

**Weekly Newsletter**  
**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

**St Mary's Catholic Primary School**

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### MESSAGE FROM OUR HEAD OF SCHOOL

Welcome back everyone!

The first week back has been busy but children have settled in very well. We celebrated the start of term with an Epiphany Mass on Tuesday led by Father John, celebrating the Baptism of Our Lord.

It has certainly been a cold return and it is great to see everyone in their navy coats. Please ensure that your child's uniform is clearly labelled so that the children know what belongs to them.

We are very much looking forward to welcoming Anna Johnstone to St Mary's, who will be speaking to our pupils about the fascinating life of Saint Carlo Acutis. His story is a powerful and inspiring example of how faith, kindness and modern-day talents can be used for good.

Have a restful weekend.

Mrs J Hansen  
Head of School

WEEK BEGINNING 12<sup>th</sup> JANUARY

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January**

Visitor on Site to talk about Carlo Acutis  
Y6 Confessions. Christchurch

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> January**

Closing date for Primary School  
Admissions  
Y5 Confessions. Christchurch  
Y3G Swimming Lessons.

### FAITH FRIENDS

The Faith Friends met today with the Y1 children to talk about The Word and why it is significant.

The children found out together that The Word is another name for someone very special – Jesus.

*God of Life. You sent your son Jesus to us and to shine in the darkness. Fill us with your love, your light and your joy Amen.*



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

## CHILDREN'S CORNER

Daniela Zingales, 4I, has recently completed her stage 8 swimming and is very pleased with herself. She is now looking forward to the next challenge!



## 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 15<sup>th</sup> 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.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/schools-and-education/apply-school-place/apply-primary-school-place/complete-primary-school>

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.

## CARLO ACUTIS

On Tuesday 13th January, we will welcome Anna Johnstone to St Mary's, who will speak to pupils about the life of Saint Carlo Acutis.

Anna will help pupils explore how faith can be lived meaningfully in today's world, using Carlo's life as an example of kindness, service, and using talents for good. Carlo Acutis, known as the "patron saint of the Internet" and the "first millennial saint," used his passion for technology to share his faith and support others. He was canonised as a saint in September 2025.

This visit will be a valuable and inspiring experience for our pupils.



## MESSAGE OF THANKS

The Sisters of Mercy would like to thank everyone most sincerely for the generous gifts that have helped the various Mercy ministries this Christmas.

The Sisters remember everyone in their prayers as we start this new year.

## AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

Please note that all after school clubs will restart next week.

Please ensure you have enrolled your child for their specific club of choice. Some of the clubs are already fully booked. Contact the main office if you have any questions.

Please see below the list of clubs available this term:

<b>MONDAY</b>	Y6 Football	3.30pm-4.15pm	Tommy Reeves
	Art	3.30pm-4.30pm	Arty Party
	Cookery	3.30pm-4.30pm	Mrs Rodgers
	Crochet	3.30pm-4.30pm	Mrs Mozharovska
	Y1 Football	3.30pm-4.30pm	JP6 Football Club
<b>TUESDAY</b>	Y2/Y3 Football	3.30pm-4.30pm	JP6 Football Club
	Art	3.30pm-4.30pm	Arty Party
	Gymnastics	3.30pm-4.15pm	J'amies Gymnastics
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	Y4/Y5 Football	3.30pm-4.30pm	JP6 Football Club
	Art	3.30pm-4.30pm	Arty Party
	Sewing	3.30pm-4.30pm	Mrs Perrin
<b>THURSDAY</b>	Chamber Choir	3.30pm-4.30pm	Mrs McGarry
	Sewing	3.30pm-4.30pm	Mrs Perrin
	Multisports	3.30pm-4.30pm	Tommy Reeves
	Tennis	3.30pm-4.30pm	Tommy Reeves
<b>FRIDAY</b>	American Football	3.30pm-4.30pm	Tommy Reeves
	Creative Stars	3.30pm-4.30pm	Hazel Bracken
	Science Club	3.30pm-4.30pm	Spectacular Science

## Y2 GEOGRAPHY TOPIC CONTINENTS AND OCEANS

Today, the Y2 children held a ***Museum of the World!***

The children brought in artefacts representing different continents, which we displayed, discussed and charted on a world map. We were lucky to see wonderful items from every continent – including a Zulu shield, a Māori pounamu necklace, and a souvenir all the way from Antarctica! The children loved exploring the rich cultures and traditions that make our world such an interesting place. Many thanks for your support and for helping to make this so interesting.

