



St Mary's
Catholic Primary School



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Newsletter - Friday 04 July 2025

Message to parents from Ms Geraldine Hampton

Dear Parents and Carers,

As the sun continues to shine, I know that the children are really looking forward to the St Mary's Summer Fair, which is taking place after school today.

A lot of hard work and effort has gone into preparing for this event and I would like to thank everyone involved. Next week, we will share photos of the event and let you know how much money we have raised.



At this time of year, we hold transition events to help support your children as they prepare to move up to the next class. This year, we have introduced a new initiative where pupils in one class meet with pupils in the next year group and look at their exercise books and talk about their learning. This gives the younger children the opportunity to ask questions and find out more about the class they are moving to in September. These new transition sessions have begun and are proving very successful.

Wishing you a very restful weekend,

Best Wishes,
Ms Hampton

Guidelines for the hot weather!

Government guidelines:

- A relaxing of the school uniform rule. Parents will be sent permission to allow children to wear their School PE kits.
- The School will insist that children come to School wearing a sunhat. Children will not be allowed to play outside without one.
- Whilst outdoors, children are encouraged to stay in the shade as much as possible. If the heat is extreme the School will activate it is wet play procedure and children will kept inside under supervision during break times.
- Parents will be advised to apply Sunscreen with high sun protection factors before the School day commences to protect their child's skin.
- Staff will encourage children to take off their blazers and jumpers.
- Games and PE lessons will be cancelled.
- Where possible, classroom doors and windows will be opened to encourage cross ventilation. The site manager will ensure windows are opened early in the morning, before children arrive.
- Electric lighting will be kept to a minimum and electrical equipment will be not be left in 'standby mode', as this generates heat.
- Mechanical fans will be used in classrooms to increase air movement.
- Children will have direct access to their water bottles in class and to the water fonts in the playground. Staff will encourage children to drink more water than usual in hot weather.

Catholic Life and Mission of the school

Mary, Mother of Jesus and the Patron Saint of our school, is a very important figure in the Catholic Church. One of the great gifts she gave humanity is the rosary. The Holy Rosary is considered a perfect prayer because within it lies the awesome story of our salvation. It's a simple prayer, humble so much like Mary.



It's a prayer we can all say together with Her, the Mother of God. With the Hail Mary we invite Mary to pray for us. Our Lady always grants our request. She joins Her prayer to ours. Therefore it becomes ever more useful, because what Mary asks, she always receives, Jesus can never say no to whatever His Mother asks for.

This half term we are looking at the school value of **Co-operation** and the Catholic Social Teaching Principle of **Solidarity**. These two important themes will be recurring throughout all areas of our curriculum.



Cooperation means working together to achieve a shared goal. It's like being on a team where everyone helps each other and contributes their skills to make

something great. Cooperation is important because it helps us achieve more, learn from each other, and build stronger relationships.

The Catholic Social Teaching (CST) principle of the **Solidarity** is the principle that emphasizes the interconnectedness and interdependence of all people, urging us to work together for the common good and to support one another, especially the poor and vulnerable. It's not just a feeling of compassion, but a firm commitment to promoting justice, equality, and human dignity for all. Top of Form



New diary dates will continue to be included weekly

Important dates:

July 2025	
7 th to 11 th July	Sports Week
Thursday 10 th July	Sports Day
Tuesday 15 th July	Year 6 Production
Friday 18 th July	Year 6 Leavers' Mass and assembly
Friday 18 th July	Year 6 Prom
Tuesday 22 nd July	Last day of term, school closes at 1.30pm

Sports Day - Thursday 10th July 2025

On **Thursday 10th July 2025**, we will be holding our annual Sports Day event at the multi-sports pitch in Hornimans park (across the road) for **all classes/year groups**. The timings are:

Nursery and Reception- 9.10am-10.10am

Year 1 and 2- 10.15am- 11.15am

Year 3 and 4- 11.15am- 12.30pm

Year 5 and 6- 1.30pm- 2.45pm

What to wear on Thursday 10th July 2025

All children must wear their PE kit and a t-shirt with the colour of their house.

St Francis is GREEN

St. Catherine is YELLOW

St. Bernadette is PURPLE

St. Christopher is BLUE.

Please ensure your child has their water bottle, a hat and is wearing sunscreen. If you plan to take photos at the event, please be mindful of the school's policy regarding posting images of other children on social media. A member of staff will bring your child's medication (if they have it already in school) to the park.

Year 6 dates and timing for their end of year events

📄 Science Week Poster Competition – Submit by Monday 7th July!

A reminder to all pupils: **Science Week posters should be submitted to Mr Fowle in the Year 6 classroom by Monday 7th July. Please include your name and year group on the back.**

🏆 There will be a **1st prize awarded for each phase group**, so get creative!

Get inspired, get scientific, and get involved — **Science Week** is a fantastic opportunity for students to think big, be curious, and celebrate the wonders of science. We can't wait to see your amazing ideas!

🎭 Year 6 Production of Olivia – Tickets Available from Next Week!

We're excited to invite all Year 6 families to the upcoming production of *Olivia*! Join us for an unforgettable evening of drama, music, and fun, as our talented Year 6 students take centre stage.

 **Tickets will be available to request in class starting next week and cost £1 each.**

    Each Year 6 family may initially request up to **five tickets**.

Don't miss this fantastic opportunity to support our amazing performers — we can't wait to see you there!

Reception Graduation & Breakfast Party – Wednesday 16th July



We are excited to invite all **Reception parents and families** to join us for our **Reception Graduation** on **Wednesday 16th July**.

The celebration will begin at **9:15am in the school hall**, followed by a **Breakfast Party** in the **Early Years playground**.

Children should arrive at school at their usual time of **8:45am**, where they will be helped into their graduation gowns and caps before walking to the hall with their teachers.

A **special presentation** will also be shared with our Reception families as part of the celebration. We look forward to marking this special milestone with you!

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A message regarding Attendance and Punctuality from Ms Hampton

Dear Parents/Carers,

**Attendance
&
Punctuality**

Re: Attendance & Punctuality

Excellent attendance is fundamental to an excellent education. Our Attendance policy follows the policy outlined by the Education Secretary, stating that children are not to be absent from school for holidays or other non-essential reasons during term time. Only in exceptional or mitigating circumstances will an absence be approved.

Illness

If your child is unwell and unable to attend school or absent from school for any reason, please phone the school on 0208 2053790 before 8.40 am.

We have an answerphone where you can leave a message before the office opens, please speak clearly with your child's name, class and the reason your child is unwell.

You can use the absence line from 8.00am to speak to a member of the office.

If we do not receive any information from a parent/carer in the morning, we will contact parents/carers asking them to phone the school. If we do not hear from you we will pursue all contacts regarding a child's absence as part of our safeguarding procedures. Please leave a message by 9.00 am each day of their absence.

If your child has either vomiting or diarrhea, they should stay at home for 48 hours from the last bout of illness. This is a recommendation from Public Health England to protect other pupils and staff. If a child is sent into school within the 48 hour period, we will contact the parents/carers and ask for the child to be collected from school.

Any absence can result in a loss of continuity for your child's education and upset their balance of learning. As a school, we are required to provide details of all unauthorised absences to the Local Authority.

Medical and Dental appointments

We ask that you please make every effort to avoid booking medical and dental appointments during school time. Where this is unavoidable, parents/carers should put this in writing to the school office and attach a copy of the appointment card or letter before the date of the appointment. Please also include the time you will need to collect your child. If arriving late, please ensure that your child is accompanied and signed in by an adult at the school office for safeguarding reasons.

Other Absences

Requests for absence during term time will not be authorised unless there is deemed to be an exceptional circumstance. Local Authorities have the power to serve parents with a Fixed Penalty Notice if a child has significant or repeated days of unauthorised absence.

Being Punctual

School starts at 9.00 a.m. every day. Children need to be in their classrooms by 9 a.m. so that they can start their lessons promptly. Arriving at school on time and ready to learn is the best start to the day for our children.

It is important for your child to arrive at school on time if they are to get the most out of their education. Being late is disruptive for your child but also for all the other children in the class.

Punctuality

5 minutes late every day means missing 3 days of school every year.

Punctuality is continually monitored. The gates open 15 minutes before the school day begins. If your child arrives after this time, then they will be recorded as late in the register!

Attendance is regularly monitored by the local authority **who will fine any unauthorised absences.**

Expectation of children being collected at the end of each day

We expect all parents/carers to collect their children on time. Once the gates have closed, the children who have not been collected are brought into the office. If there are exceptional circumstances which are causing a delay, please contact the office immediately.

We do not have capacity to look after any children who are not picked up after that time.

As you are aware, the office gets very busy and the children cannot be left unsupervised in the reception area as it might pose the safety risk.

Please, ensure that you have arrangements in place to pick up your children on time.

Aktiva, the company running Wrap-Around Care in the RBKC North Hub in Ark Brunel, does take one-off bookings, so please feel free to use their services in emergencies.

Avenues Youth Project offer after school activities and a Walking Bus service, where they collect the children at the end of the day. Please see the information below on how to sign your child up.

New Baby and Toddler Group

All Welcome!



New Baby and Toddler Group – all welcome

We are hosting a new baby and toddler group at St Mary's Catholic Primary School.

Please come along and meet other parents, enjoy messy play, singing and rhymes and explore outdoor activities in our large open grassed space!

Wednesdays 8.45am – 10.15am.

All are welcome! Parent/Carers stay and play with your child.



Come to our new EYFS building entrance where we have plenty of buggy parking space!



Dates 2025 (Summer Term)
8.45am – 10.15am

7th and 21st May

4th and 18th June

2nd and 9th July

Where to find us:

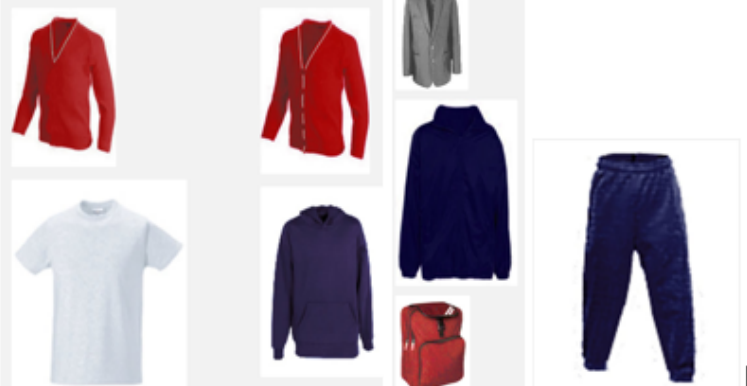


Whole School Uniform

Nursery Uniform



Whole School Uniform



Nursery

Sweatshirt – Crew neck	Embroidered – With School Badge	Cotton/Polyester
Sweatshirt – Crew neck	Embroidered – With School Badge	Cotton/Polyester
T-Shirt	Embroidered – With School Badge	100% Cotton
Infant Backpack	Embroidered – With School Badge	Polyester

Whole School

Knitted Jumper	Embroidered – With School Badge	V-neck.
Knitted Cardigan	Embroidered – With School Badge	Colour matched
Blazer	Embroidered – With School Badge	Phone and internal zipped pockets. Teflon coated Polyester buttons. Courtelle
Hooded Sweatshirt	Embroidered – With School Badge	Cotton/Polyester
Jogpants	Plain	2 pockets. Elasticated waistband. Cotton/Polyester
T-Shirt	Embroidered – With School Badge	100% Cotton
Reversible Jacket	Embroidered – With School Badge	Concealed hood. Reflective tape. Polyester
Infant Backpack - Reception to Year 2	Embroidered – With School Badge	Polyester
Junior Backpack - Year 3 - 6 Only	Embroidered – With School Badge	Polyester
Gym Bag - Reception - Year 6	Embroidered – With School Badge	Rucksack style. Zipped pocket. Name display pocket. Polyester
Tie	Plain	Broad Stripe design. Polyester Clip on also available

Summer School Dresses

Due to hot weather, the girls can now wear the red and white Gingham summer dress only (**not school red Gingham culottes**)

Please ensure dresses are knee length.



School Tie (compulsory)

A gentle reminder that all children in Reception to Year 6 are all expected to wear their school ties.

The St Mary's school tie gives the school its unique identity and this is something we want to preserve and promote throughout the local area.



New elasticated ties -

in response to parent and pupil feed back, we have decided to phase out clip on ties and replace them with elasticated ties. These are now available.

Staff will be checking to ensure that all school uniform criteria is followed. Thank you for your support.

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.

Class PE sessions

Wednesdays: **EYFS, Y1,Y2 and Y6**

Fridays - **Y2, Y3,Y4 and Y5**

Important 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 92.00%**. This is extremely low and as a school community, we need to do much better. 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.

Look what we have been doing -Early Years and Key Stage 1

EARLY YEARS

Early Years have been exploring 'adapt and change' for science week. To begin this new topic we froze some water and placed outside under the sun to see what happened. Children in nursery have been creating some art for the sun, ice and water.

While Reception have written sentences with their predictions of what was going to happen. We were very lucky with the beautiful sunshine and children were able to see the ice melt very quickly.



Year 1 did a fantastic job in their class assembly this week. The children spoke clearly and their acting skills were amazing! Well done to all the children and thank you to parents for your continued support.

Year 1



-In English, our new writing unit is based on The Tunnel by Anthony Browne. Our "Conscience Alley" question was: Should she follow him into the tunnel? The children came up with many reasons why or why not she should crawl in, including:

Year 2

She should crawl in because:

- Her brother might be lost
- Even though her brother had been mean to her, she should still be kind to him
- She might have a fantastic adventure

She should not crawl in because:

- She might get lost
- She might turn to stone/a statue
- There might be demons there
- Her brother wasn't kind to her
-



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

Avenue Youth Project Primary AfterSchool Provision

You can now sign up to the Avenue Youth Project for Afterschool Provision, they also provide a walking Bus Service.

ROUTE DETAILS

The walking bus journey begins at St Mary's Primary School main entrance, where children assemble at 3:15 PM. The route takes approximately 10 minutes, with arrival at The Avenues by 3:45. The journey includes two key crossing points, featuring a small crossing on East Row, another by the park on Kersal Road, followed by a zebra crossing which takes you to the bridge, providing access to Harrow Road. At Harrow Road, the group will cross at the traffic lights and cross again onto Third Avenue.

[See Route Here](#)

A WALKING BUS SERVICE



To establish a safe and supervised walking bus service connecting St Mary's Primary School, St Charles Primary School, and The Avenues Youth Project, the walking bus will ensure students in Years 3-6 can access quality after-school activities through reliable, supervised walking routes between the schools and after-school service.

The walking bus addresses the current financial barrier of £7.15 per day after-school club costs which has limited student participation. The service will incorporate road safety education as an important part of the daily journey.

The walking bus builds on the existing relationship between St Mary's and the Avenues while expanding the reach to include St Charles Primary. Through this coordinated approach, the walking bus will transform access to the Avenues after school activities, making them easily accessible to all students regardless of their families' employment status.

For more info go to our webpage:
www.avenues.org.uk/connectclubs

THE AVENUES YOUTH PROJECT

TERM TIME

WHAT'S ON FOR JUNIORS

TERM	DATE	TIME	LOCATION	ACTIVITY
SPRING	15-16 APRIL	15:30-18:00	THE AVENUES	CLUBS
SUMMER	15-16 JULY	15:30-18:00	THE AVENUES	CLUBS
AUTUMN	15-16 OCTOBER	15:30-18:00	THE AVENUES	CLUBS

Zone Clubs is a unique youth program for kids ages 8-11 that runs every Monday to Wednesday from 15:30 to 18:00.

WHAT WE OFFER

Our primary provision is for 8-11 year olds, Years 3-6.

HOLIDAYS

SPRING TERM

15-16 APRIL

SUMMER TERM

15-16 JULY

AUTUMN TERM

15-16 OCTOBER

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

15-16 APRIL

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

15-16 JULY

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

15-16 OCTOBER

Aktivita Wraparound Care

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



Club Information: Aktivita 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: Aktivita'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 Aktivita 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.



Star of the Week

Congratulations to all the pupils who have received **Star of the Week Certificate** - Friday 4th July 2025

Star of the week:

Reception - Malayah

Y1 - whole class

Y2 - Renai-Mae

Y3 - Fatema

Y4 - Deborah

Y5 - Layla

Y6 - Bethel

Star Readers

Y1 - Aniyah

Y2 - Victor

Y3 - Ryan and Rhenn

Y4 -

Y5 - Kessiah

Y6 - Kian

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

Term Dates 2024-2025

Term Dates 2024 - 2025

Summer Term – 2025

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**

Term Dates 2025- 2026



Federation of St Charles and St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Term Dates 2025-26

Autumn Term – 2025

First Half Term

Staff Training – Monday 1st September – Inset Day (*no pupils*)

First Day of School – Tuesday 2nd September

Last Day of School – Friday 24th October

Half Term – Monday 27th – Friday 31st October

Second Half Term

Staff Training – Monday 3rd November – Inset Day (*no pupils*)

First Day of School – Tuesday 4th November

Last Day of School – Friday 19th December – **School Closes at 1.30pm**

Christmas Holiday – Monday 22nd December 2025 – Friday 2nd January 2026

Spring Term – 2026

First Half Term

Staff Training – Monday 5th January – Inset Day (*no pupils*)

First Day of School – Tuesday 6th January

Last Day of School – Friday 13th February

Half Term – Monday 16th – Friday 20th February

Second Half Term

First Day of School – Monday 23rd February

Last Day of School – Friday 27th March – **School Closes at 1.30pm**

Easter Holiday – Monday 30th March – Friday 10th April

Summer Term – 2026

First Half Term

First Day of School – Monday 13th April

Bank Holiday – Monday 4th May

Last Day of School – Friday 22nd May

Half Term – Monday 25th May – Friday 29th May

Second Half Term

Staff Training – Monday 1st June – Inset Day (*no pupils*)

First Day of School – Tuesday 2nd June

Last Day of School – Friday 17th July – **School Closes at 1.30pm**

Staff Training – Monday 20th July – Inset Day (*no pupils*)

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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Phone: 020 8969 0321



Charles Mary

Charles is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters