30 p.m.
Stanford-le-Hope	Every Tuesday and Friday after 9.15 a.m. Mass in the office.

Next week

There is a lot happening in school next week so please check the info sheet sent out by Mrs Bishop with all of the information.

May I draw your attention to the Community Sing-A-Long on Monday 12th December at 2pm. Our choir will be singing again, serving refreshments and inviting you to sing some carols with them. If you know of anyone in our community who you think would enjoy this special occasion, please let them know and we look forward to welcoming them.

Next week is another full week of preparations and we're looking forward to seeing you.



Mrs V L McBrown
Headteacher



"O Almighty God,
we await the celebration of your birth.
Like the people of long ago,
we, too, need light, to show us the way.
Our busy lives and the "noise" that surrounds us
make it difficult to recognize your word and to hear your
voice.
Help us Lord, to focus on you.
Amen."