



Glenure Road, Eltham. SE9 1UF

020 8850 7835

jsims@stmary-rc.greenwich.sch.uk

governors@stmarys-catholic-primary.org

office@stmary-rc.greenwich.sch.uk

Twitter: @stmaryseltham

Visit us online at www.stmaryrc.org.uk

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

I would like to thank everyone who completed the parents and carers survey. Over the next week, I will be looking at the results and reporting the themes and trends. We want to make St Mary's as good as it can be for the children in our care, so input from our whole community helps us to achieve this goal.

One of the areas I have noticed is that some parents feel that we have not shared enough of the curriculum with them. I apologise for this as the information is available on the website, but we had not directed parents to the relevant page. Should you wish to see what your child is learning to help support them, please click on:

By year group: <https://stmaryrc.org.uk/Year-Group/>

By subject: <https://stmaryrc.org.uk/Subject-Overview/>

Please contact the school if you have questions regarding the curriculum for your child's year group. The office staff can direct any questions to the relevant teachers.

Next week is an important week for Year Six, as they will be taking their Standard Assessment Tests (SATs). These tests measure the children's achievement and progress against the Key Stage Two Curriculum. The children have worked very hard and have already made us very proud. We know that they will do their best.

Today, I led the Key Stage Two assembly where we talked about listening to Jesus' voice. The children impressed me by identifying all the ways that they can get to know God better including: reading the Bible, praying, attending weekly Mass and speaking about Jesus to others.

The sun is out, so I hope you all enjoy the weekend. Please continue to keep the people of Ukraine in your prayers.

Kind regards
Mr J Sims
Headteacher

WEEK BEGINNING 9th MAY

Monday 9th – Thursday 12th May
Y6 SATs.

Monday 9th – Friday 13th May
Mental Health Awareness Week

Tuesday 10th May
Guide Dogs UK visit children in EYFS and KS1

Thursday 12th May
Y5 Football Tournament at The Valley, Charlton

Friday 13th May
Pyjamarama Day
Y6 Picnic in Eltham Park South

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday 21st May
PA Event – Parent's football match in Eltham Park South

Tuesday 17th May
Y5 Educational Trip – Greenwich Planetarium

Wednesday 18th May
Walking Bus

Tuesday 24th May
Crowning of Our Lady

Wednesday 25th May
Reception children will visit Christchurch

Thursday 26th May
Ascension Day

Friday 27th May
Queen's Jubilee Day
Last day of the half term

Y6 SATS

Next week, Y6 children will be taking their SATS (Monday-Thursday). Information has already been sent to parents so parents know exactly what is happening every day.

A small breakfast will be arranged each morning for the children. This is not to replace their main breakfast but a little snack to have with their friends prior to starting the tests. We have found this relaxes the children and settles any nerves they may have. All Y6 children are expected to arrive at school at 8.30am and go straight to class.

Booster classes will continue to take place on Monday (reading) and Tuesday (maths). These sessions will run at the normal times – 3.20pm-4.20pm.

Please support your child to ensure they have a good rest this weekend. They will then feel more confident on Monday morning.

Y2-Y5 children will sit tests throughout May. It is so important that your child attends school every day and arrives on time.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Christchurch welcomes the first group of children making their First Holy Communion on Sunday. This is a very special occasion for the children and we would all wish the children and their families a very happy day.

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK. MONDAY 9TH – 13TH MAY

From Monday 9th May to Friday 13th May, we will be focusing on loneliness, the theme for this year's Mental Health Awareness Week.

"Loneliness is one of the mental health problems most frequently reported by children. That is why the Mental Health Foundation made it the theme for Mental Health Awareness Week 2022.

Loneliness can affect anybody at one time or another and can bring about poor mental health. The pandemic has brought about changes in our society, giving rise to loneliness among all age groups. Children can be affected as well as adults so we must look out for signs of loneliness in our children.

PRAYER FOR LONELINESS:

Heavenly Father, I need your comfort, as I am feeling lonely. Help me to remember that you see me even when others do not. Be with me through this trial I am going through. Help me understand that I am going through this for a reason and that you will see me through this; that I can conquer this because you are with me.

MUSIC NEWS

The school orchestra is busy rehearsing to play their first public performance! This will take place on St Mary's Jubilee Day – Friday 27th May.

Parents will be invited to hear them. We will send more information nearer the time.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

This week.....

Etienne Cesar-Brown, 4I, was awarded "King of the Ring" at his mixed martial arts class!



Anna Chiosso, 1C, has recently achieved her Red Swimming Award in her swimming class.



Well done to the children!

PYJAMARAMA 2022

Next Friday, 13th May is Pyjamarama Day! We would like to invite all children to wear pyjamas or onesies to school on this day and make a voluntary donation of £1 for the charity, **The Book Trust**. St Mary's staff will be joining in too!

This donation is voluntary so only give if and what you and your family can afford.

The Book Trust is the UK's largest reading charity. They reach 3.9m children each year with books, resources and support to help develop a love of reading.

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/what-we-do/>.

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN ESAFETY

In conjunction with Mental Health Awareness Week, National Online Safety has published information for parents regarding online loneliness.

Loneliness Online: What Causes It and Ways to Feel Better

Does a child you know ever feel lonely when they are online? In a study by the UK's Office for National Statistics, 14% of 10–12-year-olds said that they DID often feel lonely – so any child experiencing those feelings is, sadly, far from unusual. To support Mental Health Awareness Week – which this year has the theme of 'loneliness' – we spoke to a group of children and teenagers, who told us some of the things that make them feel isolated when they are online. They also suggested some ways they use technology to make themselves feel better when that happens, and we have compiled their ideas into a loneliness-busting #WakeUpWednesday guide.

Click on the link below to read some guidance, you will find tips such as taking breaks, playing single-player games and listening to your favourite audiobooks.

<https://nationalonlinesafety.com/guides/loneliness-online>

SCHOOL DINNERS

The summer menu has been uploaded to the website.

https://www.stmaryrc.org.uk/docs/Men_u_Summer_2022.pdf

The cost of school dinners for this half term is £72.52. Please make payment through Wisepay. Mrs Jeffrey, main office, is currently sending reminders to parents so please respond to keep her updated.

ENVIRONMENT CLUB

Each Wednesday, the PPC (Pollution Prevention Club) get together at lunchtime to come up with different ways to improve the environment. We have already made signs for the walking bus and we watched an informative film about the effects of plastic on the environment.

Recently, we planted some seeds and plants. We are looking after these while planning our next project; to create a compost bin. We are also creating a display for the dining hall, to inform everyone about the problems of food waste!



PA NEWS

The PA are busy planning for the forthcoming events so they would like parents to save the following dates:

Saturday 21st May – Parent's football match in Eltham Park South

Friday 17th June – Father's Day gift sale

Saturday 25th June – Annual Summer Fayre

Saturday 16th July – Y6 Leaver's Party