



St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter - Friday 5th December 2025

Message to parents from Mr Larke

Dear Parent/Carers,

Welcome to issue 14 of our Newsletter.



As we approach the second Sunday of Advent, rehearsals for our carol concerts and Nativity performances are in full swing. This week, a small group of Year 6 children had the wonderful opportunity to join children from across the Diocese at the Advent Carol Service at Westminster Cathedral. The event was filled with joy, and even featured two live donkeys and a rather noisy goat, bringing the Nativity story to life in a truly memorable way!

Our amazing PTA team is busy preparing for the St. Mary's Christmas Fair, which will be held on Friday, 5 December (today!) from 3:45pm to 5:30pm. A huge thank you to everyone who has helped organise these events and the many other fun activities that enrich our pupils' school experience outside the classroom. These events take a lot of effort and planning, and your support makes them a real success. I would also like to extend my gratitude to parents and carers for donating food to contribute to the local Food Bank; it's truly heart-warming to see our community coming together to help those in need.

All dates and times for our Carol Services and Christmas plays are included in this newsletter. Please do take a moment to check them, and we look forward to celebrating the festive season with you all very soon.

Wishing you a joyful and peaceful weekend,

Best Wishes,

Senior Leadership Team

Advent Carol Service at Westminster Cathedral



Catholic Life and Mission of the school

The Holy season of Advent

Yesterday, the whole school attended Mass at the Church to mark the season of Advent and as always, it was a beautiful and reflective occasion where everyone had the opportunity to be still and get their hearts and minds ready for the birthday of Christ Our Lord.



This Sunday is the 2nd week of Advent.

Advent is a special time when we wait in hope for the coming of Jesus.

Sunday 7th December – Second Sunday of Advent Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12

The second candle on the Advent Wreath represents LOVE.

Our School Value for this half term is **Respect** and the matching Catholic Social Teaching Principle is Stewardship – **Dignity of the Human Person**.



We will be exploring thinking about how each and every one of us deserves to live with dignity. As children of God we all deserve to be treated with respect at all times.

This week is the first week of Advent

We celebrated the start of Advent with the whole school Mass yesterday, on Thursday 4th December at 9.30am in Our Lady of the Holy Souls church.





**Saturday 6th December 4pm -730pm & Sunday 7th December
8.30am -1.30pm**

Our Lady of the Holy Souls Church Hall, Kensal New Town, W10 5DJ

Money raised will help continue to develop our community hall, focusing on refurbishing the kitchen.

This will enable us to continue to provide a safe, welcoming, well-equipped space for gatherings and wider community use.

Grand Prize Raffle!

1st Prize £200

2nd Prize £100

3rd Prize £50

Plus, many more lovely prizes

Tickets are £1 each or £10 for a Book of 10 tickets.

Winning Tickets will be drawn at the Bazaar, around 1pm on Sunday 7th December.

Lots of Fun at the Bazaar!

Bottle Stall

Cake Stall

Tasty Savoury Food

Exciting Auctions/Raffles

Kids activities including Face Painting

Paint a Christmas Bauble

Lucky Dip

Plus, a visit from Fr Christmas.

WE NEED YOUR HELP

- **Buying and or selling our Grand Prize Raffle Tickets:** available after weekend masses soon
- **Asking for Donations:** any one you know who can donate something for a raffle or an auction?
We have a letter prepared that you can give out for this purpose
- **Donations for our Bottle Stall:** alcohol or any other full bottle items
- **Bring items new and or as good as new for our Bric n Brac stall:** gifts, toys, children's books, etc
For Health & Safety reasons no clothes or electrical items, and no DVDs or other books.
- **Make a cake that we can sell at the bazaar**
- **Encourage** your children to draw a Christmas Scene on an A4 piece of paper. These will be displayed at the bazaar and Fr Damian will award a prize to the best artist!
- **Volunteer to help at the bazaar:** Let us know if you are available to help Saturday or Sunday
- **Please bring any items you wish to donate to the church hall before or after weekend masses from weekend 18th October**
- **If you need any further information or if you would like to offer your help, please contact Laura.**

Please get involved!

Many thanks

Laura Ryan on behalf of the Bazaar and Fund-Raising Team

Tel: 07721 885648 Email: Laura@knowhowhr.com

St Mary's Primary School
East Row North Kensington W10 5AW



Baby and Toddler Group – All welcome

Please come along and meet other parents, enjoy messy play, cooking and explore outdoor activities in our large open grassed space! We will be joined by the local librarian for rhyme time sessions with the children and reading stories too! **Bring a reusable mug if you can!**

Parents stay and play with your child.



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



Dates 2025 (Autumn Term)
8.55am – 10.15am

Wednesday 19th November (cooking)
Wednesday 26th November (dance)
Wednesday 17th December
(xmas decoration and craft)

Where to find us:





“Enjoy Healthy School Holidays with RBKC – offering fun, engaging activities for children throughout the Christmas half-term.”

Event dates leading up to Christmas.

Christmas Dates:

Tuesday 9th December: **Y5 taking part in the RBKC Christmas**

Festival in Kensington Town Hall

Thursday 11th December: **Christmas lunch and Christmas Jumper Day**

Christmas Plays and Concerts:

Wednesday 10th December 2.15pm: **EYFS Christmas Play**

Tuesday 16th December 2.00pm: **KS2 Christmas Concert in church**

Wednesday 17th December 2.15pm: **KS1 Christmas Play**



CHRISTMAS EVENTS



Reception Admission September 2026

If you are considering applying for a Reception place for September 2026, please ensure that you submit your online application through your Local Authority.



The deadline for online applications is **Thursday, 15th January 2025**.

Once you have completed your online application, please **collect a Supplementary Information Form (SIF) pack** from the school office. When returning your completed (SIF) form please include the following documents:

- Your child's birth certificate
- Baptism certificate (if applicable)
- Proof of address

We look forward to receiving your Reception application.

Nursery Admission September 2026

If you would like to apply for a Nursery place for your child, we warmly invite you to collect a Nursery Application Pack from the school office. When returning your completed application, please include the following documents:

- Your child's birth certificate
- Baptism certificate (if applicable)
- Proof of address
-

We look forward to receiving your Nursery application.



Please note that the deadline for submitting all completed Nursery applications is also **Thursday, 15th November**.

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.

PE Days

PE Days:

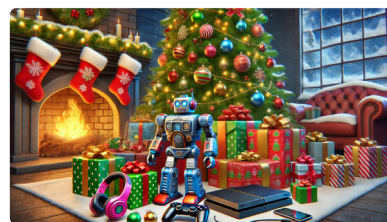
Please remember that children can come to school in their PE kits on PE days. Please refer to our guidance on school uniform and ensure your child has the correct PE kit. If for any reason they are not able to come in the correct kit, we require an email or phone call from home to explain the circumstances.

Wednesdays – **EYFS, Year 1, Year 2, Year 5 and Year 6**
Fridays - **Year 3 and Year 4**

Whole School Uniform

A Guide for Parents and Carers: Choosing Tech Gifts for Children This Christmas

As Christmas approaches, tech gifts are often at the top of children's wish lists. While these can be fun, educational, and engaging, it's important to consider factors that ensure your choices are age-appropriate, safe, and beneficial.



Here's some guidance from Education North Tyneside to help you choose great tech gifts for your children this festive season: **(please click the link below for information)**

[Read the full guide here](#)

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

This week EYFS have been getting into the Christmas spirit with a little help from one of our parents who very kindly donated a tree to us from Devlin's fruit and veg stall down portobello road.

EARLY YEARS

We have been busy learning about the tree delivered from Oslo to Trafalgar square and now we have our very own Christmas pine. To end the week, this afternoon we have all created a Stickman from our story. A fun filled week in Early Years.

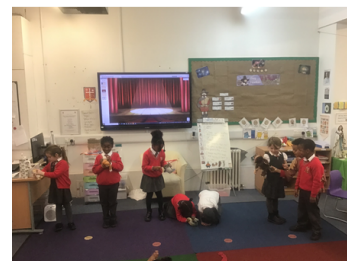


In the last 2 weeks, year 1 has been learning to login the computers and using sketchpad to draw their own digital pictures. We have

Year 1

also been learning the story of Gruffalo's Child, doing lots of role play, character and setting description.

In Science, we have been doing practical lessons on whether the tallest children have the biggest feet. I have really enjoyed teaching each and every student in Year 1 and will miss them very much.



Year 2 have been reading The Snowman by Raymond Briggs. They were roleplaying the little boy and talking about what he would tell his diary entry when he woke up for the day.

Year 2

This is the time of year we are getting ready for Christmas and all the magic it brings around us! Remembering to always be patient, kind and helpful to all.



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.

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.

Star of the Week

Congratulations to all the pupils who have received **Star of the Week - Friday 5th December 2025**

Star of the Term:

Reception - Matlida

Y1 - Joshua

Y2- Whole Class

Y3 - Renaie-mai

Y4 - Andre

Y5 - Alby

Y6 - Zamarah

Star Reader:

Y1 - Anika

Y2 - N/A

Y3 - John/Sarah

Y4 - Savannah

Y5- Chloe

Y6 - Regina

Term Dates 2025- 2026

FACEBOOK

INSTAGRAM

TWITTER



St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Email: 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

C

Charles Mary

Charles is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters