

Weekly Newsletter
Friday 14th November 2025

St Mary's Catholic Primary School

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**WEEK BEGINNING 17th
NOVEMBER**

Wednesday 19th
Y3 Class Mass. Convent

Thursday 20th
Y3/Y4 Football Tournament

Friday 21st
Jubilee Celebration Day

MESSAGE FROM OUR HEAD OF SCHOOL

This week, we warmly welcomed prospective parents into our school to experience our school environment and gain a sense of what St Mary's can offer. Our Y6 ambassadors are very proud to show parents what makes our school such a special place.

I am always moved by how all children, from Nursery to Y6, can remain so quiet and respectful during the Remembrance silence. The very youngest children were beautifully behaved and showed such respect, which is always heartwarming to see. I am very proud of all of our children.

Today, I also visited the hall to see the Y3 children fully immersed in Stone Age Day, enthusiastically exploring life in the past and bringing history to life. Many thanks for all your support, encouraging the children to dress up and throw themselves fully into the theme.

Our school is getting ready for the season of Advent, a time to reflect, celebrate, and look forward to the joys of Christmas. Please ensure you keep track of the dates for all upcoming activities and events so you don't miss any of the exciting events happening in school.

Have a restful weekend.

Best wishes

Mrs J Hansen
Head of School

FAITH FRIENDS

The Faith Friends in 4J talked about their favourite Saints today. They included St Bridget, St Mary, St Elizabeth, St John and St Valentine.

The children explained that the Saints are our special friends in Heaven that we can pray to.



SCHOOL VALUES: FAITH, MERCY, TRUTH, RESPECT, RESILIENCE, LOVE

ANTI BULLYING WEEK

This week, St Mary's marked Anti-Bullying Week with a range of thoughtful activities linked to this year's theme, *Power for Good*. The week began with Odd Socks Day, showing the children a fun, simple way to celebrate individuality and remind one another that differences are valued.

OpenView Education were on site to deliver an engaging theatre performance to the younger children and workshops to Years 5 and 6. These activities helped the children explore the theme of using their *power for good* in meaningful ways. Children were encouraged to think about how their words and actions can positively influence others.

Classes then followed up with their own activities, including discussions, roleplay and reflections on positive behaviour and how we treat one another. The week supported our ongoing commitment to maintaining a safe and happy school where everyone feels respected and included.

For more information about the theme this year, please visit <https://anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/anti-bullying-week-2025/parents-and-carers>

<https://www.openvieweducation.co.uk/power-for-good/>



REMEMBRANCE

On Tuesday 11th November we commemorated Armistice Day with a two-minute silence. The whole school gathered in the Junior playground to reflect on the sacrifices made to make the world a better place, and to value the peace that those before us worked to achieve and that many are still striving to uphold.

We were joined by a member of the British Legion who stayed to talk to the children afterwards.

Many thanks for your support for the Poppy Appeal. We will confirm the total once the collections have been counted.

Please take a look at X to view some more photos.

[@stmaryseltham](https://www.instagram.com/stmaryseltham)



SCHOOL VALUES: FAITH, MERCY, TRUTH, RESPECT, RESILIENCE, LOVE

APPLYING FOR A PLACE IN RECEPTION

If your child is in Nursery, you will need to apply for a place in Reception to start in September 2026. The deadline to submit your application is Thursday 15th January 2026.

Parents/carers will need to ask their priest to complete a Certificate of Catholic Practice and return the completed form with the parent's information form, original baptism certificate and a proof of address to the main office. Parents/carers also need to apply to their local authority; details of the application forms can be located online.

<https://www.stmaryrc.org.uk/Admissions-04122019150956/>

<https://www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/schools-and-education/apply-school-place/apply-primary-school-place/complete-primary-school>

The next open morning at St Mary's is on Thursday 8th January 2026 at 9.15am. Please inform anyone you know with Reception/Nursery age children who would like to see the school with a view to applying.

MESSAGE FROM CHRISTCHURCH

If you attend Christchurch and would like Fr John to sign your school form (nursery or reception) see remaining times below. Booking is not essential.

Date	Time
5 January	3pm – 5pm
9 January	3pm – 5pm
12 January	3pm – 5pm

Date for your diary:

**Sunday 23rd November –
Christchurch Christmas Fayre**
10am – 1pm.

If you have unwanted or unused toys, gifts or bottles, please consider donating them to Christchurch. There are black bins at the end of the church to take donations.

LITERACY

We were delighted to hear that Noah Baretic, 4J, won a 1st place in a children's comic competition organised by Waterstones in Bromley. Noah's **BATTY** comic was very much loved!

Well done Noah....we hope this is the first of many!



POETRY COMPETITION

Royal Borough Greenwich is running a poetry competition for National Poetry Day on the theme of **PLAY**.

The deadline for submitting entries is **Friday 21st November**. Although there is not much time, we would love the children to get their poetry caps on this weekend and come up with imaginative poems on their interpretations of **PLAY**.

Please ensure all names and classes are included on each entry.

Poems can be given straight to Mrs Thaxter or emailed to the main office.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Jack Saunders, 4J, earned his 2nd medal for 800m and Sophie Saunders, 1C, received a medal for 25m. Brilliant swimming from both children!



Evie Ball, 6M, recently achieved her 800m swimming badge. She is very proud to have gained this badge.



Raeesa Amusan, 6M, was very happy to have recently received a certificate for completing 50metres in swimming. Very well done Raessa!

