

Weekly Newsletter
Friday 26th September 2025

St Mary's Catholic Primary School

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WEEK BEGINNING 29th SEPTEMBER

Tuesday 30th

Y6 visit Imperial War Museum

Wednesday 1st

Y5 Class Mass. Convent

Thursday 2nd

National Poetry Day

MESSAGE FROM OUR HEAD OF SCHOOL

I was delighted to attend the Beginning of the Year Mass at St George's Cathedral, Southwark, on Monday, together with our Head Boy, Head Girl, Deputy Head Boy, and Deputy Head Girl. Representatives from 130 schools across the Diocese were present at the service, which was celebrated by Archbishop John Wilson and Canon Victor Darlington. This annual Mass marks the beginning of the school year and was a wonderful occasion for our children to experience.

A special thank you to one of our governors, Dee Michalakis for accompanying us.

This week, children from Years 1–5 attended Christchurch to celebrate Harvest Festival. The Year 5 pupils led a beautiful service, encouraging everyone to reflect on those less fortunate. Donations of essential food items are still being collected and will be shared with the charities supported by the Sisters of Mercy.



Best wishes

Mrs J Hansen
Head of School

FAITH FRIENDS

Today, the Y6 Faith Friends shared the story of the dishonest manager, reminding us that we cannot love both God and money equally—God must always come first in our lives.

They explained to the Infant children that we can show God and people are more important than money or possessions by giving generously to charity.

Generous God, in you we have all that we need. Help us to put you first in all that we do and to trust that you will care for us always. Amen.



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

OCTOBER – THE MONTH OF THE ROSARY

The Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary falls on Tuesday 7th October. During this month we are invited to say the Rosary as a way to grow in faith and draw closer to Christ.

Parents and family members are invited to join the Faith Friends on Friday 3rd, Friday 10th and Friday 17th October at 8.30am in the gym hall. The children will lead this prayer service.

Please try and come along to start your day in a mindful way.

SIGNING PRIMARY/SECONDARY SCHOOL APPLICATION FORMS

Fr John in Christchurch is signing supplementary forms for both primary and secondary applications every Friday and Saturday in October from 3pm – 5pm.

Applications for secondary schools must be submitted by Friday 31st October.

If you, or if you know someone who is applying to St Mary's for a place in Reception or Nursery 2026, please refer to the website for application details. Parents are required to complete a Certificate of Catholic Practice (which can be collected from the main office) and an information form, and return them to the main office with your child's baptism cert and a proof of your address by Thursday 15th January 2026. You must also apply to your local authority.

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

We have three open mornings for parents and carers to come and visit – Tuesday 7th October, Thursday 13th November and Thursday 8th January. Please phone the main office to book onto the tour.

Y5 TITANIC WORKSHOP

Children in Y5 had a fabulous Titanic Day yesterday. Many thanks to Past Productions Theatre Company, who spent the day with the Y5 classes. They participated in drama activities, learnt about the different types of communication aboard the ship and learned how to dance a waltz in the first-class ballroom!

The fun packed day really brought the story to life for the children! Their costumes were fabulous and they put their best effort into everything they did!



WRAPAROUND AWARD SUNSHINE OF THE MONTH

James Blackburn, 1C, was awarded September Sunshine of the Month in Wraparound Club for being a good role model and for being very polite.



BBC 500 WORD COMPETITION

BBC's 500 Words, the UK's largest children's writing competition for children aged 5-11 is now live.

There are two age categories: 5-7- and 8–11-year-olds. Spelling, punctuation and grammar are not marked - as has always been the case for 500 Words; it is all about our writers' brilliant creativity!

There are prizes to be won - each winner will take home a bundle of books and the gold winners will also win 500 books for their school library.

We would love to read the stories you submit so please show your teachers your fabulous work.

The closing date for submitting entries is Friday 7th November.

PARENTS EVENINGS WEDNESDAY 15TH/THURSDAY 16TH OCTOBER

Parents will be able to book their timeslot on Wisepay next week. An email will be sent to parents to say when the appointments are live. Please ensure your child's Wisepay account is active to book your appropriate time.

The appointments will run from 3.30pm – 6pm. Each appointment is 10 minutes long. When booking timeslots for more than one child, please allow time in between appointments.

Mrs Henderson will contact parents of children with SEN with appointment times.