

# St. Mary's Mail



Date: 27th November 2020

Bi- Weekly News from St.Mary's

Dates For Your Diary

We have had another busy couple of weeks at St Mary's. This week we welcomed back two of our classes following a period of isolation. The teachers reflected on how engaged the children were with their home learning and how quickly they have settled back this week. One parent wrote:

*"We just wanted to thank you, [the isolating staff] for all the time and support you've given x and the other children this week. We know home learning resources don't just appear, and it must have taken a lot of careful thought. The online lessons were to such a high standard, and the Dojo feedback you've given was really useful too."*

In the meantime we have had Children in Need and Odd Socks day (x2—thanks for humouring me here!). As we head into Advent we will be gearing up for the festive period (see below) starting with our reverse Advent Calendar, an email will sent giving information on this later today.

Thank you all for your continued support and positivity on the gate. Its a great way to start and end the day!

*Mrs B Scriven*

## Christmas is Coming!

Back in March I thought perhaps naively, that we would be heading towards a 'normal' Christmas. Alas this is not to be the case.

We are committed to doing our upmost to ensure that the children experience many of the usual Christmas activities. We are working with the kitchen to organise Christmas dinner, the Christingle service will be going online, the KS1 teachers are working on what a Nativity will look like—our main aim in this is spotlighting the Y2 children as this is their last opportunity to take part in a nativity. There may also be a few surprises up our sleeves (oh no there won't, oh yes there will!). And worry not we have contacted the big man to see if he might be available for a visit but with restrictions in travel we are not holding out much hope for this one!

Please also see the flyer to the right to find out more about what the Friend's have in store for the festive season. Don't forget to follow the Friends of St Mary's Facebook page for updates.

## We Met our Reading Patron!

You recently received a letter introducing Duncan Beedie as our Patron of Reading.



The children of St. Mary's were lucky enough to 'meet' Duncan last week and participated in a drawing workshop linked to the Lumperjack's Beard.



The children and teachers were very impressed by Duncan's ability to take ideas from the children and put them into his illustration. We were also amazed that by following his instructions, we too were able to draw lumberjacks with 'burly beards' full of imaginative creatures.



We look forward to seeing Duncan again soon.

4th Dec 2020	INSET Day
14th Dec 2020	KS1 & Reception Christmas Dinner
15th Dec 2020	Year 3/4 Christmas Dinner
16th Dec 2020	Year 5/6 Christmas Dinner

## INSET

### Friday 4th December

We would like to remind you that the school will be closed to children next Friday .

Whilst children are at home the team will be working remotely with our St. Helen's colleagues. The teachers will continue to work alongside a teaching and learning consultant in further developing the 'connected curriculum'. Teaching Assistants from both schools will be working with Inclusion Support to explore resources to use when working with children with anxiety or who have difficulties in regulating their emotions.

Friends of St Mary's School

Church Road, Yate  
BS37 5BG  
01454 867155

THIS YEAR WE'RE HAVING A VIRTUAL CHRISTMAS

COME AND JOIN OUR ONLINE FACEBOOK EVENT @  
[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/STMARYSFRIENDSYATE](https://www.facebook.com/stmarysfriendsyate)

WE ALSO HAVE A FANTASTIC ONLINE RAFFLE, PURCHASE A £2 TICKET BY  
EMAILING [STMARYSFRIENDSSECRETARY@OUTLOOK.COM](mailto:STMARYSFRIENDSSECRETARY@OUTLOOK.COM)

PRIZES INCLUDE...A JML 34PIECE NICER DICER, 2 DAY PASSES FOR THE SPA AZTEC WEST, ON LOCATION PHOTOSHOOT, £20 VOUCHER HOUSE OF LUXE HAIRDRESSERS, SELECTION OF HAMPERS AND MANY MORE.....

The Christmas Raffle will be drawn via Facebook live on 5th Dec @ 1800.