St Mary's C of E Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs M. Constantinou BEd
Littlegrove, East Barnet, Herts EN4 8SR
t: 020 8449 5856
e: office@stmarysen4.barnetmail.net
www.stmarysen4-barnet.co.uk

Care, Grow and Flourish in God's Loving Hands.

Newsletter No. 4

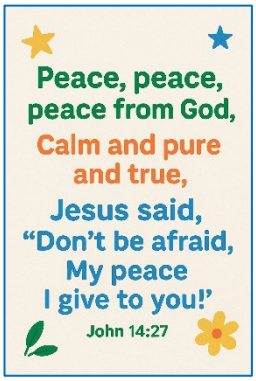
Friday 13th November 2026

THE COUNTDOWN TO CHRISTMAS IS ON…

Dear Parents and Carers,

The focus for this newsletter is on events that are coming up between now and the end of term. Please add these to your diaries; it's going to be a busy few weeks!





Collective worship focus:

This half term, we are thinking about Peace. Our memory verse inspired by John 14:27 and we sing it to the tune for Row, Row, Row Your Boat:

We have also learned the signs for Peace, God, Calm, True and Jesus – just ask the children to show you!

We have been thinking about sharing different signs of peace and how we can be peacemakers ourselves.

The children at St. Mary's are superb singers and have learned a new hymn in just one week. Click to listen and join in with Peace is Flowing.

Remembrance 2026:



Many thanks for all of your generous donations for the Royal British Legion. Your support will be a lifeline for thousands of serving and ex-serving personnel and their families. The Royal British Legion works hard to support the most vulnerable in our society, be it older veterans that they care for, those who suffer from social isolation, or those who are simply overwhelmed by the challenges associated with the cost-of-living crisis.

Thanks to Joanna, Alex and Manos from Y6 for laying a wreath on behalf of St. Mary's School at the East Barnet Remembrance Service.

In school, took time to share our ideas about how we can bring peace to the world and created our own peace tree.



School Christmas Fair: Saturday 28th November 12-3pm

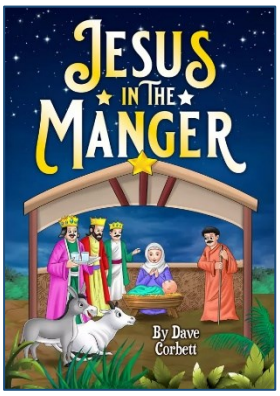
Please come along to our Christmas Fair to join in with some festive fun and some delicious food and drink including the legendary turkey and stuffing rolls. We have tasty vegetarian and vegan options as well as festive mulled wine and sweet treats.

Bring your friends and family along too! Our fundraising focus is on new technology and resources in school.

Thank you to all of those who are working hard to prepare for the fayre.

Infant and Junior productions December 2026:
Drama, singing and dancing rehearsals are underway for our Christmas productions. Every child in the school will be taking part as ever and we are looking forward to welcoming you to see them in action!
To accommodate an audience, we will be issuing tickets to ensure that the hall doesn't become overcrowded. THERE WILL BE NO CHARGE FOR TICKETS. *There will be an offering for our expenses and for 'The Children's Society', with QR codes available to scan on the day.*

Infant production: 'Jesus in the Manger' by Dave Corbett

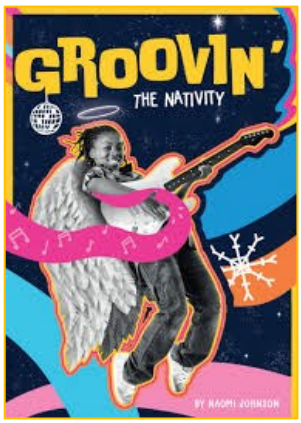


- There will be 2 performances of the Infant Production on Thursday 10th December at 2.00pm and 6.00pm.
- There is a total allocation of 2 tickets per family, per performance
- We will send links via email, one for each performance, to enable you to book tickets via our online ticketing system (similar to the system used to book parent consultations)
- Should there be any spare tickets for any of the performances they will be offered to Y2 parents and carers as a priority in the first instance.

Please note that children in the infants will go home after the 2pm production, either straight after the show if a parent is in the audience, or a 3.25pm as normal.

Given that there will also be 6pm performance on 12th December, children in YR, Y1 and Y2 can come in a little later than usual, up to 10.00am on Friday 12th. This later arrival to school will be authorised.

Junior production: 'Groovin' – The Nativity' by Naomi Johnson



- There will be 2 performances of the Junior Production on Tuesday 15th and Wednesday 16th December - both at 7pm.
- As there are more children in Years 3-6 there will be a total allocation of 2 tickets per family to be used at either of the performances.
- We will send a link via email, one for each performance, to enable you to book tickets via our on-line ticketing system (similar to the system used to book parent consultations)
- As space is limited and all children will have seen both the Infant and Junior performances during the school day, we ask siblings don't return to the evening performances. If you would like them to come, they will need a ticket from your total allocation.
- Unfortunately, we are unable to accommodate a crèche, please arrange not to bring babies as they can disturb the performances.
- Children from nursery age and above welcome, but they will require a ticket from your allocation.
- Should there be any spare tickets for any of the performances they will be offered to Y6 as a priority in the first instance.
- Arrangements for bringing and collecting children will be sent out to you before the performances.

Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day: Thursday 10th December
On Thursday 10th December, millions of people up and down the country will come together – at their workplace, school or with friends – to make the world better with a sweater. We'd like to invite the children to come to school wearing a Christmas jumper along with their school uniform.

Save the Children
CHRISTMAS
JUMPER DAY

We will send a link by text for Christmas Jumper Day should you be able to donate.
Remember, there's no need to buy a new jumper. You could upcycle an old jumper, get crafty or head to your local charity shop to buy a pre-loved festive knit.
If you want to get creative and decorate a jumper, the Christmas Jumper Day website contains lots of fun craft ideas.

We'd appreciate your support to make Save the Children's Christmas Jumper Day a success.

We are a Planet Hero School!
For over 3 years, we have supported Just One Tree to:

- Plant trees
- Empower communities
- Restore the planet
- Fight climate change

We have now planted 606 trees around the world, which over the next 25 years, will remove 168 tonnes of carbon dioxide from the Earth's atmosphere. Thank you for all your support.

Thinking beyond ourselves:
Christmas can be a challenging time for many families and individuals. At St Mary's, we strive to advocate for change and support those who need it most.
Loneliness affects many people at different points in their lives. For most, it is temporary, but for others it can persist, impacting well-being and quality of life. Once again, this year, we will be creating Christmas cards to share with Barnet Age UK and Friend in Need, who support vulnerable older people and isolated members of our community. We hope these cards remind them that they are cared for and held in mind during the festive season.

Food bank donations:
We also invite you to bring donations to support families and individuals who rely on food banks. All contributions will be delivered to Chipping Barnet Food Bank in time for Christmas. When we visited during Harvest to hand over our donations, the shelves were very bare. With schools closing for the holidays, and Christmas being a time of celebration, we hope our collective generosity will help make this period more comfortable and manageable for those in need. If you are able, please consider including chocolate or festive treats for children who might otherwise go without.

Most needed items include: tinned vegetables, pasta sauces, tinned fish, coffee, toilet rolls.
Please bring donations in a strong plastic bag on Monday 7th December.
Children should take these to their class.
Thank you, as always, for giving what you can.

Are you looking for a part time job? St Paul's Church New Southgate are seeking a part time administrator to support the Vicar, Church Wardens and PCC in local Mission and upkeep of the Church & Parish Hall.
Key Responsibilities:
● Helping the Vicar with outreach and administration.
● Developing the church's digital footprint: Social media outreach and website content.
● Supporting the Church Wardens with administration related to their practical duties including health & safety and securing quotations for building works.
Interested candidates should submit a CV and covering letter outlining their suitability for the role to **matthew.harbage@london.anglican.org**
Closing Date: Noon on Saturday 21st November 2026
Interview Date: Friday 4th December 2026



Friend in Need Christmas Market and Santa's Grotto: 1.30-3.30 5th December
East Barnet Baptist Church will be hosting Friend in Need's Christmas market on Saturday 5th December which includes a magical Santa's Grotto.
For stallholder enquiries, please click here.
There are some tables still available for those that may wish to sell crafts etc. It's always a busy event and very much part of East Barnet's annual festivities.

Carol Service - St Mary's School and Church – Saturday 5th December at 4pm:
We are really looking forward to a special carol service that will bring the church congregation and the school community together during Advent. This will involve staff, children, governors and parents, who will be reading during the service. We'll be singing traditional carols such as Joy to the World, Away in a Manger and many more. If your child is in the school choir, they will have a special job to do during the service – SAVE THE DATE! ☺
Please do come along to the service at St. Mary's Church if you can. It will be a really special, festive occasion that will celebrate the cohesion between St Mary's school and church. Bring family and friends along too! Here is the link to our event survey.

There are various other events coming up at St. Mary's Church too:

29 November 6pm	Advent Carols by Candlelight at St Mary's
8 December 2:30pm	Christmas Carols at Wesley Hall
5 December 4pm	St Mary's School Carol Service at St Mary's
9 December 6pm	Church Hill and Brunswick Park Schools Carol Service at St Mary's
13 December 4:30pm	Blue Christmas Carols at Brookside
16 December 7pm	Community Carols in the British Legion
17 December 7pm	Community Carols in the Prince of Wales
20 December 4:30pm	Christmas Carols by Candlelight at St Mary's
20 December 6:30pm	Christmas Carols by Candlelight at St Mary's
23 December 1-4pm	Children's Nativity Trail at St Mary's
24 December 4pm	Children's Nativity Service at St Mary's
24 December 11pm	Midnight Communion Service at Brookside
24 December 11:30pm	Midnight Eucharist at St Mary's
25 December 10am	Christmas Day Service at St Mary's
25 December 11am	Christmas Day Service at Brookside
3 January 6pm	Epiphany Carols at St Mary's
31 January 10am	Christingle at St Mary's

EAST BARNET PARISH CHURCH
St Mary the Virgin

Other exciting news…We are looking forward to:

- A Christmas author visit: Mei Dibble, one of our YR parents will be coming in during the last week of term to lead an interactive story telling session. Here is a link to her book The Big Big Big Christmas.
- A visit from some local football players who will be coming to present two donated tablets for the children. There will also be an opportunity for a Q&A with the players!

Christmas St. Mary's School Dates – Summary:

- Saturday 28th November: School Christmas Fayre, 12-3pm
- Saturday 5th December: Carol Service at Church at 4pm
- Monday 7th December: Food Bank Donations to school
- Thursday 10th December: Christmas Jumper Day
- Thursday 10th December: Infant Nativity – 2pm and 6pm
- Tuesday 15th and Wednesday 16th December: Junior Production at 7pm both days
- Thursday 17th December: Christmas lunch at school
- Friday 18th December: Christingle service in school and last day of term.
- **PLEASE NOTE THAT SCHOOL WILL CLOSE AT 3PM ON 18th DECEMBER.** There will be no After School 'The Grove' Club on the last day of term.



From all of us at St Mary's School, stay safe, stay well and our love and prayers are with you as always.
Mrs. Constantinou