

Weekly Newsletter
Friday 19th May 2023

St Mary's Catholic Primary School

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WEEK BEGINNING 22nd May

Tuesday 23rd May

Crowning of Our Lady – 9.15am

Wednesday 24th May

Y6 educational trip to the British Film Institute

Friday 26th May

French Day

Last day of this half term – 3.15pm

Sunday 28th May

Pentecost Sunday. The Holy Spirit descended on the Apostles and other followers of Jesus Christ.

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

I hope this message finds you well as we approach the end of another fruitful week at school. On Thursday, we held a beautiful Mass in remembrance of Ascension. It was a profound and meaningful experience for our students and staff participated. The Mass allowed us to reflect on the significance of this important event in our faith and strengthen our connection with God and one another.

In addition, I have been thoroughly impressed by the teaching of Religious Education in our school, as I have been visiting lessons over the last two weeks. Our dedicated teachers possess excellent subject knowledge and are passionate about instilling a deep understanding and love for our faith in our learners. They continually demonstrate creativity in their teaching methods, finding innovative ways to engage our students with the teachings of the Bible.

It warms my heart to see how our children have embraced these lessons and developed a wealth of knowledge about various Bible stories. It is truly inspiring to witness their enthusiasm for our faith and how it shapes their lives.

Have a great weekend.

Kind regards

Mr Sims

Headteacher

FAITH FRIENDS

The Faith Friends organised another beautiful prayer session this morning, of The Rosary. Thank you to all the parents and family members who came along.

The children will be in the gym hall again next Friday at 8.30am. As this is the last Friday in May, it will be the final prayer session that will take place.

Please come along if you can.



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

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Joana Grace and Naga led collective worship in class A today. They made their altar to reflect how special Mary is because she said yes to God.



Harry and Isabella led the collective worship in class C, making a beautiful altar to celebrate the special month of May.



Zachary and Helen prepared the prayer table and led class D in their collective worship. The class thought about different ways that we can show love to all people.



FRENCH DAY FRIDAY 26th MAY

French day will be celebrated at St Mary's on Friday 26th May, our last day of this half term.

There is a slightly different focus this year, to celebrate the global dimension of the French language. Each class has chosen a different French speaking country to learn about. The children will focus on the language as well as the culture and geography of their class' specific country.

It is a non-uniform day and we ask that the children wear the colours of the national flag of the country they will be learning about in class. We do not want parents to go to expense – please use what you have already. It does not matter if you do not have all the colours of the flag, just one will be enough.

Please see the list below:

Nursery: France (red, white, blue)

Reception: Democratic Republic of the Congo (blue, yellow, red)

Y1: Canada (white and red)

Y2: Madagascar (white, green and red)

Y3: Monaco (red and white)

Y4: Seychelles (blue, yellow, red, white and green)

Y5: Vanuatu (black, yellow, red and green)

Y6: Senegal (green, yellow and red)

We look forward to seeing the children in all the different colours!

CROWNING OF OUR LADY TUESDAY 23RD MAY

Y4 children will lead this wonderful celebration of Mary, our Blessed Lady (9.15am on Tuesday 23rd May). The weather is looking good so pray that the service can take place in the Junior playground. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Traditionally here at St Mary's, the children bring in flowers to honour Our Lady, so we are asking everyone to bring some flowers to school. You can start to send these in from Monday so we can gather all the flowers together by Tuesday morning. We can then arrange them in appropriate vases and containers.

Please do not feel you have to bring a big bouquet of flowers, as a few flowers from your garden will be as beautiful. We do not want to put extra expense on families. Ask your children to help you arrange the flowers into a lovely bunch.

Traditionally, the May Altar consisted of the statue of Our Lady with primroses placed at Her feet.

Many thanks for your support.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

This week....

Grace Masterson, 5K, recently passed stage 9 in her swimming lessons. She also took part in a swimathon last Saturday when she swam 1.4km in 50 minutes!

Very well done Grace!



SCHOOL UNIFORM

We are now getting a little taste of Summer and although the weather may still be a bit changeable please encourage your child to wear their summer uniform.

Boys and girls should be either wearing short trousers and grey socks (not short branded trainer socks) with short-sleeved summer shirts or a striped blue dress and white socks. They should not be wearing tights with their summer dress. Jackets must be navy blue.

Our uniform policy can be viewed here:

https://www.stmaryrc.org.uk/docs/UNIFORM_LIST.pdf

Please ensure you have labelled your child's uniform. Items go missing and unless they can be identified by name, it is impossible to find them. Check lost property, as many items there remain unclaimed.

Please note that hairstyles should be neat and tidy. Boys and girls with longer hair must wear their hair tied back, away from their faces. Hair gel should not be used.

The children must not wear earrings to school. If they come to school wearing earrings, parents will be notified and asked to come to school to remove them.

Many thanks for your support.

PA NEWS

The Parent's Association are busy planning the next events at St Mary's. Please look out for more information from the PA members.

Friday 16th June
Father's Day gift sale

Tuesday 27th June
PA Meeting – 7pm

Saturday 24th June
Summer Fair

Saturday 15th July
Y6 Leaver's Party for the Y6 children and their parents.

Volunteers are needed for all events so please ensure you contact the PA with your offers of help.

stmaryspaeltham@gmail.com

The PA have already started collecting bottles and teddy bears for the tombola at the Summer Fair. If you wish to donate a bottle, please take it to the main office where it will be stored until the day of the fair. Bottles must be full and unused. They can have anything in them e.g. squash, wash up liquid, bubble bath, alcohol etc.

Teddies and soft toys must be washed and clean before donating.

Y6 EDUCATIONAL TRIP

On Wednesday 24th May, Y6 children will be going on a trip to the British Film Institute. The aim of this day is to enhance the children's learning in French in an entertaining and interactive way.

Details of the trip has already been emailed to Y6 parents and carers.

The children will travel by train to the BFI on London's Southbank and they will require a packed lunch for the day. If your child is in receipt of pupil premium, and would like the school kitchen to provide a packed lunch, please inform the school office.

To cover the costs of the trip we are asking for a donation of £6.30 per child. Although this payment is voluntary, trips such as these would not be able to go ahead without help from parents. Payments can be made through Wisepay.

Many thanks.

SEN NEWS

The Royal Museums Greenwich have created a special planetarium show for children with special needs and children receiving pupil premium. It is free and excellent so I would encourage parents and carers to apply for tickets.

Should you wish to apply, you will be required to provide the following information:

- an adult name to which the tickets can be allocated to (parent/carer for example)
- An email address to send the tickets to
- The number of tickets required under that name/address

Parents can email requests to:

ROG.Outreach@rmg.co.uk

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