

# NEWSLETTER



Mary  
of the Cross  
Federation



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7th December 2018

## Message from the Head of School

Mrs Gleed led us in our first Advent liturgy earlier this week. Pope Francis reminds us that Advent should be a time of joy-filled waiting. He urges us to 'spread the joy of waiting'. We are putting Advent at the heart of everything we do over the remaining weeks. Please join us for whole school liturgy every Monday morning at 9.00am.

We are looking forward to our Christmas Fair this afternoon. Thank you to our loyal Friends of School for leading this important fundraising event. These events involve a huge amount of organisation and we are very fortunate to have the commitment of FOS parents. Tracy Cook, our Parent Support Advisor, will be leading the recruitment drive for FOS in the near future - please consider giving up some time to support our school.

Our year 5 children enjoyed an inspiring visit to The National Marine Aquarium yesterday. This was part of the 'Widening Horizons' project. The highlight of the trip was going behind the scenes to see areas of the aquarium the public do not normally have access to. The children also watched the marine biologists feeding the sharks from the top of the tank!

We are keen to recruit volunteers to listen to the children read. Please see Mrs Packer in the office if you are interested. She will provide you with a volunteer application and will assist you in applying for a Disclosure and Barring Service check. Full training will be provided in January by Mrs Gleed.

We are very busy with rehearsals for our Christmas production. Please join us at the Cathedral on Tuesday 11th December at 2.00pm or 6.00pm. You will be very impressed! Please note that all children are expected back at school for the Tuesday evening performance. Children may arrive from 5.15pm and must be back at school by 5.30pm at the very latest. Thank you for your support with this.

Next Wednesday, we have our whole school Christmas dinner. It is also Christmas jumper day! Children are invited to come to school in normal school uniform with a Christmas jumper over the top. We are looking forward to this early festive celebration.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs D Potterton

[dpotterton@maryofthecross.co.uk](mailto:dpotterton@maryofthecross.co.uk)

## Liturgy in School

**Please join us for whole school liturgy on Monday at 9.00 am.**

**The theme for our prayer and worship next week is:**

**Make his path straight!**

**Dear Jesus, help me to get my heart ready to welcome you. Help me not only to be sorry for what I have done wrong, but to be brave enough to do what I know is right. Amen**

## Christmas Performances



Please join us on  
Tuesday 11th December  
at either 2pm or 6pm  
for our very magical  
Christmas production at  
the Cathedral.

Children will need to be back in to school by  
5.30pm please to enable staff to get them  
ready.

## PSA News



We are delighted to welcome Tracy Cook back to school this week. A big thank you to Rachel Confue who has been amazing whilst Tracy has been absent.

Tracy will be available for appointments.

Monday 10th December, 8am-midday

Tuesday 11th December, 11am-3pm

Monday 17th December, 8am-1pm

Tuesday 18th December, 8.30am-1pm

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<b>Julia Donaldson</b>	<b>92.40%</b>
<b>Roald Dahl</b>	<b>93.33%</b>
<b>Michael Morpurgo</b>	<b>96.30%</b>
<b>David Walliams</b>	<b>95.88%</b>

## Every Minute Counts

Minutes late per day	Equates to days of teaching lost in one year
5 mins	10 Days
10 mins	7 Days
15 mins	10.5 Days
20 mins	14 Days
30 mins	21 Days

Thinking of buying a bicycle for Christmas?

Just letting you know Bikespace based in Devonport, will be running a Kids Bike Sale on Saturday 15th December.

Bikes typically ranging between £10 and £30, and of course we will have our adult bikes available too.

There will have a range of re-furbished bikes, all the usual sizes, from balance bikes to 24" bikes.

Bikespace are a charity that teach and support bike maintenance skills within Plymouth.

7 Riverside Business Park, New Passage Hill,  
Plymouth PL1 4SN

Here is a list of some important dates confirmed for this year.

All information is available on our website calendar.



*Friday 7th December*

*FoS Christmas Fair*

*Tuesday 11th December*

*Christmas Productions at the Cathedral,  
2:00pm & 6:00pm performances.*

*Wednesday 12th December*

*Christmas lunch and Christmas Jumper Day, normal uniform underneath please.*

*Choir singing at Notre Dame House*

*Wednesday 19th December*

*Julia Donaldson class going to the theatre*

*Friday 21st December*

*Christmas Party Day, no uniform.*

*Last day of term, 3:15pm*

*Monday 7th January*

*First day of term, 8:30am*

*Friday 15th February*

*Non pupil day*