

Weekly Newsletter
Friday 7th November 2025

St Mary's Catholic Primary School

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WEEK BEGINNING 10th NOVEMBER

Monday 10th – Friday 14th
Anti-Bullying Week

Monday 10th
Odd Sock Day

Tuesday 11th
Armistice Day. We will observe a two-minute silence at 11am.

Thursday 13th
Y6 Girl's Football - Footscray Football Club

Friday 14th
Y3 Stone Age Day
Y2 Great Fire London Art Workshop

MESSAGE FROM OUR HEAD OF SCHOOL

I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable half-term break. It was lovely seeing the children return in their Winter uniform. I hope families are feeling recharged and ready for the exciting weeks ahead in the run up to Christmas.

We have so much to look forward to in this busy half term, from continued learning and growth to exciting Christmas events and activities that will bring our school community closer together. Please look out for all the Christmas dates so that you can attend any events that your child is participating in.

We had Tempest photography on site today taking individual/sibling photographs. Proofs will be handed to children when they arrive back at St Mary's. Ensure you order on time for Christmas.

We will observe a two-minute silence on Tuesday to commemorate Armistice Day. We remind children of the importance of this event, how we must be grateful for peace in our country and the sacrifices that people have made to make this happen.

Best wishes

Mrs J Hansen
Head of School

CLASS MASS

The children from class 3G attended their class Mass in The Convent on Wednesday. It was a quiet pause in their busy day — a time for the children to pray, reflect, and be thankful for one another and for all the gifts they share.



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

REMEMBRANCE DAY

Armistice Day will be commemorated on Tuesday 11th November with a two-minute silence here at school. Members of the British Legion will join us.

Our Y6 children are still selling poppies in the parent's waiting area every morning and afternoon.

At the Eleventh Hour

*At the eleventh hour, the world
holds still,*

*A whisper of silence on wind and
hill.*

*The guns once thundered, the earth
once cried,
Now poppies bloom where soldiers
died.*

*In fields of sorrow, the shadows
sleep,*

*Where promises broken and
memories keep.*

*The names carved deep in
weathered stone,
Remind us peace is dearly won.*

*A mother's letter, a brother's tear,
Echo through each passing year.
The toll of freedom, soft yet clear,
Bids us remember — and draw
near.*

*So pause, and let your heartbeat
say,
We cherish peace this solemn day.
Not just for battles lost and won,
But for the hope that war be done.*

ANTI BULLYING WEEK

Next week, schools across the country will be marking Anti-Bullying Week. The theme this year is "Power for Good" which aims to empower people to use their voices and actions to support others and create a world where kindness wins.

At St Mary's, the week begins with **Odd Socks Day on Monday 10th**

November. Children are invited to wear odd socks with their school uniform. The children always enjoy comparing their sock choices and this provides a fun way to talk about and acknowledge our differences.

On Tuesday 11th, OpenView Education will be on site, providing an interactive theatre show to children in Reception - Y4. Children in Y5 & Y6 will participate in workshops which have been tailored for their age group.

We are looking forward to a fun filled week with lots of positive discussion about using our power to speak up, stand up for others, and promote kindness and respect.

If you would like further information about this year's theme, please visit

<https://anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/anti-bullying-week-2025/anti-bullying-week-2025>

FAITH FRIENDS

For the month of November, the Faith Friends are focusing on teaching the younger children about the Saints.

Today, Cora Wilson, 5K, chose St Patrick, the Patron Saint of Ireland. She retold all she knew about St Patrick.

The children decorated a shamrock, which is best known as a symbol of the Holy Trinity, how God is one, yet also three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. It is a reminder that God's love is living, growing, and always close to us.



A MINDFUL MOMENT

*It really is the little things that mean the most of all,
The "let me help you with that" things that may seem very small,
The "I'll be glad to do it" things that make your cares much lighter,
The "laugh with me, it's funny" things that make your outlook brighter.*

*The "never mind the trouble" things, the "yes, I understand",
The interest and encouragement in everything you've planned,
It really is the little things, the friendly word or smile,
That add such happiness to life and make it more worthwhile.*

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 2026. The deadline to submit your application is Thursday 15th January 2026. 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/schools-and-education/apply-school-place/apply-primary-school-place/complete-primary-school>

There is an open morning at St Mary's on Thursday 13th November 2025 at 9.15am. Please inform anyone you know with Reception/Nursery age children who would like to see the school with a view to applying.

BOOKSHOP

St Mary's Book Shop is up and running for the Infant children. Many thanks to our parent volunteers who are helping to run it.

Book Shop takes place every Wednesday during the school day. Reception children have received their new *Book Shop Savings Card*. Children in Y1 and Y2 are encouraged to continue with their *book shop* card from the last academic year. If your child needs a replacement, please speak to their class teacher.

Children can bring a small amount of money each week (amounts such as 5p, 10p, 20p, 50p, £1 etc.) and save up to purchase a book they would love to read at home. Please send the money to school in a purse/wallet/envelope so that the children can access it easily. The books are varied in price but are discounted from the cover price and often no more than £3. Children do not have to bring money but will still get the opportunity to browse and read the books.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

The school council asked if the children having packed lunch could sit together with the children having school dinners. The midday meals' supervisors agreed that it would be a lovely idea so it took place today. The children were very happy....a Friday treat.



CHRISTMAS CARD TEMPLATES

The children received their Christmas card templates this week so please ensure you order by Wednesday 12th November so that the orders can be processed for Christmas.

Please follow the instructions for ordering on the information that was given to parents and carers.

MESSAGE FROM THE PA

A separate email has been sent to parents and carers from the PA. Please ensure you take the time to read it.

Many thanks.

JOB VACANCY

We currently have a vacancy for an inspirational and enthusiastic person to join our support team.

Details of the role have been uploaded to the website. Please take a look and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

<https://www.stmaryrc.org.uk/School-Vacancies/>