

Weekly Newsletter
Friday 17 November 2023

St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Glenure Road, Eltham. SE9 1UF
020 8850 7835

governors@stmarys-catholic-primary.org
office@stmary-rc.greenwich.sch.uk

Twitter: @stmaryseltham

Visit us online at www.stmaryrc.org.uk



Nurturing Our God-Given Talents

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

This week started with Odd Sock Day at St Mary's which is a great way to celebrate what makes us all unique during Anti-Bullying Week.

On Tuesday, the teaching staff visited St Paul's Academy in Abbey Wood for our Deanery Mass which was celebrated by Canon Victor Darlington, who I am pleased to confirm will be attending our Junior Carol Concert on 19th December in christchurch. Many of you will remember how inspirational he was last year.

The children have impressed me with their hard work in school this week and it was great to see Y3 in all their stone age outfits.

I hope that you have a great weekend.

Kind regards

Mr Sims
Headteacher

WEEK BEGINNING 20th
NOVEMBER

Monday 20th

Inter Faith Week
Y5/6 Tag Rugby Team training at
Blackheath Rugby Club

Wednesday 22nd

Phonics Workshop. 9am – Dining Hall

Friday 24th

Environmental Magician on site (KS1
& KS2)
Own Clothes Day for World Peace

Saturday 25th

Y3/Y4 Rugby team playing at
Blackheath Rugby Club (2pm)

PHONICS WORKSHOP

Miss Brophy and Mrs Thaxter are hosting a phonics workshop on Wednesday 22nd November at 9am in the dining hall. This is a very informative session so please come along if you can. Parents of children from Reception – Y2 are welcome to attend.

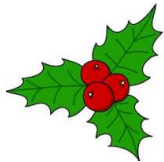
ENVIRONMENTAL MAGIC SHOW

Megan Swann, a magician who specialises in highlighting environmental issues through magic, will be on site on Friday 24th November, to perform some shows for the children. We look forward to meeting Megan and seeing her performances.

<https://www.meganswann.co.uk/green-magic>

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

UPCOMING CHRISTMAS/ END OF TERM EVENTS



Sunday 26th November

Christchurch Christmas Fair.
Choir singing.

Thursday 30th November

Sparkle in the Park. Choir singing and Y5 drumming.

Friday 1st December

Wreath Making – PA Event
Preloved Christmas Jumper sale

Sunday 3rd December

The season of Advent begins

Monday 4th December

Instrumental concert

Monday 4th/Tuesday 5th

The Blessing of the Cribs. Fr John on site

Wednesday 6th/Thursday 7th December

Infant Nativity 1.30pm

Friday 8th December

Christmas Jumper Day

Wednesday 13th December

Nursery Christmas Show

Friday 15th December

Children's Christmas show

Tuesday 19th December

Junior Carol Concert. 2pm. Christchurch

HELP NEEDED – MONDAY 20th NOVEMBER

Many thanks for the offers of help in assisting Mrs Kingdon put up the stage in the gym hall, in preparation for the Christmas shows and activities.

As a reminder, she will be waiting in the gym hall from 8.30am on Monday morning.

LITERACY



This week Mrs Thaxter recommends.....

This Wonderful Thing Ages 9-12

Jessica is playing with her family at the river when she finds a dirty, bedraggled teddy bear in the water. She has no idea that it will change everything, forever.

Meanwhile, Cymbeline comes home from school to find that his mum's house has been broken into – and the thieves seemed oddly focused on his toys. Thank goodness he had Not Mr Fluffy, his Bear of Most Extreme Importance, with him.

Soon, Jessica and Cymbeline find themselves swept up in a mystery that spans decades, threatens their families, and turns their lives upside down.

But sometimes, just maybe, a new life can be a really wonderful thing...

INTER FAITH WEEK

Next week we will celebrate Inter Faith week at school. The children will explore different religions and learn to understand the similarities and differences to Roman Catholic beliefs and places of worship.

Mr Jon Leigh visited us on Tuesday to talk to the children about the Jewish religion. He spoke about the Jewish festivals – Yom Kippur, Rosh Hashanah and how Jewish people celebrate the Sabbath.

To end the week, the children are invited to wear their own clothes on Friday 24th November to highlight the need for peace in our world.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

This week....

Helena McGinnes, 2E, laid a wreath at the war memorial, All Saint's Church New Eltham for Remembrance Sunday. The wreath was made at the 1st New Eltham Rainbow Group, of which Helena is a member. Her family discussed with her the sacrifice her great-grandparents made during WW2.



FAITH FRIENDS

Today, the Faith Friends planned and lead prayer time about Remembrance. The children wrote their own prayers and spoke about the significance of the poppy for Remembrance.



**SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS
MESSAGE FROM TEMPEST PHOTOGRAPHY**

Please ensure your school photos are ordered by Thursday 23rd November to ensure free delivery to St Mary's. Photos can be ordered through the Tempest website using your unique link or visit www.tempest-orders.co.uk.

If you need any assistance in ordering, please contact Tempest on 01736 751555 (option 3).

As soon as the photos are returned to St Mary's, we will distribute them.

PA NEWS

Dates for your Diary:

Friday 1st December – Wreath Making. This popular festive annual event will take place in the gym hall. Please book your slot by Tuesday 21st December to guarantee your place! It is a lovely way to spend a few hours being creative and feeling festive!



Friday 1st December – Preloved Christmas Jumper Day. The PA are holding a preloved Christmas jumper sale at 3pm. If you, or if you know anyone who has Christmas jumpers they no longer require, please bring them to the main office. Christmas jumper day will take place in school on Friday 8th December.

Christmas Raffle - The PA are appealing for donations of raffle prizes. If you know a person or business that would donate a service or prize please inform the PA. If parents have any unwanted gifts/bottles wine/chocolates please bring them to the main office for the PA, before **Monday 27th November**. All proceeds will go to the school to benefit all children.

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

In Class A, Tommy and Madeleine lead collective worship. They shared the story of The Talents; we should always use the gifts that God gave us.

*Generous God, you gave us a voice. Help us shout loud for what is right and fair.
You gave us ears. Help us to listen to those in need.
You gave us talents.
Help us share and multiply them for the good of all your people. Amen.*

Class C shared the story of Jonah and the Big Fish. They learned that God's love is big enough for everyone.



MESSAGE FROM CHRISTCHURCH

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

| Date | Time |
|-------------|----------------|
| 6 January | 9am – 11.30am |
| 12 January | 3.30pm – 5pm |
| 13 January | 10am – 11.30am |
| 27 January | 10am – 11.30am |
| 10 February | 10am – 11.30am |
| 17 February | 9am – 10.30am |

Date for your diary:

Sunday 26th November – Christchurch Christmas Fayre 10am – 1pm.

Donations of toys in good condition, bottles for the tombola and unused unwanted gifts needed for the stalls. Donation bins are situated at the back of Christchurch.

If you would like to rent a stall at the fayre, please contact the parish office for more details. Stalls cost £20 to hire. Please indicate what you would like to sell and the office staff will advise.