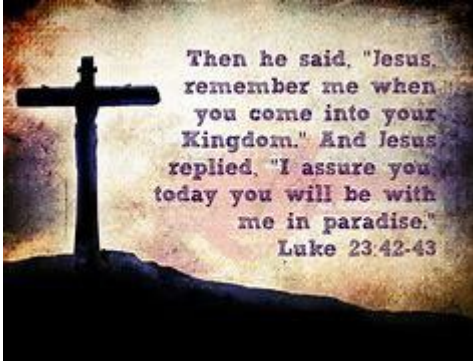




Reflection



This Sunday, we hear how Jesus is put to death on a cross and how he is laughed at and made fun of by the people watching.

The label above Jesus' cross said he was the king of the Jews. Kings are powerful, but on the cross Jesus seems helpless. He is going to die, and the people can't understand it. We know now that this was all a part of God's plan - Jesus had to die so that we are saved.

Jesus is a very different kind of king. He is the king of love. He gives us all a chance of new life with him in heaven.

Even when things are bad, when we are frightened, or hurting, upset or lonely, Jesus is right there with us. He knows how it feels to be laughed at, to be sad, to be in pain. And just like he did with the second thief on the cross, he is always willing to love us and to welcome us.

Jesus, the king of love, showed his love for us and for all people by dying on the cross. How do you think we can show our love for others as Jesus asks us to?

Prayer: O Lord Jesus Christ, our King and Saviour, may we never forget your love for each one of us. We praise you always. Amen.

Family Mass

All our families are warmly invited to come together with the parish for the first Sunday of Advent on Sunday 27 November.

First Reconciliation

We pray for all the children in our parish who will make their first Reconciliation on Sunday 27 November at 4pm at St Mary's church. The catechists have been super at preparing the children and we are sure it will be a very special time.

Christmas jumper swap shop

As previously publicised, parents are invited to donate good condition Christmas jumpers for children that no longer fit or are no longer wanted. This is to ensure we are helping the environment by recycling unwanted clothes that are often barely worn but also to support with the cost of living. Jumpers are asked to be donated on Monday 21 November. Christmas jumpers will then be on sale after school on Friday at 3pm outside the school office. Pay what you are able to. All donations will go be added to our Christmas fundraising.

NEWSLETTER – 18 November 2022

Advent charity work

Advent is a time of alms giving. We appreciate this year everybody has been hit by the cost of living crisis so please give if you are able but we do understand some people will not be able to. Apostleship of the Sea is a registered charity and agency of the Catholic Bishops' Conferences of England & Wales and Scotland that provides pastoral, emotional and practical support, information and a listening ear to seafarers regardless of race and religion who arrive at ports in the Diocese. Each year we have the woolly hat campaign which will launch on 25 November. Please donate items to be packed into the hats such as: Men's socks, men's gloves, shower gel, shaving gel, deodorant, toothbrush, toothpaste, lip balm, disposable razors, small comb, small notepad, pens, chocolate (either a small bar or handful of small chocolates)

Christmas jumper day is on Friday 9 December and children are invited to wear their Christmas jumpers and non uniform and donate £1 to Save the Children.

Each year we work with a charity to provide refugee children with Christmas presents. Good quality presents can be regifted from your bookshelves or toy cupboards or can be new. Each present should be wrapped with a label suggesting the age and gender of the child it would be appropriate for. Donations of presents are asked for from 1 – 9 December.

At the nativities and carol service, we will be asking for donations for a chosen charity. Father Michael has asked us to collect donations for Mary's Meals.

Anti bullying week



This week we have been focusing on anti bullying week in school with the theme of reach out. We have learnt all about what bullying is, how to stop it and that it can be in real life or online. We have also learnt about protected characteristics and how it is wrong to discriminate against people. Can your child tell you about the protected characteristics?

Thank you to all who were able to donate to Odd Socks day this year. We raised £145 for the Anti Bullying Alliance.

Parent workshops

This week we had parent workshops for Key Stage 2 assessments for Year 6, online safety and the Phonic Screening Check for Year 1. All recordings can be found on our website under [parent workshops](#). On Tuesday 22 November, there will be a Key Stage 1 SATs information meeting for parents too that will be via Zoom and recorded too. Please see below for the link.

Topic: KS1 SATs information meeting

Time: Nov 22, 2022 04:00 PM London

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82454864800?pwd=eXA1WUdyemtWYm5VN2VsNkgrRk5kdz09>

Meeting ID: 824 5486 4800

Passcode: 265436

NEWSLETTER – 18 November 2022

Christmas Dinner

Information was sent out to parents this week about Christmas dinner on 9 December. If you would like your child to have a Christmas dinner, please log onto your ParentPay Account by Wednesday 23rd November to confirm their menu choice. Orders cannot be taken after this date. Children currently on school dinners will also need to confirm via Parent Pay their menu choice.

Text messages

We appreciate parents find text messages helpful for reminders but in the current financial climate for schools, it is no longer financially viable as each text is 5.5p. From now on, we will send emails rather than text messages. Please ensure you keep an eye on the dates that are published each week via the newsletter or diary dates.

Christmas fair

The Christmas fair will be held on 2 December at 2.30pm. All parents and family members are invited to pick up their children from their classroom door at 2.25pm. Any children who are not able to be collected will have the opportunity to access the stalls as we appreciate we have many working parents who may not be able to attend. The stalls will be in the hall, small hall and Key Stage areas to spread the number of people. All children will be creating something to sell and have a game to play. Prices will be sent out in advance. We look forward to seeing you to kick start the Christmas season!

Nativity tickets

Tickets are now on sale for the KS1 and Reception nativities.

Reception will be presenting, "We don't know what to buy" on **Thursday 8 December at 2.15pm**. There are a maximum of 4 tickets per family. A link to a recording will also be sent after the performance. Each ticket is £2, to pay for the cost of the production and costumes. Reception tickets can be purchased through Eventbrite using this link. The link will close on Friday 2 December at 12pm. Any additional tickets will then be made available. <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/reception-nativity-2022-tickets-469818047427>

Year 1 and Year 2 are presenting, "It's a Miracle" on **Tuesday 6 December at 2.15pm**. There are a maximum of 4 tickets per family. A link to a recording will also be sent after the performance. Each ticket is £2 to pay for the cost of the production and costumes. Key Stage 1 tickets can be purchased through Event Brite using this link. The link will close on Friday 2 December at 12pm. Any additional tickets will then be made available. <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/key-stage-1-christmas-nativity-2022-tickets-469810023427>

Horsforth Town Council competition

Horsforth Town Council is delighted to invite children from St Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy to enter a Christmas themed picture for our Christmas competition. The prize for the child with the winning entry is to switch on the Horsforth Christmas Lights.

Entries should be A4 sized and the deadline for submission of entries will be **22nd November 2022**. Please can all entries be sent to the Horsforth Town Council office or to school and please remember to complete on the back of the picture the child's name, age and school.

Additional Bank Holiday

The school will be closed on Monday 8 May as an additional bank holiday for the coronation of King Charles. This is the Key Stage 2 SATs week and we are still awaiting guidance from DfE as to what this will mean for the tests.

Headteacher Awards

Reception – Mia W & Theo T
 Year 1 – Austin S & Maisie D
 Year 2 – Joseph Mc & Blake B
 Year 3 – Alice PB & William S
 Year 4 – Lois Q & Jackson T
 Year 5 – Robin B & Joseph E
 Year 6 – Abigail R & Celeste O'S

Virtue Awards – Prayer

Reception – Imogen H
 Year 1 – Noah W
 Year 2 – Jude P
 Year 3 – Sophie C
 Year 4 – Martha V
 Year 5 – Stan B
 Year 6 – Eve R

Diary Dates

Please note changes or additions in red.

*denotes parents welcome

November

Monday	21		Christmas jumper donations in
Tuesday	22	4.00pm	Year 2 SATs parent meeting via Zoom*
Thursday	24	9.15am	Year 4 class assembly*
Friday	25		Woolly hat campaign launched
Friday	25	3.00pm	Christmas jumper swap shop*
Friday	25		Bring evergreen for Advent wreaths
Sunday	27	11.00am	Family Mass*
Monday	28		Bring a Christmas bauble in for the tree (new pupils only)
W/b	28		Year 6 Reconciliation
Tuesday	29	3.30pm	Reception maths parent meeting*

December

Thursday	1		Refugee presents open
Thursday	1	9.15am	Year 6 lead Jesse Tree worship*
Thursday	1	2.00pm	Reception Advent workshop*
Friday	2	2.30pm	Christmas Fair*
Monday	5	2.00pm	Year 5 and Year 6 Advent workshop*
Tuesday	6		Year 1 Class Saint Day – St Nicholas
Tuesday	6	2.15pm	Year 1 and Year 2 nativity*



NEWSLETTER – 18 November 2022

Thursday	6		Year 4 Rewind to
Christmas			
Wednesday	7	9.30am	Pantomime
Wednesday	7	2.00pm	Year 1 and Year 2 Advent workshop*
Thursday	8	9.15am	Year 4 lead Jesse Tree worship*
Thursday	8	2.15pm	Reception nativity*
Friday	9		Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Dinner Day
Friday	9	2.00pm	Year 3 and Year 4 Advent workshop*
Friday	9		Donations for Refugee presents close
Monday	12	5.00pm	Key Stage 2 Carol Service led by Year 5*
Thursday	15	9.15am	Year 3 lead Jesse Tree worship*
Thursday	15		Christmas party day – party clothes
Friday	16	9.30am	Whole School Mass led by Year 4*
Friday	16	2.30pm	Carols in the hall
Friday	16		School closes

Parish News

ADVENT WORKSHOP

We are delighted to announce the return of the Advent Workshop. This year it is taking place on Saturday 3rd December in St. Mary's school hall from 2pm until approximately 4pm. All children from OLK parish are welcome! Come and joins us for an hour and a half of a variety of craft activities for pre-school and primary aged children. Then, from 3.30 – 4 pm we sing carols, say prayers and light the Christingles the children have made. The cost for the workshop is £3.50 per child. We are limited to 80 children, so booking is essential to avoid disappointment. Places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. Application letters have been placed in all 3 churches. Please fill in the consent form below and return to the Church Office, or to LXX WXX or GXX PXX with the payment of £3.50 by Friday 25th November. Please note: if you are running a stall then you still need to fill in a form for your own children. Can I offer some help? Yes please! If you can help in any way, whether running a stall, making refreshments or helping beforehand, then please let us know. All help will be greatly appreciated.

LIVE SIMPLY GARDENING

why not come and help us clear the leaves from the Assumption car park this coming Friday, 25th November - 10.15 - midday? And while we're at it, we'll have a good natter! Please bring a rake or a broom if you can.

FAMILY MASSES

Some of our children will lead the 9am HN & 11am SM next Sunday 27th November. There will be refreshments including soup and a roll on offer after the 11am Mass in the SM school hall.

SUNDAY MASSES (Saturday Vigil)

Holy Name	6.30pm
St. Mary's	8.15am
Holy Name	9.00am
Assumption	9.45am
St Mary's	11.00am
Holy Name	11.15am