

6th December 2019

# Newsletter



From Mrs Caygill-Boothroyd

This week in school we have been getting into the Christmas spirit; our hall and classrooms are all decorated ready to celebrate this wonderful Christian festival. We have also made a great start with our reverse advent calendars; taking the time to think about people who are less fortunate than ourselves and ensuring that we are giving back to the community. Please keep sending in items, we have many more days of Advent to fill.

On Wednesday the children enjoyed a day of Christingle making; the hall was filled with happiness, creativity and the wonderful smell of oranges! We would like to say a huge thank you to all the volunteers who helped, we couldn't have made it happen without you.

Thank you to everyone who joined us at the Christingle services yesterday – it was lovely to have so many friends and family there to celebrate with us. The children's beautiful singing ensured that we all started the day with a smile, and we were blown away by their understanding of the meaning of the Christingle celebration. We are still continuing to collect money for The Children's Society so any amount of money you can spare would be greatly appreciated and will go towards helping vulnerable children and young adults.

I hope you have a wonderful weekend and look forward to seeing everyone back in school on Monday.

## Attendance

*Well done* to the following 3 classes with the best attendance for week 02.12.19–06.12.19

RB—97.4%	6S—94.8%	3W—94.5%
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## This Week

This week has seen the start of our Christmas celebrations. At the start of the week we decorated our tree and lit the first candle on our Advent ring.

Wednesday saw over 400 Christingles being made—a huge thank you to all the parents, carers and grandparents that volunteered their time to help with this event.

On Thursday we held our Christingle services in church.



See overleaf for more photographs...

Phone: 0113 8592073  
Absence reporting number 0113 8592081

email: [info@manstonstjames.co.uk](mailto:info@manstonstjames.co.uk)  
Website: [www.manstonstjames.co.uk](http://www.manstonstjames.co.uk)

This week continued



## Meet the Governors

My name is Sam Low and I am proud to be a new member of Governors for MSJ. I have two children, my daughter attends MSJ and is currently in Year 1.

I am a local resident of Cross Gates and was keen to do something in my community which would benefit others. I have a passion for education and believe that supporting MSJ was a way to help children and young people on their lifelong learning journey. I see primary education as the fundamental building blocks on which all future learning will be developed. I have strong values around social justice and believe that education is for all, I look forward to providing both the support and challenge needed to ensure the continuous and sustained improvement at MSJ.



I currently work full time for Leeds City Council as a Communities and Partnerships Manager within the Employment and Skills Service. I have over 17 years experience working with Children and Families across both Education and Social Care settings. I feel I can draw on my professional experience and skills to support the important work of the MSJ governing body.

I enjoy spending time with my young family and embrace my role as the local 'dad taxi'. In my spare time I enjoy exercise and playing football when my knees can take it!

## Reception 2020

Do you have a child starting school in September 2020?

**The deadline for reception 2020 applications is 15th January 2020.**

Manston St James has open mornings on Tuesday 19th November 2019, Tuesday 3rd December 2019 and Tuesday 7th January 2020. You are welcome to visit between 9.30am and 11am for a tour of the school and to meet with senior leadership. Please call the school



office 0113 859 2073 or email [info@manstonstjames.co.uk](mailto:info@manstonstjames.co.uk) to book onto one of the open mornings.

To help with the process, Leeds Education have arranged the following drop-in sessions at the City Centre Community Hub, Merrion House, Woodhouse Lane, Leeds, LS2 8LX to help with the application process and answer questions, alternatively families can contact the Admissions Team on 0113 222 4414.

Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> December 2019	9:30am to 11:00am
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December 2019	2:00pm to 3:30pm
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> January 2020	9:30am to 11:30am
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> January 2020	1:30pm to 3:30pm

## Notices

**Paperless Communications** - If a letter requires a reply then we will send a paper copy home, however any other letters will be sent via Parentpay. Please make sure your Parentpay accounts have the correct telephone numbers and email addresses. **We no longer send paper copies of the newsletter home. A copy is available for you to read at the school office and it is also available in the noticeboard in the KS1 playground.**

**Winter Uniform**—all pupils should now be wearing winter uniform. Winter uniform is navy blue plain V-neck jumper, sweatshirt or cardigan, grey or navy skirt/pinafore or grey trousers, white shirt with collar, school tie, navy blue, white or grey socks, smart black school shoes and no trainers. As the weather is now much colder we would also request that all children bring a warm (preferably waterproof) coat and hats/gloves if required as we try to get outside whatever the weather.

**Christmas Post**—our Christmas post box will be in school from Monday 2nd December. Cards can be posted here ready for distribution each afternoon. The box will be in the KS1 activity area. Please ensure envelopes have a name and class on them.

**Christmas Plays**— Please remember to return your child's Christmas nativity reply slip. To ensure we comply with safety standards we can allow each family 2 tickets. Younger siblings will be allowed to attend without a ticket but may need to sit on knees. Please note at the end of each Nativity there will be a collection for

**Christingle**—We would like to say a huge thank you to all of the parents, carers and grandparents that helped with our Christingle making on Wednesday. The day ran incredibly smoothly thanks to your assistance. **Thank you** (we will be collecting for The Children's Society until the end of December, donations can be sent into class to be added to their class Christingle collection boxes.).

## PTFA

### Christmas fair

Thank you for all your support up to and including today for the school's Christmas fair. We'll update you on our successes next week and also on our Facebook page.

### Christmas cards

Thank you for all the orders. These have all been sent to the printing company. The turn around is approx. 2 weeks and as soon as we have your orders back we will arrange for them to be distributed.



For further updates on everything the PTFA get involved with please follow us on Facebook, if you don't use Facebook our e-mail is [fomsjames@gmail.com](mailto:fomsjames@gmail.com)

## Safety

**We take safety very seriously at our school.** If you have any concerns or observations regarding health and safety please contact: **Mrs Dunn or Mrs Cockerham.**

If you have any concerns or questions regarding Child Protection issues contact: **Mrs Spofforth or Mrs Blackmore**

## Christian Value—Compassion

In our school we show compassion by:

- Being kind to each other
- Showing that we care
- Doing something nice for our friends
- Noticing when someone needs help
- Putting ourselves in someone else's shoes
- Trying to understand how others might be feeling



## Key Dates for the Academic Year

Week Commencing	Autumn Term Dates
9th Dec	Mon 9th 5S & 5W Bagshaw Museum Trip Tues 10th 5G Bagshaw Museum Trip Wed 11th—Fri 13th Year 6 Robinwood residential Thur 12th Reception Nativity 9.45am (school hall ) Fri 13th Year 1 Nativity 9.45am (school hall)
16th Dec	Tues 17th Whole School Flu Immunisations Tues 17th Year 2 Nativity 9.45am (school hall) Tues 17th Years 3 and 4 Nativity 6pm in Church Wed 18th Years 5 and 6 carol singing in the playground 3.30pm Thurs 19th Christmas Service in Church 2pm Fri 20th Christmas Lunch & Class Parties Fri 20th Break up 3.30pm for Christmas Holidays (2 weeks)