

# ALSTON LANE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY



*Learning and Growing as Children of God*

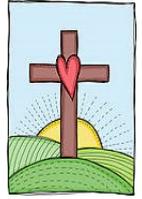
WEEKLY NEWSLETTER Friday 21st December 2018



## Fourth Sunday of Advent - Luke 1: 39-45

In this week's Gospel, Mary visits her cousin Elizabeth, who is already pregnant. She will be the mother of John the Baptist, who prepared the way for Jesus.

"Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord!" exclaimed Elizabeth.



**Gold Awards** will return in the spring Term

## Christmas Masses at Alston Lane

Christmas is a wonderful time to maintain, re-establish or re-kindle our faith. Everyone is welcome at Mass over the festive period. Even if you do not live in the Parish, you are all invited to attend.

### Fourth Sunday of Advent

Saturday 22nd 7.00pm Mass

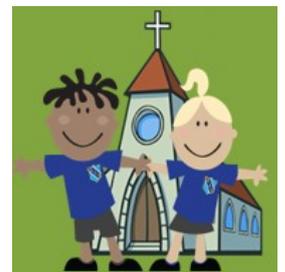
Sunday 23rd 8.30am and 10.30am Mass



### Christmas Masses

Monday 24th 6.30pm Carol Service and 7.00pm - First Mass of Christmas  
11.40pm Carol Service and 12.00pm - Midnight Mass

Tuesday 25th 8.30am Mass  
10.15am Carol Service and 10.30am - Family Mass



## End of Autumn Term thanks

What a fabulously busy autumn term it has been!

The year began with the nursery officially joining the school, following the lowering of the school age. This is an excellent resource for the school and goes from strength to strength, supported by a wonderful team of staff.

Year 6 began their new class in France and Belgium with five days in and around the battlefields of the Somme. This was an excellent visit and one we will continue to do for the foreseeable future.

Year 5 and 6 then continued their learning about the centenary of the end of WW1 by taking part in the Longridge Cluster Schools production of Armistice at the Guild Hall.

There have been lots of school visits to enhance learning, a successful RE inspection, sports competitions, after school clubs, a pantomime, nativities and the junior Carol Concert last Monday.

Alston Lane is a great place to be and I would like to thank all the children, parents and staff for their ongoing support and commitment.

I hope that everyone enjoys a peaceful and holy Christmas. Best wishes, M FitzGibbon.

# Wonder Week - Community Spirit

Our January 2019 Wonder Week will focus on 'Community Spirit' and help children to learn more about those who help us as well as how we can help others through charitable giving.

Each class should have received a letter outlining what their class will do during Wonder Week. During the week classes will be:

- Welcoming the fire brigade, guide dogs and a vet into school
- Hosting afternoon tea for grandparents of children in Year 3 and Year 4
- Visiting the Belmont Care home to interact with the residents
- Preparing the Eco Garden for winter and new life in spring
- Visiting the Quwwatul Mosque on Peel Hall Street (Y5 and Y6)
- Making recycled decorations for the Eco Garden and pebble art and many other activities ...



We will also be welcoming Team GB, Wheelchair Rugby athlete Stuart Robinson into school. He will be sharing his experiences with the children and putting them through their paces in a fitness session on Friday morning.

We hope that children will learn more about their community and the needs that people have within it. Thank you in anticipation of what promises to be a fantastic first week back in school.

We are not asking for any money for these activities. The school and PTFA are funding the whole week!

## From 7th January school dinner payments are changing for school age children

From Monday to Friday, children will either be 'on school dinners' or 'on packed lunches'

The only day one-off school meals may be taken is Friday. **Costs per week will therefore be:**

£11.00 per week for school dinners

## School Dinners

£2.20 per week for children who **only** have a school dinner on a Friday.

We hope that this will make school dinner payments more straight forward for parents and enable them to know the total cost of their child's dinners in advance.

**All school meals must be paid for in advance, preferably via ParentPay.**

Month	School Dinners - all week	School Dinners - Friday only
Spring 1	£66.00	£13.20
Spring 2	£66.00	£13.20
Summer 1	£48.40	£8.80
Summer 2	£77.00	£15.40

Please see our updated Collection of School Meals and School Meals Debt Policy on the school website.

**Please note: Dinners missed through absence will be re-credited.**

# Autumn Term Report Cards

At the beginning of the spring term, we will be sending home the pupils' report cards, which document their attainment and progress from the autumn term. Targets will also be identified by the class teacher which will move their learning forwards.

These reports are our way of quickly informing parents of their child's development in school and further detail will be passed on in February at parents' meetings. These are scheduled for Wednesday 13th and Thursday 14th February. Appointment booking sheets will be available nearer the time.

In the meantime, if you wish to speak with the class teacher about your child, please make an appointment by emailing them or contacting the school office. Thank you.

The PTFA has been busy throughout the year, planning and delivering some great events, all to raise money for the children in school.

Parents are always very generous in their giving at PTFA events and this money always comes back to benefit the children.



PARENTS · TEACHERS · FRIENDS · ASSOCIATION

**Big thanks to the PTFA for paying for the food and treats at all the children's Christmas parties this year.**

**The PTFA and school will also be funding all of the visits and trips during Wonder Week. For once, we are not asking for a penny from parents! Hooray!**

**The PTFA have also helped to fund the new recycled plastic benches on the playgrounds. These are much better than the old wooden ones and will always remain in good condition.**

Look out for more information about upcoming PTFA events on the school diary, located on the school website.

## Job Vacancy

We would like to say an enormous thank you to Kiera Ferrigno who has been working as a lunchtime welfare assistant with the junior and infants for 2 years.

Congratulations Kiera on your new job and good luck for the future.

As a result, we have a **lunchtime welfare assistant vacancy (1.25 hours per day / 6.25 per week)**

We hope that the successful applicant will start on Monday 14th January.

An application form and all the details can be found on the school website under the 'school information' tab.

Please contact the office for further information.