

# St Mary's Catholic Primary School

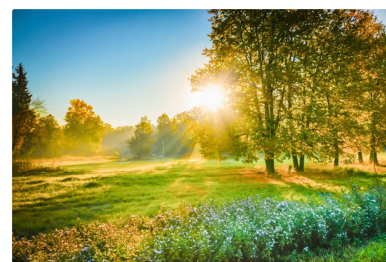
Newsletter - Friday 5th June 2026

## Message to parents from Mrs Tusting

Welcome to issue 34 of our Newsletter.

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we come to the end of another busy and rewarding week, I would like to take a moment to celebrate some of the wonderful learning opportunities and special experiences our pupils have enjoyed.



 Learning together in Faith and Love 

Our Year 4 pupils had an exciting trip to the Thames foreshore, where they explored the history of our local area and learned more about the significance of the River Thames. They approached the day with enthusiasm and curiosity and were excellent ambassadors for our school.

Our EYFS children were delighted to attend the launch of Laura Henry-Allain's new children's book '**Maya and Marley and the new friend**' in Portobello. It was a fantastic opportunity to foster a love of reading and storytelling, and the children thoroughly enjoyed being part of such a special event.

Yesterday, as a school community, we gathered to celebrate a special Votive Mass for **Corpus Christi**. It was a beautiful and prayerful occasion that reflected the faith and reverence of our pupils. We were particularly proud of our four Year 5 altar servers, who served with great maturity and dignity. Our Year 6 pupils also led the readings and bidding prayers beautifully, demonstrating confidence, reverence and a deep respect for the occasion.

Across the school, pupils have continued to work hard, persevere with their learning and demonstrate our school values each day. I am always proud of the kindness, enthusiasm and sense of community that they show.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. I wish you and your families a peaceful and restful weekend.

Wishing all our families a restful and relaxing weekend

Magdalena Tusting

Head of School



Votiv Votive Mass for **Corpus**

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## Catholic Life and Mission of the school

### The Feast of Corpus Christi

The Feast of Corpus Christi (the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ) is a major Catholic liturgical celebration honouring the Eucharist.



This year it fell on **Thursday, June 4**. In many regions—including the UK—it is celebrated on the following Sunday (7th June) to encourage broader attendance.

**The Real Presence:** The day emphasizes the doctrine of the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist—meaning the actual Body and Blood of Christ, not just a symbolic representation.

**Connection to Holy Thursday:** While Holy Thursday commemorates the institution of the Eucharist during the sombre Last Supper, Corpus Christi is a joyful feast allowing the faithful to publicly honour and worship the Blessed Sacrament.

### The year of St Francis

In the Year of St Francis, we are thinking about and learning more about this inspirational Saint who loved God and all Creation so much. St Francis is an example to all of us of how to live our lives following in footsteps of Jesus.



Our School Value for this half term is **Co-operation** and the matching Catholic Social Teaching Principle is the **Solidarity**.

The principle of the **Solidarity** in Catholic Social Teaching (CST) is a core pillar of Catholic Social Teaching (CST) that recognizes the fundamental interconnectedness of all humanity. It dictates that because we are all one global family, we are responsible for one another and must actively work to ensure the common good.



Solidarity is more than a feeling of sympathy or vague compassion; it is a **"firm and persevering determination to commit oneself to the common good"**.

#### **Key Characteristics:**

**More than Charity:** While charity provides direct aid, solidarity focuses on justice. It requires challenging and dismantling the systemic, structural causes of poverty, inequality, and oppression.

**Interdependence:** It acknowledges that the well-being of individuals is intimately tied to the well-being of the wider global society. As Pope John Paul II summarized: **"We are all really responsible for all."**

**Walking with the Vulnerable:** It involves listening to and empowering marginalized people so they can shape their own destinies, rather than just doing things *for* them.

#### **Biblical and Papal Roots**

**Scriptural Foundation:** It is rooted in the belief that all people are made in the image and likeness of God. St. Paul emphasized this unity, stating, **"All of you are one in Christ."**

**Modern Papal Teaching:** The concept has been deeply shaped by modern encyclicals. Pope St. John Paul II formalized it in his 1987 encyclical **On Social Concern**. More recently, Pope Francis's 2020 encyclical **Fratelli Tutti** (On Fraternity and Social Friendship) highlighted solidarity as a fundamental requirement to combat inequality.

#### **How Solidarity is lived**

Living out the principle of solidarity touches all aspects of life, including daily personal relationships, community organizing, and consumer choices. It inspires action like fair trade practices, advocacy for human rights, and supporting global relief agencies.

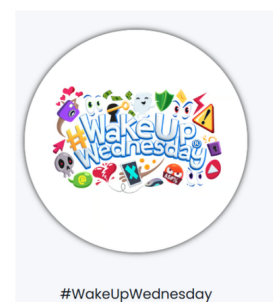
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## **Safeguarding Information**

Safeguarding remains our highest priority, and we continue to work closely with staff, pupils and families to ensure that all children are safe, both in school and online.

As part of our commitment to online safety, we are subscribing to **Wake Up Wednesday**. **Wake up Wednesday** is a national campaign by 'National Online Safety' which has been designed to inform and help parents understand the dangers and the attraction of different types of online activity. It covers everything from social media platforms, gaming and online gaming, mobile and iPad security and much more.

Online Safety Tips For Families





For children with Android devices, Google Family Link is a great way for parents to set restrictions. Internet Matters have released a brand-new YouTube video showing how to set up Google Family Link to customise content and screen time restrictions.

Click to [Set Up Google Family Link](#)

We encourage families to engage with these resources and to work in partnership with us to promote safe, respectful and responsible online behaviour, in line with our Catholic values of care, dignity and responsibility.

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#### Year Group weekly Attendance

<b>Year 1</b>	<b>98.96%</b>
<b>Year 3</b>	<b>97.22%</b>
<b>Year 6</b>	<b>95.45%</b>
<b>Reception</b>	<b>93.94%</b>
<b>Year 2</b>	<b>90.83%</b>
<b>Year 4</b>	<b>90.34%</b>
<b>Year 5</b>	<b>90.15%</b>



New diary dates will be provided weekly

We would like to share some important dates for the Autumn 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.

Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>Pupil Debate Workshop 'Discover your voice' by the English Speaking Union Y5 and Y6</b>
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>New Reception Welcome Meeting</b>
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>Year 4 Class Assembly 9.05am</b>
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>Green for Grenfell MUFTY Day</b>
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> June to Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>Year 6 residential journey to Liddington</b>
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>New Nursery Welcome Meeting</b>
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>Year 3 Class Assembly 9.05am</b>
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June	<b>MoneySense workshops for KS2</b>
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>Year 2 Class Assembly 9.05am</b>
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>Year 1 and Year 2 at Infant Voices Festival in Kensington Town Hall</b>
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> July	<b>Rhythm Studio Year 5 performance</b>
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	<b>Reception Class Assembly 9.05am</b>
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	<b>MUFTY Day – bring a bottle for the Summer Fair</b>
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July at 3.45pm	<b>Summer Fair</b>
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>Year 6 Leavers Mass</b>

## The School Day at St Mary's

### Timetable

	<b>Nursery</b>	<b>Reception</b>	<b>KS1</b>	<b>KS2</b>
<b>School gate opens</b>	8.45	8.45	8.45	8.45
<b>School day begins</b>	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00
<b>School gate closes</b>	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00
<b>Morning break begins</b>	10.00	10.15	10.15	10.30 LKS2 10.45 UKS2
<b>Morning break ends</b>	10.15	10.30	10.30	10.45 LKS2 11.00 UKS2
<b>Lunch begins</b>	11.45	11.45	12.00	12.30
<b>Lunch ends</b>	12.15	12.45	1.00	1.30
<b>School day finishes</b>	3.15	3.15	3.20	3.30
<b>School gate closes</b>	3.30	3.30	3.40	3.40

### Routine

**Nursery and Reception** children enter and leave the school through the **Nursery Gate**.

**Year 1** children should enter and the school through the **KS1 gate** (to the right of the brown door).

They leave via the brown door.

**Year 2** children should enter and leave the school through the **KS1 gate** (to the right of the brown door).

**Year 3, 4, 5 and 6** children enter through the **KS2 gate** (to the left of the main school door).

**Years 3 and 4** children leave the school at home time through **the back gate behind the pitch**.

**Year 5 and 6** children leave the school at home time through **KS2 gate**.

### **Assembly Times:**

**Tuesdays 9.05am to 9.30am:** KS2 Assembly

**Wednesdays 2.45pm to 3.05pm:** FS/KS1 Assembly (every two weeks)

**Thursdays 9.05am to 9.30am:** Class Assemblies

**Thursdays 2.45pm to 3.15pm:** Hymn Practice

**Fridays 9.05am to 9.45am:** Star of the Week Assembly

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## **PE KIT**



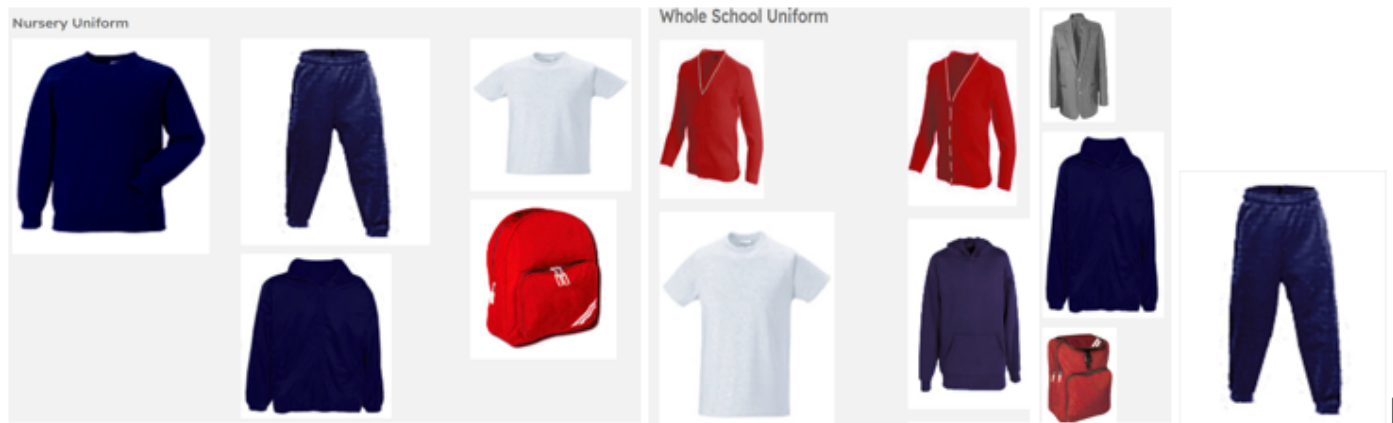
### **PE Days:**

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.

Please, find below the final PE days:

Mondays – **Year 3 and Year 5**

Thursdays – **EYFS, Year 1, Year 2, Year 4 and Year 6**



## 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. Courtele
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



Congratulations to all the pupils who have received **Star of the Week - Friday 5th June 2026**

**Star of the Week:**

- Y1 - Ginaiyah**
- Y2 - Olly**
- Y3 - Luna B**
- Y4 - Whole Class**
- Y5 - Alby**
- Y6 - Beza**

**Star Reader:**

- Y1 - Tegan**
- Y2 - Naomi**
- Y3 - Harry**
- Y4 - Kareema**
- Y5 - Cali**
- Y6 - Zyann**

**Handwriting Award**

- Y3 - Mia**

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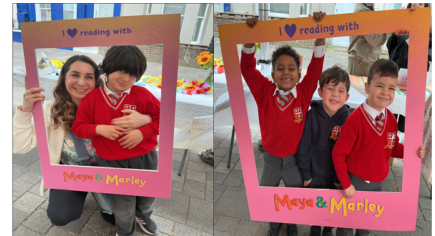
**Look what we have been doing - Early Years & Key stage 1**

# Early Years

EYFS had a very exciting invite to join author Laura Henry-Allain MBE in Portobello Square for her new book reading and event opened by the Mayor of Kensington and Chelsea.

The children listened to two of her books including an art activity, book signing and pictures with the author herself! Our children thoroughly enjoyed this very special event and thank you to all the families that joined us on this trip today.

Maybe you will be inspired to write your own books one day Early Years? If you would like to see her new book, Laura will be at Portobello Market Saturday 6th June for families to join in activities and book signing too!

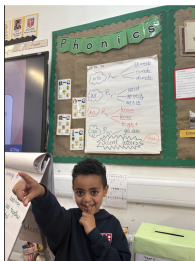


Next week, our Year 1 children will be taking part in the National Phonics Screening Check.

# Year 1

They have been working incredibly hard throughout the year to develop their phonics knowledge and reading skills, and we are very proud of the progress they have made.

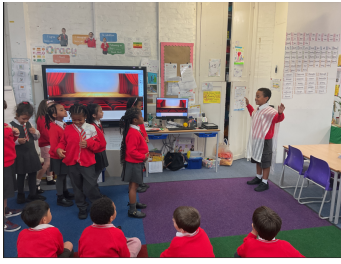
We would like to wish all of our Year 1 pupils the very best of luck next week. We know they will do their best and shine!



This week Year 2 listened to the Pentecost story then discussed the main events.

# Year 2

The children worked in small groups to role play the story and performed to their classmates.



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# 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](http://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 four key crossing points, featuring a small crossing on East Row, another by the park on Harrow 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](#)

For more info go to our webpage:  
[www.avenues.org.uk/zonoclubs](http://www.avenues.org.uk/zonoclubs)

## 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 £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 family's employment status.

### TERM TIME

#### WHAT'S ON FOR JUNIORS

TERM	DATE	TIME	LOCATION	ACTIVITY
Autumn	15th Oct - 15th Nov	10:30 - 12:00	St Mary's	Reading & Art
Spring	15th Feb - 15th Mar	10:30 - 12:00	St Charles	Music & Drama
Summer	15th May - 15th Jun	10:30 - 12:00	The Avenues	Sports & Games

Zone Clubs is a unique youth program for kids ages 8-11 that runs every Monday to Wednesday, from 10:30 to 12:00.

### WHAT WE OFFER

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

#### HOLIDAYS

##### SPRING TERM

15th Feb - 15th Mar

##### SUMMER TERM

15th May - 15th Jun

##### AUTUMN TERM

15th Oct - 15th Nov

#### SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

**Autumn - 15th Oct - 15th Nov**

**Spring - 15th Feb - 15th Mar**

**Summer - 15th May - 15th Jun**

[www.zonoclubs.org.uk](http://www.zonoclubs.org.uk)

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

## Term Dates 2025-2026

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#### **Second Half Term**

Staff Training – Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June – INSET Day  
 First Day of School – Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June  
 Last Day of School – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July – **School closes at 1.30pm**  
 Staff Training – Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July – INSET Day

FACEBOOK

INSTAGRAM

TWITTER



**St Mary's Catholic Primary School**

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

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**Charles Mary**

Charles is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters