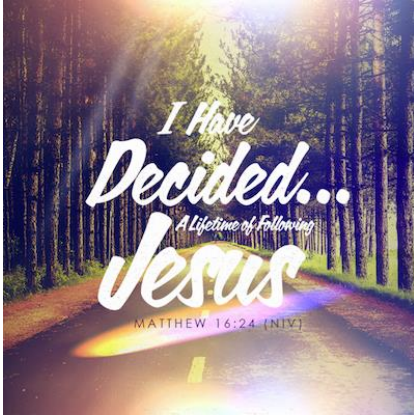




Reflection



This Sunday, we hear that we are all God's children and we are all part of one big global family.

Jesus tells us that we must try hard not to get angry with our sisters and brothers or call them names. If we do argue with them we must try to make it up with them and become friends again as soon as possible.

We are all part of God's family. That is one big global family that includes all people wherever they are in the world. All people are our sisters and brothers and God asks us to try to treat them as we want to be treated.

We can use our special gifts to work together to make the world a fairer place for everyone rather than fighting with people who are different.

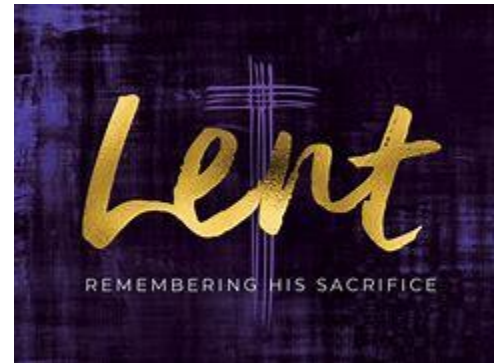
This week, can you try not to argue with or hurt anyone? How will you try to make peace with others this week?

Prayer: God of mercy and peace, forgive us when we get angry with others and help us to make our peace with them so that we can all work together to make a better world. Amen.

Lent

When we return from half term, we will enter the season of Lent. This will start with an Ash Wednesday Mass on **Wednesday 22nd February at 9.30**, led by the Mini Vinnies. We also have a family Mass at 11am on **Sunday 26th February** at St Mary's church for the first Sunday of Lent. All our families are warmly invited by the parish to join us on this day.

During Lent, we raise money for a range of charities, please see below for our alms giving activities. We realise there are many demands on everybody's money currently so please support where you are able to.



Mary's Meals – all classes will be asked to bring in spare change to raise money for this very worthy cause.
8/3/23 - Family Fast Day – children in KS2 will be asked to take part in family fast day where children can pay £1 to have soup and a roll or donate £1 towards Cafod.

10/3/23 – Good Shepherd Fundraiser at 2.30pm

10/3/23 – Non uniform for the Good Shepherd, suggested donation £1.

13/3/23 – Easter egg raffle tickets on sale.

13/3/23 – Easter egg donations for SVP food bank.

17/3/23 – Non uniform for Comic Relief – wear something red, suggested donation £1.

17/3/23 – Bun sale for Comic Relief run by the Mini Vinnies.

27/3/23 – Easter egg donations for SVP food bank close.

30/3/23 – Easter Egg raffle – all money raised to the Good Shepherd Appeal.

Ukraine bun sale

Thank you to all who came and bought buns to raise money for the people of Ukraine. It was hugely appreciated by the Ukrainian volunteers who currently live in Horsforth.

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PTA Valentine Disco

Thank you to all who were able to attend the PTA valentine disco this week. They raised £800 for the school. This wouldn't be possible without the members of the PTA who help set up, run stalls, organise and make things to sell so a huge thank you to them. At a time when school's are hopelessly underfunded, their fundraising is very much appreciated. More events to come!

Planned strike days

Further strike days are planned for next half term on **28th February, 15th March and 16th March.**

As per our previous communication, staff are not obliged to inform school of their decision to strike and although they did not strike for the first day, they may choose to strike on the above days so please consider child care options for these days.

If the class teacher does choose to strike, we will have to close the class and it will be open to vulnerable children and parents of critical workers only. See guidance [here](#).

Staffing news

After half term, we will be joined by two new teaching assistants. Mrs Simona Bartolotta will be an additional teaching assistant in Year 3 and Mrs Kateryna Moskalenko will be the new teaching assistant in Year 4. We look forward to welcoming them to the St Mary's family.

We thank Mrs Caldwell and Mrs Shires for working additional hours this half term until we had our new staff.



Hey Sigmund

A website Mrs Leng uses in school is [Hey Sigmund | Anxiety in Teens | Helping a Child with Anxiety](#). There are many videos and advice that can help your child to build their courage and reduce anxiety with information for parents but also for children.

For any other additional support for your child's emotional wellbeing, please see our website [here](#).

Maths day

Year 6 had the opportunity to take part in a maths mystery day at the Royal Armouries this week as part of our transition work with St Mary's Menston. The children had the opportunity to work with children from other schools in our trust and solved many maths mysteries to uncover the thief. They were an absolute credit to the school with their proactive attitude and resilience.

Safeguarding concerns

If you have any safeguarding concerns about a child, you can contact the school office or send a safeguarding concern directly to a Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) through the school website under **links – report a safeguarding concern**.

Our new safeguarding governor is Mrs Aoibheann Kelly Edwards. Our DSLs are Mrs Hurley, Mrs Robertshaw, Miss A Roberts and Mrs Leng.

Headteacher Awards

Virtue Awards – Love thy neighbour

Reception – Leo A & Marion W

Year 1 – Aamir S & Hugo H

Year 2 – Ben G & Hattie E

Year 3 – Emelia M & Leonardo Z

Year 4 – Will R & Henry B

Year 5 – Dexter B & Charlotte C

Year 6 – Olivia M & Florence H

Reception – Noah H

Year 1 – Austin S

Year 2 – Joseph Mc

Year 3 – Ernie P

Year 4 – Ruby M

Year 5 – Thomas O'R

Year 6 – Abi R

Diary Dates

Please note changes or additions in red.

*denotes parents welcome

February

Monday	20		School opens
Wednesday	22	9.30am	Whole school Mass led by Mini Vinnies*
Friday	24		Mary's Meals campaign starts
Sunday	26	11.00am	Family Mass*
Tuesday	28	1.15pm	Open the Book

March

Thursday	2		World Book Day
Thursday	2		Northern Arts workshops for WBD
Thursday	2	9.15am	Reception and Key Stage 1 WBD assembly*
Thursday	2	2.30pm	Key Stage 2 WBD assembly*
W/b	6		Year 5 Reconciliation
Wednesday	8		Family Fast Day – KS2 soup and a roll
Thursday	9	9.15am	Year 2 class assembly*
Friday	10	2.30pm	Good Shepherd Fundraiser*
Friday	10		Non Uniform day
Monday	13		Year 5 Residential
Monday	13		Easter egg raffle tickets on sale.
Monday	13		Easter egg donations for SVP food bank.
Wednesday	15		Year 5 Residential return



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Friday	17	9.15am	Mother's Day
Assembly*			
Friday	17		Non Uniform – Red Nose Day
Friday	17		Bun sale – Red Nose Day
Sunday	19		Year 5 Class Saint Day – St Joseph
Monday	20	2.00pm	Year 1 and Year 2 Easter workshop*
Tuesday	21	2.00pm	Reception Easter workshop*
Thursday	23	2.00pm	Year 3 and Year 4 Easter workshop*
Sunday	26	4.00pm	Year 3 Reconciliation
Monday	27	2.15pm	Year 3 and Year 4 Easter production
Monday	27		Mary's Meal campaign closes
Tuesday	28	4.00 – 6.30pm	Parents Evening*
Tuesday	28		Easter egg donations for SVP food bank close.
Thursday	30		Easter Egg raffle – all money raised to the Good Shepherd Appeal.
Thursday	30		Year 6 Primary Choices
Thursday	30	4.00 – 6.30pm	Parents Evening*
Thursday	30	2.00pm	Year 5 and Year 6 Easter workshop*
Friday	31	9.30am	Whole school Mass led by Year 5*
Friday	31	2.30pm	Stations of the Cross
Friday	31		School closes

Parish News

OLK FIRST RECONCILIATION PREPARATION

If your child is currently in **year 3**, application forms for the next course are now available to download from the OLK webpage or hard copies can be found in all of our churches. Please complete the forms and return as soon as possible to: catechist.ourladyofkirkstall@dioceseofleeds.org.uk or by hand to one of the priests. There will be 3 meeting groups options to choose from on the application form: 1. Sundays at 3pm in Assumption church hall (1st meeting: 19th Feb, then 26th Feb, 5th, 12th and 19th March) 2. Wednesdays 6pm in Holy Name church hall (1st meeting: 22nd Feb, then 1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd March) 3. Wednesdays 6.30pm in St Mary's school KS2 hall. (1st meeting: 22nd Feb, then 1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd March) The Reconciliation Service for all 3 groups will take place on Sunday 26th March at 4pm (location to be confirmed).

PERFECTLY PITCHED

Free lunchtime concert Thursday 16th Feb 1pm in St Margaret's church, Horsforth. The first Perfectly Pitched Concert (out of 6 this year) is a free concert which is specifically aimed at children, but all are welcome. Refreshments served from 12 noon, concert at 1pm and will last about one hour. Just come on the day! See flyers in church for more information.

ALTAR SERVERS TRIP TO LASER ZONE

As a treat for our wonderful team of young altar servers in the parish, we are planning a social on Sunday 12th March. The plan is for us to meet at Holy Name at 1.30pm for a short period of worship and then for parents/guardians to transport their children to Laserzone where the youngsters can play a couple of games whilst adults drink tea/coffee, concluding with a pizza meal together. Please let Amanda in the parish office know ASAP if you'd like to participate.

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