



# St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter - Friday 20th September 2024

## Message to parents from the Executive Headteacher

Dear Parent/Carer,

I have had a wonderful two weeks since I last wrote to you. It is lovely to see how smart the children look in their school uniform and how quickly they have settled back into school routines. I am slowly getting to know your children and their lovely, friendly smiles and warm greetings have been a sight to behold. Thank you, parents and carers, for your kind words of welcome and support. The staff at St Mary's have also been incredibly kind and welcoming and I look forward to working with the whole school community to ensure that our school vision becomes a reality.

Thanks to all who have attended the class curriculum meetings to date. I was fortunate to meet some of you at the recent Year 6 meeting where class expectations and important guidance for secondary transfer were shared. There are lots of workshops and events planned for this term so please pencil them into your diary and I look forward to meeting you again very soon.

Wishing you all a very happy and restful weekend.

Best Wishes,

**Geraldine Hampton**  
Executive Headteacher

## Message to parents from the Head of School

Just a little reminder that you can use a box on the top right hand side, to be able to read the Newsletter in your own language, by pressing the Translate button!

**Macmillan Coffee Morning**

Next Friday, 27th September staff at St Mary's will engage in another fundraising event, the Big Macmillan Coffee Morning. All proceeds from the event will be passed to the MacMillan Nurses Charity.

### **Home time arrangements change for Y1 and Y2**

We have been reviewing our home time arrangements as we are concerned about the safety of our children and their families in Middle Row, which is very busy with a lot of traffic.

After speaking to some of the **Y1 and Y2 parents**, we have decided to change the arrangements. **Y1 and Y2 classes** will use **the KS1 gate** (the same gate they come in through in the mornings) at home time from **Monday 23rd September**.

We hope it will improve congestion and safety at the back gate.

If there are any issues with this, please do let the office or members of Senior Leadership know. Many thanks in advance for your cooperation.

**With the very best wishes**

**Magdalena Tusting**

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## **Catholic Life**

### **Catholic Life and Mission of the school**

Today is the national '**Jeans for Genes**' day and we had a MUFTY Day, with children and staff wearing jeans in support of this important charity. Everyone wearing jeans was asked to donate £1. Thank you to everyone who was able to contribute to the fundraising. We will let you know how much money we raised for Jeans for Genes in the next week's Newsletter.

Our School Value for this half term is **Responsibility** and the matching Catholic Social Teaching Principle is Stewardship – **Caring for the Earth, our common home**. We will be exploring thinking about how each and every one of us can show responsibility in caring for and protecting our planet.



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## School Ties

The children look lovely in their school uniform. Sadly, some children are not wearing their 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.

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



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## 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 year! Our overall attendance for this half term is **92.00%**, which is **very low**. Our school target is **96.00%**.

We will continue meeting some parents in the new academic year 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.

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## EYFS - Nursery & Reception

This week nursery have been reading a book called 'One happy tiger'. Reception have been reading 'Augustus and his smile'.

Both books are written by Catherine Rayner and have a beautiful collection of pictures. This week both classes have been mark making pictures about what makes them happy. For Reception they have also been writing the 'S' sound for smile.



## Year 1

Year 1 respectfully took part in Class worship and reflected on the Creation story and how we are a very important part of Gods plan.



## Year 2

In Year 2 we have been partitioning numbers up to 100. Here the children are working in groups to partition 57 in as many ways as they could, using groups of ten straws and single straws.



## Year 3

This week year 3 have been learning about being created and loved by God, as part of our RSE lessons. We talked about the story of Jesus and Jairus, and how the people around us show love and care for us.



To finish off our reflections, we wrote prayers to God asking for help or thanking Him for the love and care we are shown each day.



## Year 4

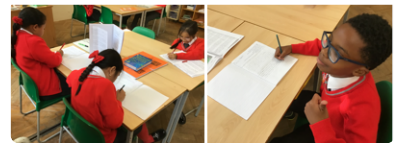
This week, year four have been working hard on their three times tables and understanding of numbers to 10,000!

They have enjoyed the start of their new class text, 'KrindleKrax' and have been creating expanded noun phrases to describe the main character. They have been learning about liquids, solids and gases in science and are looking forward to their trip to the Science Museum next Tuesday!



## Year 5

Year 5 have been hard at work this week, producing their first piece of extended writing this year. The whole class did very well and their teacher was very impressed with both their efforts and the writing that they have produced. Well-done, Year 5!



## Year 6

After an exciting week of IntoUniversity, Year 6 has been getting back into the swing of things in the classroom and working extremely hard in the process.

The class have been focusing on building on their previous knowledge of place value as well as starting their new English book, War Horse.



They have used this to plan and create a letter in character; finding out more about the conditions of war in the process. We have also enjoyed interesting conversations regarding the Kingdom of God and all that it entails.

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## St Mary's Got Talent!

*St Mary's Got Talent*

**AUDITIONS**



*Good Luck*

*Show next Thursday  
26th September 2024  
3.45-5.30  
With Raffle*

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# School



## **Breakfast Club & Tea Time 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.!

Tea-Time will be offered at St Mary's school up until Friday 20th September from 3.30 to 5.30pm. There after wraparound care will change and be delivered by a new provider from 3.30pm to 6pm in the evening. All parents have been provided with all the required information regarding the new providers.

If you would like your child/ren to continue to attend Tea-Time Club at St Mary's until Friday 20th September, please ensure you book the sessions and make payments, before your child attends this club.

**Booking is essential. This is not a drop-in service and parents will be rung and asked to collect their child if no booking has been made.**

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

[www.schoolgateway.com](http://www.schoolgateway.com)

## Change of Wraparound Care Provision

### ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

East Row North Kensington London W10 5AW  
Telephone: 020 8969 0321 Fax: 020 8964 3122  
E-mail: [info@st-marys.rbkc.sch.uk](mailto:info@st-marys.rbkc.sch.uk)  
Website: [www.st-marys.rbkc.sch.uk](http://www.st-marys.rbkc.sch.uk)



Executive Headteacher: Ms Geraldine Hampton

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

#### Wraparound Care

As you know, the Government has made it an ambition to ensure that all parents and carers of primary school-aged children who need it should be able to access term time childcare in their local area from 8am-6pm.

At the moment, we provide Breakfast Club from 8am every morning and Tea Time Club at St Mary's until 5.30pm.

Our Breakfast Club will continue to run at St Mary's as it does now.

The Local Authority has created a new hub for after school care, which will provide care until 6pm for children from Nursery to Year 6. This will be run by a company called Aktiva and will be based at Ark Brunel. **From 23<sup>rd</sup> September, St Mary's will be part of that provision.**

Please see attached a welcome letter from Aktiva, setting out their service. The letter includes details of a face-to-face meeting at St Charles and an online meeting for parents to find out more and ask questions.

The walking bus will operate to take children to Ark Brunel.

Kind regards,

Magdalena Tusting  
Head of School





Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Aktiva Camps After School Club at St Mary's Catholic Primary School hosted at the Ark Brunel Hub! We are delighted to partner with the school to offer outstanding extended school services, and we look forward to creating a safe, fun, and friendly environment for your children.

**Club Information:** Our 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 After school club service is hosted at the Ark Brunel school premises, in the main hall, and pick-up for parents will be from Ark Brunel main reception door. An Aktiva sign with our contact number will be available on the door. Please call if a staff member is not at the door to collect your child.

**After School Club:** At the end of the school day, your children will be collected from their teachers and brought over to the Aktiva setting at Ark Brunel via a walking bus provided by the school. They will be grouped by key stage and offered a substantial snack, including fruit, vegetables, dips, sandwiches, wraps and bagels. We encourage children to help plan our menus and choose their favourite items. Each session includes a variety of activities: tennis, football, bench ball, and arts and crafts. Depending on the number of participants, children will be grouped by key stage or year group.

**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](mailto:bookings@aktivacamps.com) or call our parent enquiry number on **0203 551 8909**.

**Booking Aktiva Services:**

**Annual Pass:** Our online booking system lets you select the days you need each week, reserving a spot for your child for the whole school year. We only charge for the days your child attends. There are 190 school days in the year. Our fee is calculated based on the days you choose, then spread evenly over 11 months for easy payments.

**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](http://www.aktivacamps.com) to register yourself and your child/children and select the required service.

#### Monthly Prices

After School Club	1 day/week	2 day/week	3 day/week	4 day/week	5 day/week	Single session bookings
Full session – 3.30pm - 6pm	£42	£84	£126	£168	£210	£14
Early session 3.30pm - 4.30pm	£19	£38	£57	£76	£95	£8.70

**Price per session annual pass – Full Session - £12**

**Early Session - £6.70**

Aktiva accepts childcare vouchers and payment from the Government Tax Free Childcare scheme. We also support parents to access Universal Credits and Student Finance financial support.

If you have any queries, please email [bookings@aktivacamps.com](mailto:bookings@aktivacamps.com). Our phone lines are busy, so email us your query with a phone number, and we will get back to you. The booking system for the 2024/2025 academic year is now live.

#### **Cancellation Policy:**

- **Annual Pass:** One month written notice is required to cancel/reduce days.
- **Single Session Booking:** Two weeks written notice is required to cancel or change days. All cancellation requests will be held as credit on your account.

Please send cancellation notices to [bookings@aktivacamps.com](mailto:bookings@aktivacamps.com).

**Medication:** Aktiva staff do not have access to the school medical room. We require essential medication such as inhalers or EpiPens to accept your children into the service.

**More Information:** Aktiva will like to give parents the opportunity to find out more information about the services available. On 17<sup>th</sup> September, we will be at St Mary's from 3.00pm to answer any questions you may have. A zoom meeting has also been scheduled for the 17th September at 6.30pm for parents who are not able to attend in person. The details are

**Topic: Aktiva Services @ St Mary's**

**Time: Sep 17, 2024 06:30 PM**

<https://us05web.zoom.us/j/81504426704?pwd=ZWQH6A4JYPz31tWaOly9yYl0sz4v0B.1>

**Meeting ID: 815 0442 6704**

**Passcode: qi0q1E**

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## **Star of the Term**

Congratulations to all the pupils who have received **Star of the Week Certificate** - Friday 20th September 2024

### **Star of the Week:**

EYFS-Nursery & Reception - Matilda & Cecilia

Y1 - **Kenza**

Y2 - **Sarah**

Y3 - **Ryan**

Y4 - **Yusuf**

Y5 - **Jazz**

Y6 - **Ana-Laura**

### **Star Readers**

Y1- **Ethan**

Y2 - **Alana**

Y3 - **Vanna**

Y4 - **Poppy**

Y5 - **Gideon**

Y6 - **Andie**

### **'Handwriters' of the week**

Y1- **Ineesha**

Y2 - **Mia**

Y3 - **Aislie**

Y4 - **Makda**

Y5 - **Ana - Clara**

Y6 - **Kian**

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

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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

### Class Meetings continued

Wednesday 25th September 3.30pm Reception Class meeting

Wednesday 2nd September 3.30pm Nursery Class Meeting

### 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

Y6 Class Assembly Thursday 3rd October 9.05am

Y5 Class Assembly Thursday 10th October 9.05am

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

Thursday 26th September: **St Mary's Talent Show and Raffle** 3.45pm – 5.00pm

Friday 27th September: **MacMillan Cancer Support Coffee Morning** – staff;

Month of October: **Black History Month**

Thursday 10th October: **World Mental Health Day**

### 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

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## Term Dates 2024-2025

### Term Dates 2024 – 2025

#### Autumn Term – 2024

##### **First Half Term**

Staff Training – Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> & Tues 3<sup>rd</sup> September - *School Closed*

First Day of School – Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September

Last Day of School – Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October

**Half Term** – Monday 28<sup>th</sup> – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November

##### **Second Half Term**

First Day of School – Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November

Last Day of School – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December - **1.30pm** - *School Closed*

**Christmas Holiday** – Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December – Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2025

#### Spring Term - 2025

##### **First Half Term**

Staff Training – Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January – *School Closed*

First Day of School – Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January

Last Day of School – Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February

**Half Term** – Monday 17<sup>th</sup> – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February

##### **Second Half Term**

First Day of School – Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February

Last Day of School – Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April - **1.30pm** - *School Closed*

**Easter Holiday** – Monday 7<sup>th</sup> April – Monday 21<sup>st</sup> April

#### Summer Term – 2025

##### **First Half Term**

Staff Training – Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April – *School Closed*

First Day of School – Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April

**Bank Holiday** – Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May

Last Day of School – Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May

**Half Term** – Monday 26<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May

##### **Second Half Term**

First Day of School – Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June

Staff Training – Monday 30<sup>th</sup> June – *School Closed*

Last Day of School – Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July - **1.30pm** - *School Closed*

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FACEBOOK

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## St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Email: [info@st-marys.rbkc.sch.uk](mailto:info@st-marys.rbkc.sch.uk)

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

Location: [East Row, London W10 5AW, UK](#)

Phone: 020 8969 0321



**Charles Mary**

Charles is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters