



St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter - Friday 11th October 2024

Message to parents from the Head of School

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Issue 5 of our school Newsletter!

Children have been working really well across all areas of curriculum this week and it is great to see it reflected in their books.

Several educational trips have already taken place in the last few weeks and there are more to come.

Thank you to all parents who support the school by ensuring that children are at school and on time as well as wearing their full uniform. Thank you also to those parents who were able to give their time and accompany their child's class on the trip. We appreciate all your support.

Year 6 have engaged in the Black and Blue workshops as part of the Show Racism a Red Card project. As usual, they did us proud yesterday during the workshop at school through their engagement, enthusiasm and positive attitudes.

Best Wishes,

I hope all our families have a restful weekend

Mrs Tusting

Head of School

Autumn October 2024 - Parents' Evenings

Autumn Parents' Evenings will be taking place on **Monday 21st October** (3:45pm - 6:00pm) and **Tuesday 22nd October** (2:30pm - 5:30pm). Appointments can be made on the **School Cloud System** and will be **open from 12:00pm on Monday 7th October.**



Please note that, to facilitate the earlier start time on **Tuesday 22nd, school will finish at 2:15pm on that day only.** Please make sure you make suitable arrangements for collection.

Catholic Life and Mission of the school

Month of Rosary

October is the month dedicated to **Mary, the Mother of God** and our School patron. It is also a month of the **Rosary**.

During the month of October we are learning more about the Rosary and how to pray it. We pray the Rosary in our assemblies and during class Worship times.



Votive Mass dedicated to Our Lady

On **Thursday 24th October** we will have a special **Votive Mass dedicated to Our Lady** in our Parish Church of our Lady of the Holy Souls.

Everyone is welcome to join us in celebrating this special Mass.



Catholic Social Teaching

Within the **Catholic Social Teaching**, we are looking in depth and learning about one of the principles: **Care for Creation/Care for our Common Home**. This is in conjunction with looking more in depth at the School Value of **Responsibility** this half term.



We have booked an assembly with **Cafod** and are looking at inviting **Caritas** to our school as well.

We are working hard to express our learning and ideas on the theme of **Care for our Common Home** through art and design. The pieces created by children will then be displayed around the school.

Important Parent's Information

Parents Information

Uniform

Thank you to the vast majority of our pupils who wear their full school uniform. We have noticed that quite a few children do not have their ties whilst at school. Please, note that the school tie is part of our school uniform. Could you, please ensure that your child wears the tie to school every day,

Pupils should be wearing **school shoes** when they are not wearing trainers as part of their PE uniform. Quite a few pupils are wearing colourful trainers, which are **not** part of the uniform, and we ask that you kindly check with your child and make sure they wear full school uniform, which includes black shoes.

Please note that if for any reason your child is not in full school uniform or full PE kit, we expect a note from parents to explain why this is the case.

Jewellery and Expensive items

As part of our school uniform, the children are allowed to wear small studs. Any long, dangling earrings might be the cause of accidents and therefore are not allowed.

If children wear necklaces with any religious symbols, please, make sure that your child is aware that these need to be tucked under the clothing for health and safety reasons.

As you are aware, we advise that children do not bring any expensive items to school, as we **cannot take responsibility for loss or damage**. Only children in Y5 and Y6, who have permission to walk to and from school on their own, can bring phones to school. However, they have to hand them in at the gate and pick them up from their teachers at the end of the day. During school hours the phones are stored in the safe.

Pandora bracelets as well as other bracelets and necklaces or "smart" watches are **not allowed** as they can create a health and safety hazard. In addition, they are often expensive or hold sentimental value.

Additionally, as "smart" watches are connected to other devices via the Internet, they are therefore **not allowed at school** for **safeguarding reasons**. This is in line with government and local authority guidelines and we ask parents to help us ensure that these guidelines are followed.

If you have any questions about any of the information above, please contact the office to make an appointment with a member of Senior Leadership Team.

Thank you for your support with these important issues.

Attendance

Congratulations to all the pupils who achieved 100% attendance this week! Our overall attendance is the same as last week is **93.00%**, which is **very low**. Our school target is **96.00%**.

If required we will arrange to meet with parents, to draw their attention to their children's absence. There is a strong correlation between school attendance and pupil outcomes. Please ensure your child is at school unless they are ill.

Holiday during term time

The government policy is that holidays during term times are not permitted, therefore the school **cannot authorise** any absence due to holidays during term times. If you take your child/ren out of school for a holiday during term time, they will be referred to the Local Authority if necessary. Please note this for any plans you are making for the new academic year 2024-25. The Department for Education expects parents/carers to organise holidays outside of the school term dates. Your child/ren's learning will suffer by taking them out of school and it may result in disruptions to the learning of others. We have already referred some families to the local authority who will issue a penalty notice.

Contacts

It is a requirement that the school has a minimum of **2 emergency telephone contact numbers** for your child. We need to be able to contact you at all times. Our admin team, endeavour to update our data systems with your details termly. This is essential for the wellbeing of your children and we need your help to ensure that you are contactable at all times. If there are any changes for 2024-25, please ensure you contact the school office at the beginning of the new academic year.

School Admission Open for Nursery/Reception-2025 and all our other year groups!

St Mary's Catholic Primary School is a caring and welcoming community where every child and every family are valued. Our School Ethos and Values are at the centre of everything we do. Our children are friendly, kind, caring and supportive of one another. We are very proud of them! All interested families should apply as we have been delighted to welcome children from all oversubscription criteria.



WE ARE HOLDING INFORMATION MEETINGS FOR PROSPECTIVE NURSERY/RECEPITON CHILDREN 2025-2026.

THESE WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE SCHOOL HALL ON :

MONDAY 18TH NOVEMBER 2024 - 9.15am

or

WEDNESDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2024 - 5.00pm

All parents/carers looking for a Nursery or Reception place for their child in September 2025 are welcome to attend and take part in a tour.



Parent and Teacher Association (PTA)

Thank you to those who have expressed interest in joining the Parent and Teacher Association (PTA).

We would like to invite anyone who is interested to a meeting in the hall at **2:30pm on Monday 14th October**.

We will discuss events for the coming year, ideas people have to develop the PTA and spend some time getting to know each other! Please come, even if you are unsure of what time you are able to offer.

Join the PTA!



Pupils Individual and Sibling photos to be taken Thursday 28th November 2024

The children are due to have their individual and sibling photo's on Thursday 28th November.



Key Stage 2 update

Year 3

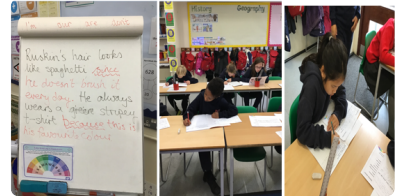
Year 3 have been practicing extremely hard at playing the recorders with Miss Alena. They have been so hard working and focused, making sure they are working together to produce the best sound!



They are enjoying the opportunities to also take the recorders home and share their beautiful music with friends and family!

Year 4

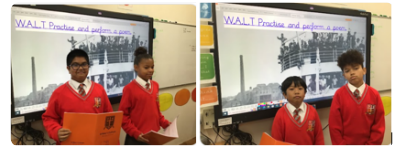
Year 4 have been working hard to publish their character descriptions from the story Krindlekrax.



The challenge was to use descriptive language features, such as similes and expanded noun phrases, to paint a mental picture of the main character, Ruskin.

Year 5

Year 5 celebrated National Poetry Day and the start of Black History Month by learning about The Windrush and performing and writing a poem about the history and people involved.



Year 6

Year 6 delivered an amazing class assembly this week in front of the school, parents, and carers.



In celebration of #NationalPoetryDay, they presented thoughtful poems inspired by our school values. Everyone was thoroughly impressed! 📖✍️🎤 #ProudSchool #CreativeMinds"

School



Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club runs from 8am and will cost **£4** per child, per day for children from Reception to Y6. Before your child/ren attends Breakfast Club, please ensure you book the sessions and make the required payments first.!

This provision is only available to children from Reception to Year 6.

www.schoolgateway.com

Akvita Wraparound Care

Aktiva Camps After School Club hosted at the Ark Brunel Hub!
Aktiva has created a safe, fun, and friendly environment for our children.



Club Information: Aktiva After School Club will run from the end of the school day until 6:00 PM. The children will be collected from their classes at the end of the school day and brought over to the Ark Brunel hub by walking bus by 3.40pm where they will be registered into our after-school club. There are 2 sessions available to book - Early session 3.30pm-4.30pm and a full session 3.30pm-6pm

Contact Information: Aktiva's Ark Brunel contact number: 07776657491 - only available during service (3.30pm - 6pm). For all queries regarding bookings please email **bookings@aktivacamps.com** or call our parent enquiry number on **0203 551 8909**.

Booking Aktiva Services:

Single Sessions: Book until 1 PM on the same day for After School Club. This flexibility allows parents to use our services as needed. Places are subject to availability and strict cutoffs.

Booking and Pricing: Please visit **www.aktivacamps.com** to register yourself and your child/children and select the required service.



Football Club, Multisport Club & Choir Lessons spaces are currently still available

There are Football Club and Multisport Club spaces still available in each year groups.

If you are interested in signing your child up for one of the clubs, please book and pay for the sessions on schoolgateway - www.schoolgateway.com

Once you have signed up for a club, please collect a permission form from the school office to be completed.

Also there are currently space in Choir Lesson for children in Y3 to Y6 to join up.



Pupil Voice at St Mary's

As part of Pupil Voice at our school every year we select Prefects, Head Boy, Head Girl and their deputies as well as Faith Ambassadors.

Children have to apply for these positions and a lot of factors are taken into consideration for these important roles as they carry a lot of responsibility. Behaviour, positive attitudes towards all areas of the school life, living our School Values as well as excellent attendance and punctuality are considered before appointing pupils.

We are delighted to announce the following:

Head Girl: Andie

Deputy Head Girl: Nina

Head Boy: Stefan

Deputy Head Boy: Andrew

Prefects:

Faith Ambassadors:

Year 6: **Sebastian, Agatha, Layla, Kymani, Kian, Noah**

Year 5: **Nicholas, Kessiah, Isaiah, Amarah, Amy, Nazrawi**

House Captains Year 5:

Zyann, Jericho, Ana Clara, Gideon

Deputy House Captains Year 5:

Zamarah, Adrien, Regina, Yael

Congratulations, everyone!

With best wishes

Magdalena Tusting

Head of School



Star of the Term

Congratulations to all the pupils who have received **Star of the Week Certificate** - Friday 11th October 2024

Star of the Term:

EYFS - (N)- Sienna, (Rec)-Giniayah

Y1 - Yoel

Y2 - Major

Y3 - George

Y4 - Liv

Y5 - Whole Class

Y6 - N/A

Star Readers

Y1- Albie

Y2 - Ricardo

Y3 - Sheraii

Y4 - Deborah

Y5 - Zyann

Y6 - N/A

'Handwriters' of the week

Y1- Darius

Y2 - Maria

Y3 - Fatema

Y4 - Elly

Y5 - Zamarah

Y6 - N/A

Congratulations to all the Stars of the Week, Star Readers and Writers!

Month of October: Black History Month



We would like to share some important dates for the first half term with you.

We will also be adding some more dates and will share them with you soon, so please keep checking the Newsletter and the Parents' Information Board on the front gate.

Upcoming Dates

PE Days:

Please remember that children can come to school in their PE kits on PE days. Please refer to our guidance on school uniform and ensure your child has the correct PE kit. If for any reason they are not able to come in the correct kit, we require an email or phone call from home to explain the circumstances.

Tuesdays - **Years 1, 2, 3 & 5**

Wednesdays - **Years 2, 3, 4 & 6**

Fridays - **Nursery, Reception & Year 6**

Class Assemblies Autumn Term

Y4 Class Assembly Thursday 17th October 9.05am

Y1 Class Assembly Thursday 7th November 9.05am

Y3 Class Assembly Thursday 14th November 9.05am

Y2 Class Assembly Thursday 21st November 9.05am

Month of October: **Black History Month**

Parent Consultation Meetings:

Monday 21st October 3.45pm – 6.00pm

Tuesday 22nd October 2.30pm – 5.00pm (Please, note, school closes for children at 2.15pm – please ensure your child is picked up on time)

Thursday 24th October: Autumn Ball:

- EYFS 2.00pm – 3.00pm
- KS1 3.45pm – 4.45pm
- KS2 4.45 – 5.45pm

Half term holiday: Monday 28th October to Friday 1st November

Term Dates 2024-2025

Term Dates 2024 – 2025

Autumn Term – 2024

First Half Term

Staff Training – Mon 2nd & Tues 3rd September - *School Closed*

First Day of School – Wednesday 4th September

Last Day of School – Friday 25th October

Half Term – Monday 28th – Friday 1st November

Second Half Term

First Day of School – Monday 4th November

Last Day of School – Friday 20th December - **1.30pm** - *School Closed*

Christmas Holiday – Monday 23rd December – Friday 3rd January 2025

Spring Term - 2025

First Half Term

Staff Training – Monday 6th January – *School Closed*

First Day of School – Tuesday 7th January

Last Day of School – Friday 14th February

Half Term – Monday 17th – Friday 21st February

Second Half Term

First Day of School – Monday 24th February

Last Day of School – Friday 4th April - **1.30pm** - *School Closed*

Easter Holiday – Monday 7th April – Monday 21st April

Summer Term – 2025

First Half Term

Staff Training – Tuesday 22nd April – *School Closed*

First Day of School – Wednesday 23rd April

Bank Holiday – Monday 5th May

Last Day of School – Friday 23rd May

Half Term – Monday 26th May – Friday 30th May

Second Half Term

First Day of School – Monday 2nd June

Staff Training – Monday 30th June – *School Closed*

Last Day of School – Tuesday 22nd July - **1.30pm** - *School Closed*

FACEBOOK

INSTAGRAM

TWITTER

St Mary's Catholic Primary School

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Website: <https://www.st-marys.rbkc.sch.uk/>

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Charles Mary

Charles is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

