

Weekly Newsletter
Friday 22nd November 2024

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

Instagram: @selcatacademytrust

X: @SelcatTrust

Facebook: Selcat: Catholic Multi-Academy Trust



Nurturing Our God-Given Talents

WEEK BEGINNING 25th
NOVEMBER

Sunday 24th

Christchurch Christmas Fayre
10am – 1pm

Wednesday 27th

Y5 Anglo Saxon Art Workshop

Thursday 21st

Y5/Y6 Football Tournament at
Footscray Rugby club

Saturday 30th

St Andrew's Day. Wishing all our
Scottish families a happy day!

Sunday 1st December

Season of Advent begins

MESSAGE FROM OUR HEAD OF SCHOOL

Miss Gannon accompanied some of our Y6 girls to the O2 this week to participate at TOCA Social. The girls got actively involved, showcasing their skill, teamwork and plenty of smiles. We are proud that our children can get involved in various sports activities that teach skills like teamwork, resilience and sportsmanship.



It is a special time of the year as we start preparing for Christmas. The Nursery children and Infants have started preparing for their Christmas Nativities in the gym hall, while the Juniors are practicing for the Carol Concert in Christchurch. The crib will soon be up and the school decorated. It is a wonderful place to be during this special season.

Let us not forget those less fortunate. Every year we collaborate with the Sisters of Mercy for their Christmas gift appeal. We thank all the families in our community for their continued support.

Enjoy your weekend

Kind regards

Mrs Hansen
Head of School

FAITH FRIENDS

At lunchtime today, the Y6 Faith Friends spoke to the Infant children about Our Lord Jesus, King of the Universe. Jesus did not live in a palace or wear a gold crown but he showed us how to live. The older children helped the younger children to design crowns for Jesus.

God of all, you sent your Son to show us how to live. Help us to listen to the truth and to follow Jesus' example in our lives. Amen



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

UPCOMING CHRISTMAS/ END OF TERM EVENTS



Sunday 24th November

Christchurch Christmas Fayre.

Wednesday 27th November

Y6 Samba Concert 3.15pm

Sunday 1st December

The season of Advent begins

Monday 2nd December

Instrument Concert. 3.30pm. Gym Hall
This concert does not include the children learning guitar as they will have a separate concert in the Spring term.

Tuesday 3rd December

The Blessing of the Cribs (EYFS/KS1). Fr John on site

Wednesday 4th December

The Blessing of the Cribs (KS2).
Nursery Nativity 9.30am & 2.30pm

Friday 6th December

PA Event – Wreath Making

Tuesday 10th December

Chamber Choir singing in Passey Place, Eltham. 12 noon – 2pm
End of term gymnastics show 4pm

Wednesday 11th / 12th December

Infant Nativity 1.30pm

Friday 13th December

Christmas Jumper Day in aid of Greenwich and Bexley Hospice
Y6 visit the Almshouses
Y5 attend Bexley Grammar School for Pantomime

Monday 16th December

Children's Christmas lunch

Tuesday 17th December

A secret visitor will be on site!

Wednesday 18th December

Junior Carol Concert. Christchurch. 2pm
PA Event – Christmas raffle results

Thursday 19th December

Christmas Panto for whole school

Friday 20th December

Last day of this term. 2pm finish

LITERACY



This week Mrs Thaxter recommends a poem.....

The Stars Are Blinking **Annette Wynne**

*The stars are blinking in the skies
They see some sights that hurt their eyes
And sometimes they are very sad—
O let's be good and make them glad!*

RE NEWS

Mr Jon Leigh came to visit St Mary's this week to talk about his religion, Judaism. The children learned about the synagogue, the different symbols that make his religion special and the word 'Shalom' which means peace.



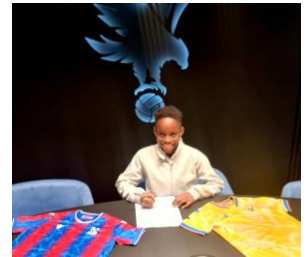
CHILDREN'S CORNER

This week.....

Cormac Doyle, RB, wanted to share a wonderful picture of the Angel Gabriel appearing to Mary that he created.



Congratulations to Kenechi Ude, 5L, who has just signed a football contract with Crystal Palace FC to join the U10 academy team.



Rose Aslaner, 4I, recently completed stage 4 in her swimming lessons and is very proud of her achievement.



Jack and Alexander Birtchnell Winter (2F & RA), took part in Eltham Remembrance Parade as part of their Scout Group.



INFANT NATIVITY

The staff and children have begun to practice for their special Christmas performance, **The Nativity**.

The performances will take place at 1.30pm on Wednesday 11th and Thursday 12th December in the gym hall.

Tickets will be issued to families next week. Please email the main office to specify the days you want to attend. Two tickets are allowed per family.

Babies and younger children will not be allowed to attend the performances as it can be overwhelming for the children on stage. Younger children can sometimes shout out and distract. Please ensure alternative childcare.

Tickets that are not required can be returned to the main office so that the office staff can offer them out as extras. If this is the case, these tickets will be offered on a first come, first serve basis.

The performance will be recorded so parents will be able to purchase a download. More details will follow after the recording.

The Nursery children will perform their special Christmas Nativity on Wednesday 4th December. Parents and other family members are invited to come and see their children perform in the gym hall.

Nursery AM – 9.30am

Nursery PM – 2.30pm

Nursery All Day – Parents can come to either performance.

Parents will not need tickets for this performance.

PRAYER AND LITURGY

Children in class 2E held two prayer and liturgy sessions this week.

Tilly, Carter and Jools told the story of the creation. They made wonderful pictures and a pinwheel to illustrate God's word.



Pixie, Herbie and Harper told the story of Noah's Ark using animals to tell the story. They decorated prayer stones for the class altar.



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 2025. The deadline to submit your application is Wednesday 15th January 2025.

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/info/200286/apply_for_a_school_place/458/apply_for_a_primary_school_place

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 - Friday	Time
29 November	5pm – 6.30pm
30 November	4pm – 5.30pm
10 January	5pm – 6.30pm
11 January	4pm – 5.30pm
17 January	5pm – 6.30pm
18 January	4pm – 5.30pm
7 February	5pm – 6.30pm
8 February	4pm – 5.30pm

PA NEWS

Friday 6th December – Wreath Making.

This popular festive annual event will take place in the gym hall. Tickets cost £40. All the materials and tools needed to make a wreath will be provided.

There are two sessions available:

1pm-3pm: <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/stmaryspa/1459986>

6pm-8pm: <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/stmaryspa/1460004>

Can you help with our Christmas Raffle?

We're organising our annual Christmas Raffle and we're looking for prizes. We rely entirely on donations from local businesses and parents for raffle prizes. Perhaps you have an unwanted gift? A bottle of wine? Chocolates or a box of biscuits?

Please drop any donations to the school office by **29th November**. Or, you can email stmaryspaeltam@gmail.com for more information.