

**Weekly Newsletter**  
**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2024**

**St Mary's Catholic Primary School**

Glenure Road, Eltham. SE9 1UF  
020 8850 7835

[governors@stmarys-catholic-primary.org](mailto:governors@stmarys-catholic-primary.org)  
[office@stmary-rc.greenwich.sch.uk](mailto:office@stmary-rc.greenwich.sch.uk)

Twitter: @stmaryseltham

Visit us online at [www.stmaryrc.org.uk](http://www.stmaryrc.org.uk)



*Nurturing Our God-Given Talents*

### HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Today I accompanied our Year Six children to Southwark Cathedral to participate in the first ever SELCAT 'Walking the way of the Cross'. Having made an early start, we met at Eltham Station and upon arrival at Southwark Cathedral, we were hosted by the Notre Dame Student Cathedral team who showed us to our seats and directed us accordingly. Children from every school in the trust presented a frieze from one of the stations of the cross. St Mary's presented Veronica wiping Jesus' face, which was done with real drama and reverence.

We were joined by a Bishop Moger, Canon Darlington, and Abbot Hugh who led the celebration. It was a really special day.

Thank you to the children who behaved so well and to Mrs Williams, Miss Gannon, Mrs O'Donnell and Mrs Everett for preparing the children so well.

Well done to the Y2 children who performed their assembly on Wednesday; we hope the parents and carers enjoyed seeing their children. The children told us all about the Victorian times; they made us so proud. A PDF will be emailed to parents next week.

Have a great weekend.

Kind regards

Mr Sims  
Headteacher

WEEK BEGINNING 25<sup>th</sup> MARCH

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup>**  
Palm Sunday

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup>**  
Y5 Ancient Greek Day  
Y3 visit Eltham Palace  
Preloved Uniform Sale - 2.30pm

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup>**  
Infant Easter Service  
Y5 Samba Concert - 3.30pm  
Y3 attend Chrism Mass at St George's Cathedral, Southwark

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup>**  
Maundy Thursday  
Faith Friends lead a prayer service for Maundy Thursday – 8.30am  
PA Easter Bunny on site  
School finishes at 2pm for Easter Holiday

Y3 children participating in Washing of the Feet in Christchurch – 8pm

**Friday 29<sup>th</sup>**  
Good Friday

**Sunday 31<sup>st</sup>**  
Easter Sunday

### FAITH FRIENDS

The Faith Friends would like to invite parents and carers to a prayer service in the gym hall at 8.30am on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> March to celebrate Maundy Thursday. The children will lead the session in prayer.

All parents, carers and family members are invited.

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

## NURSERY NEWS

Fr John visited our Nursery this week. He told the children the story of Palm Sunday, which we celebrate this Sunday.

He brought some palms with him so that the children could replicate the crowds waving palms, honouring Jesus as he entered the city of Jerusalem for Passover.



## LITERACY



*This week Mrs Thaxter recommends.....*

### Everything Changes Ages 3 and up

Laughing and playing together as a family on the beach, it seems the happy, warm days of summer will never end. Then, everything changes. Mummy and Daddy say they can't live together anymore, and sad, worried feelings begin to emerge – It's not fair! Was it all my fault? But, as time passes and the seasons change, it becomes clearer that hard times won't always be quite so hard . . .

## CHILDREN'S CORNER

This week.....

Annie Casey (2E) and Aoife Hannon (RB) joined Irish Community Services and the other 50,000 people to celebrate St Patrick's Day at the parade in London. They waved their flags while soaking up the atmosphere through Piccadilly, Pall Mall and Whitehall. 'Lá Fhéile Pádraig Sona Daoibh'. (A happy St Patrick's Day to all)



## HOLY WEEK AT CHRISTCHURCH

### Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March – Palm Sunday

9.30am /11.30am. Masses begin with the blessing of the palms and a procession into the Church led by a donkey. Please come early to join the procession from the start.

### Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March – Maundy Thursday

8pm Mass of the Last Supper. Y3 children taking part in washing of the feet.

### Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March – Good Friday

10am Stations of the Cross  
12 Noon Children's Good Friday Liturgy  
3pm Solemn Liturgy, including the Reading of the Passion, Veneration of the Cross and Holy Communion.

### Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March – Holy Saturday

10am Blessing of Food.  
11am Reconciliation  
9pm Easter Vigil Mass.

### Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> April – Easter Sunday

9.30am Children's Mass  
11.30am Sung Mass  
6.30pm Said Mass

All Masses will have the renewal of Baptismal vows.

## EASTER EGG COLLECTION

Our Y6 children would like to help children less fortunate this Easter, so after talking to Mr Sims and the Sisters of Mercy, they decided to do an Easter Egg collection. They are asking for one Easter Egg per family to be donated before Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March, in time for Easter. The Sisters will distribute the eggs amongst the children in the charities that they work with.

## SUMMER UNIFORM

The children are asked to return to school after the Easter break in full Summer uniform. The weather should be better by then and the children look forward to wearing less layers! Our uniform policy can be viewed [here](#) so please take a look.

If you are interested in pre-loved uniform, please let us know as we may have your child's size in stock. There will be a pre-loved uniform sale on **Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March at 2.30pm.**

Please come along as you may be able to pick up some good quality uniform.

## TRAVEL NEWS

Many thanks to everyone who participated in the Big Walk and Wheel. In just 10 days, St Mary's joined 2266 other schools, 731,302 pupils took part and have made 2,098,404 active travel journeys to school by walking, scooting and cycling! Amazing!

We have contributed to helping our air quality and congestions and look forward to continuing our great work in the Summer term.

### COMPETITION

#### **Design a bike of the future!**

Details of an exciting competition run by RB Greenwich and Peddle My Wheels are attached. The closing date is Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April and is open to children under 16 years.

Encourage your children to get thinking futuristically and imagine what the bike of the future will look like!