



Reflection



This Sunday, we hear how some people tried to trick Jesus. But he was too clever for them.

The Pharisees didn't like Jesus and so they tried to find a way to trick him. At the time the Romans ruled the area where Jesus lived. The people did not like the Romans and they did not want to have to pay money to them. But the Pharisees knew that if Jesus said this out loud, he would get into trouble. So the Pharisees asked Jesus if it was right to pay taxes to the Roman Emperor.

Jesus told the Pharisees to "pay the Emperor what belongs to the Emperor – and God what belongs to God."

So in this story, when he tells them to "pay the Emperor what belongs to the Emperor – and God what belongs to God," Jesus is reminding us that we have two main responsibilities. One is to love God and to try to live our lives the way God wants us to. The other responsibility is to care for each other and to make sure that everyone gets their fair share of the good things that God has given us.

How can we share what we have so that everyone has their fair share of what God has given us

Prayer

Loving God, be with us as we try to care for one another, help one another, share with one another and work together to make the world a fairer place for everyone to live. Amen.

Parents Evening

We are looking forward to seeing all our parents next week for parents evening on Tuesday and Thursday. Please enter school through the hall side door. Books will be available in the classroom for you to see before or after your appointment. Please be reminded all slots are 10 minutes long and the focus of this parents evening is how your child has settled into their new class.

We want to ensure all contact details are accurate so on arrival at your appointment you will be given a contact sheet to check these are accurate.

There will also be a survey following your parents evening appointment to gain parents feedback about parents evening but also to ask for your feedback on our [behaviour policy](#) and on our [Relationship and Sex Education](#) policy. These can be found on our school website by following the link.

All your feedback is gratefully received so we can continue to make improvements to our school.

Leeds United Foundation

Leeds United Foundation recently visited our Year 6 children for their Primary Choices workshop and were so impressed with their behaviour and engagement, they have rewarded them with a stadium tour at Elland Road. They said this is a prize they only offer a handful of schools throughout the academic year so the Year 6 children should be very proud of themselves. We are incredibly proud their fantastic behaviour has been recognised.

NEWSLETTER – 20 October 2023

Training Day

Don't forget next Friday, 27th October, the school is closed to all children for a training day. School will reopen on Monday 6th November.

Open Day for new Reception



OPEN DAYS

We have 3 open days in November for Reception 2024 places. Everyone is welcome.

We can't wait to share our brilliant children, staff & school with you.

Monday 13th November at 9.30am
Wednesday 15th November at 9.30am
Friday 17th November at 1.30pm

Places can be booked via our school office
office@stmaryshorsforth.org
0113 2584593

PTA Fireworks Display

The St Mary's PTA have arranged a firework display on Monday 6th November. This is a ticketed event for the families of St Mary's pupils to enjoy and also to fundraise for the school. A limited number of tickets are available via this [link](#).



Odd Socks Day



Next half term we will have Anti bullying week, week beginning 13th November. The theme this year is, make a noise about bullying. Throughout the week the children will learn more about what bullying is, what it isn't and how we can make a noise about it. We will also link this to our learning about British Values and protected characteristics.

On Monday 13th November, children are invited to wear odd socks with their normal school uniform and asked to donate £1 to the Anti Bullying Alliance. Odd socks day is a day when we celebrate what makes us all unique.



NEWSLETTER – 20 October 2023

Year 1 phonic parent meeting

Children in Year 1 and any child who did not pass the phonic screening check in Year 2 will complete the Phonic Screening Check in June 2024. Mr Waddington will be holding an information meeting about the Phonic Screening Check on Tuesday 7th November at 4pm via Zoom. This is mainly for parents in Year 1 but if your child will be resitting it and you wish to attend, you are very welcome. The meeting will also be recorded and added to the school website for those who are not attend.

Topic: Year 1 PSC meeting

Time: Nov 7, 2023 04:00 PM London

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85679469925?pwd=aWQ1dWNhYTE0eXpubHJLL0MzTnFKZz0>

Meeting ID: 856 7946 9925

Passcode: 375817

Staffing – Year 3

Miss Roberts, our Year 3 TA, will be commencing her maternity leave on Thursday 26th October. We wish her luck for her impending arrival and look forward to meeting the newest addition to the St Mary's family.

Next half term, Mrs Brooke will be commencing her maternity leave on Friday 1st December. Mrs Wray will return from her maternity leave on 18th December and will assume the class teacher position in Year 3. For the two weeks when Year 3 do not have a class teacher, Mrs Robertshaw will teach the Monday and Tuesday and Mrs Middleton will teach Wednesday – Friday using planning from Mrs Brooke. Whilst we appreciate this is not seamless for the children in Year 3, we far prefer to use staff known to the children rather than supply.

Busy next half term

Next half term is an exceptionally busy and exciting one with all our normal learning plus Advent and alms giving. Please see below for updated dates for November and December.

Advent is a time when we prepare for the coming of Jesus and one of the ways we prepare is alms giving. You will see below many requests for donations. We do appreciate there is a cost of living crisis so we do understand you may not be able to donate to everything.

Diary dates

Please note changes or additions in red. *denotes parents welcome

October

Tuesday	24	4.00 – 6.30pm	Parents Evening*
Wednesday	25	9.15am	Year 4 class assembly*
Wednesday	25	2.00pm	Reception stay and play session*
Thursday	26	4.00 – 6.30pm	Parents Evening*
Thursday	26		School closes
Friday	27		Training Day



NEWSLETTER – 20 October 2023

November

Monday	6		School opens
Monday	6		Chocolate advent calendar appeal begins for SVP foodbank
Monday	6		Dance workshop – Y1, Y2, Y3 – all wear PE kit
Monday	6	7.00pm	PTA fireworks display*
Tuesday	7		Year 6 PE day (swap for this week only from Friday)
Tuesday	7		Year 3 trip
Tuesday	7	4.00pm	Year 1 Phonics screening check meeting via Zoom*
Wednesday	8		Year 6 Rail Safety
Thursday	9	9.15am	Year 6 class assembly*
Friday	10	9.30am	Whole school Mass led by Year 5
W/B	13		Antibullying Week
Monday	13		Odd Socks Day - £1 donation
Monday	13	9.30am	Open Day for new Reception*
Wednesday	15	9.30am	Open Day for new Reception*
Thursday	16		Open the Book
Thursday	16	3.30pm	Reception maths parent meeting*
Friday	17	1.30pm	Open Day for new Reception*
Monday	20	4.00pm	Year 6 SATs parent meeting via Zoom*
Monday	20		Final day to donate an Advent Calendar for SVP foodbank
Tuesday	21		Northern Arts club performance
Thursday	23	4.00pm	Year 4 Multiplication Check parent meeting via Zoom*
W/B	27		Reception children bring in a Christmas bauble for the school tree
Monday	27		History enquiry day
Tuesday	28		Year 6 and Reception NCMP height and vision check
Thursday	30		Bring greenery for wreath making

December

Friday	1		Woolly Hat Appeal and Refugee Christmas presents launches
Friday	1	2.00pm	Year 3 and Year 4 Advent workshop*
Sunday	3	11.00am	Family Mass in church*
Tuesday	5		Year 4 Rewind to Christmas
Tuesday	5	2.00pm	Year 5 and Year 6 Advent workshop*
Wednesday	6	9.30am	Pantomime
Thursday	7	9.15am	Year 6 lead Jesse Tree worship*
Friday	8		Bring a chocolate bar for the Christmas fair
Friday	8		Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Dinner Day
Friday	8	2.00pm	Reception Advent workshop*
Monday	11		Refugee presents donations close
Tuesday	12	2.15pm	Year 1 and Year 2 nativity* collection for St George's Crypt
Wednesday	13		Flu vaccines
Thursday	14	9.15am	Year 4 lead Jesse Tree worship*
Thursday	14	2.30pm	Reception nativity* collection for St George's Crypt
Friday	15	2.30pm	Christmas Fair*
Monday	18	5.00pm	Key Stage 2 Carol Service led by Year 5* collection for St George's Crypt
Tuesday	19		Reindeer Run – sponsored event for St George's Crypt – wear PE kit
Tuesday	19	2.00pm	Year 1 and Year 2 Advent workshop*
Wednesday	20	9.15am	Year 3 lead Jesse Tree worship*
Thursday	21		Christmas party day – party clothes
Friday	22		Non uniform – thank you for all charity donations
Friday	22	9.30am	Whole School Mass led by Year 4*
Friday	22	2.30pm	Carols in the hall
Friday	22		School closes

NEWSLETTER – 20 October 2023

Ready Steady Read

We are blown away with the astounding total raised for our Ready Steady Read! In total, children from Reception all the way up to Year 6 read for a grand total of 19,251 minutes - that's 321 hours, or 13.4 days! A whopping £2,021.86 has been raised, which brings our final Usborne matched total to £3,235 to spend on brand new books for our school. This is a considerable amount and will make a significant difference to all the children in our school, helping them develop a love of reading that will last a lifetime.

Winners of the highest number of minutes read for

Reception - Fernando - 300 minutes read
 Year 1 - Imogen - 400 minutes read
 Year 2 - Austin - 505 minutes read
 Year 3 - Ruby - 380 minutes read
 Year 4 - Benjamin W - 1485 minutes read
 Year 5 - Jemima - 939 minutes read
 Year 6 - Rosie - 1700 minutes read

Headteacher Awards

Reception – Eddie S & Belle S
 Year 1 – Annie-Rose M & Enzo M
 Year 2 – Maisie D & Noah W
 Year 3 – Hattie E & Hannah B
 Year 4 – Charlie P & Freya C
 Year 5 – Jemima H & Isobel S
 Year 6 – Bay W & Year 6

Virtue Awards – Thankfulness

Reception – Jack W
 Year 1 – Harriet LB
 Year 2 – Jack B
 Year 3 – Aiden K
 Year 4 – Alice PB
 Year 5 – Amber T
 Year 6 – Skyla S

Parish News

CHRISTMAS PANTRIES:

Catholic Care is hosting their Christmas Pantries again. Last year over 800 families were supported with food & toys. Over the weekends of the 5th & 12th Nov we'll be collecting following items: dried & tinned food, e.g. pasta, rice, beans, tins of fruit, veg, meat, and fish, tea, coffee, sugar and cereals. Toiletries such as toothpaste, shower gel and toilet rolls. Toys (unwrapped) for all ages.

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