



St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter - Friday 07th November 2025

Message to parents from Mrs Tusting

Dear Parent/Carers,

Welcome to issue 08 of our Newsletter.

It was lovely to welcome the children back to school after half term. Pupils settled very well and they have been busy learning across the curriculum.

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.

This week we are happy to report that almost all the pupils are wearing the correct uniform, including plain black shoes and ties! The children are looking very smart. It also helps them to feel proud to be a part of our school and their respective classes. We appreciate all your support with this.

If you have uniforms that are now too small for your child, could you consider donating it to school, please?

Next week is **National Anti-Bullying Week**. This year's theme is **Power of Good**. As every year, we will have the whole school assembly run by the School Council as well as class activities and workshops across the week. We will start the week with the **Odd Socks Day** on **Monday 10th November**. Please, let your child come to school in their full uniform and wearing **odd socks**.



On **Tuesday 11th November**, we celebrate **Remembrance Day**. Remembrance Day is a memorial day observed in most countries around the world since the end of the First World War to honour armed forces members who have died in the line of duty. Main celebrations will take place on Sunday 9th November. On Tuesday 11th November, we will honour the fallen heroes and think of the importance of peace through **2 minutes silence at 11.00am**.

I hope you log on regularly and enjoy reading all the great news about our pupils and our school community!

Just a little reminder that you can use a little box on the top right hand side if you would like to read the Newsletter in your own language. Just press the Translate button! Happy Reading!

I hope all our families have a lovely weekend!

With best wishes

Magdalena Tusting
Head of School



National Anti-Bullying Week and Remembrance Day - Tuesday 11th November 2025

Catholic Life and Mission of the school

The Gospel Reading is from the Gospel of St John 2:13 - 22

The Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the Temple, He found those who were selling oxen and sheep and pigeons, and the moneychangers sitting there. And making a whip of cords, He drove them all out of the Temple, with



the sheep and oxen. And He poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables.

And He told those who sold the pigeons, 'Take these things away; do not make my Father's house a house of trade.' His disciples remembered that it was written, 'Zeal for your house will consume me.'

So the Jews said to him, 'What sign do you show us for doing these things?' Jesus answered them, 'Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.' The Jews then said, 'It has taken forty-six years to build this Temple, and will you raise it up in three days?' But He was speaking about the temple of His body. When therefore he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that He had said this, and they believed the Scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken

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.



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! 1 st Prize £200 2 nd Prize £100 3 RD Prize £50 Plus, many more lovely prizes Tickets are £1 each or £10 for a Book of 10 tickets. Winning Tickets <u>will be drawn</u> 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 <u>Fr Christmas</u> .
--	--

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:



New dates for Baby and Toddler Group

Stay & Play Sessions in RBKC

World's End Under Fives Centre offers an opportunity for children (from birth to 4 years), and their parents and carers to meet others, have fun, play and learn.

Providing a safe fun environment for exploration, learning and enjoyment. We have new activities daily, including indoor and outdoor play, rhyme, story time, physical activities, and music sessions.

	9:30am- 12:00pm	1:00pm- 3:00pm
Monday	Drop-in Messy Play	Creche Term time only
Tuesday	Drop-in Stay & Play	Creche Term time only
Wednesday	Drop-in Stay & Play	Creche Term time only
Thursday	Drop-in Story Telling	Family Workshops
Friday	Drop-in Stay & Play	

Keep up to date with our services. Follow us on Instagram [@rbkc_familyhubs](#)

South Locality Family Hub Under 5's Timetable

Cheyne Family Hub, 10 Thorncliffe Close London SW20 0ST
 Telephone: 0207 361 2202
St Cuthbert Children Centre, Warwick Road London SW5 9UE
 Telephone: 0207 373 8225
Marlborough Primary School, Draycott Avenue London SW3 3AP
 Telephone: 0207 589 8553
Worlds End Stay & Play, 18 Blarney Street London SW10 0SD
 Telephone: 020 7351 5871

What's on in South Kensington & Chelsea Family Hubs for Under 5's 8th Sept – 19th Dec 2025
To book a session please call 0207 361 2202 or email familyhub@rbkc.gov.uk

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Music & Movement @ Cheyne Family Hub 10:00am to 10:30am For children under 1 year of age. 11:00 am to 11:30am For children aged 1 to 5 years. Fun session with music, rhyme and dance.	Stay & Play @ Marlborough 9:00am - 10:30am (Term Time Only) Come and enjoy a stimulating and exciting play session with your children 0-5 years. Baby Massage @ Cheyne Family Hub 1:30pm-3:00pm 14th Oct - 11th Nov 5 week course for babies aged 6 weeks-6 months. Call to book	We are breastfeeding friendly centres , you can pop in at anytime to breastfeed your baby. If you require breastfeeding support please call us on 0207 361 2202 to book an appointment to see a breastfeeding trained member of staff.	Stay & Play @ Cheyne Family Hub 1:30pm-3:00pm Come and enjoy a stimulating & exciting play session with your children 0-5 years of age. This includes, messy, creative & outdoor play.	Let's Get Ready For Nursery Workshops @ Cheyne Family Hub 10:00am - 11:30am 14th Nov - 12th Dec Let's get ready workshops: • Sleep and routines. • Toilet training. • Managing behaviours. • Fussy Eating. • Managing Separation.

Stay & Play Under 5's @ Cheyne Family Hub
1:00pm-3:00pm
 (Term Time Only)
 For Under 5's 1st This session is run by our Maternity Champion Partners. Please call Lenny on: 07557 237 697 for more information.

Sensory Stay & Play @ Cheyne Family Hub
2:00pm-3:00pm
 (Term Time Only)
 A dedicated session for children who may need extra support with their learning and development, including those with additional needs, disabilities, or awaiting a diagnosis. The session offers a variety of resources and child-led play activities tailored to meet the needs of the group.

Talking Steps @ Cheyne Family Hub
10:30am-11:30am
 9th Sept - 7th Oct
 18th Nov - 16th Dec
 5 week course for babies aged 6 weeks-6 months.
 Call to book

Did you know that you can make use of our outdoor spaces?
 Every Wednesday, feel free to drop by with your little one, enjoy our gardens, spend some quality time outdoors with your children!

RBKC Family Hub under 5's Timetable



TOUR CAST 2025

THE RELUCTANT DRAGON

By Kenneth Grahame

Sarah Coyne



Sarah is a Scottish actress who trained at ALRA North. She has completed three outdoor tours with Illyria; A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM, ROMEO AND JULET, and most recently THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR.

She has also appeared in other theatre productions across the UK, including performances at Northern Stage, Bolton Octagon and the Tron Theatre, as well as working in various feature films, short films and voiceover projects.

She holds an Advanced BADC certification in Stage Combat, plays drums and guitar and is learning BSL.

Sarah is very excited to begin her first Wizard Theatre adventure, as the Boy in this year's Christmas production of THE RELUCTANT DRAGON.

Joanna Nevin



Joanna trained at Drama Centre, London on the MA in Classical Acting course. Her theatre experience has included lots of Shakespeare (including Lady Macbeth at the Ashcroft Theatre and summer tours as Beatrice in MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING and Katharina in THE TAMING OF THE SHREW). Other recent

theatre credits include Lily Byrne in the musical A MAN OF NO IMPORTANCE at the Arts Theatre, Ruth in ABOUT 500 at The King's Head and Joy in Jez Butterworth's PARLOUR SONG, nominated for Best Revival in the 2025 London Pub Theatre Awards.

Joanna also loves to sing and play jazz. She is passionate about exploring classic texts with young people - and has worked as an Education Practitioner leading workshops for Shakespeare's Globe and directed school productions of ANTIGONE, THE BACCHAE and MEDEA.

Joanna joins Wizard playing Saint George, Mum and a host of other characters!

Magnus Gordon



Magnus is a South-West based actor with Scottish heritage. He trained at The Oxford School of Drama and has worked on stage and on screen. This has included numerous seasons of outdoor touring theatre in shows including AWFUL AUNTIE, SENSE AND SENSIBILITY and most recently THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR for the renowned open-air theatre company Illyria with fellow acting Wizard Sarah Coyne and directing Wizard Oliver Gray.

Other theatre and fringe performances include NUMBER 13 at the Arena Theatre, HORNE'S DESCENT at Old Red Lion and SMALL at Soho Theatre. He has shot several short films for the London Film School including LO SGUARDO and has featured in the films THE CRITIC and 1 IN 200. He also featured in the Channel 4 drama documentary BISMARCK: 24 HOURS TO DOOM.

This is Magnus's first tour with Wizard and he is excited to be working with his fellow Wizards to bring THE RELUCTANT DRAGON to life!

Panto performance by the Wizard Theatre, called 'The Reluctant Dragon' - **Wednesday 12th November in the afternoon**

Book Charity Autumn 2025

We have been gifted amazing new books from The Children's Book Charity in Kensington. Each child from Nursery to Year 6 will take home 2 books next week to read and share with you!

Please enjoy and these are a wonderful way to encourage reading for pleasure at home and finding out new facts or enjoying a fantasy, scientific or history book!



Diary Dates

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.

Monday 3rd November to Friday 19th December 2025.	
November 2025	
Monday 3 rd November	Staff INSET Day – school closed for children
Tuesday 4 th November	Back to school after half term
Monday 10 th November – Friday 17 th November	Anti-bullying Week
Monday 10 th November	Odd Socks Day
Tuesday 11 th November	Armistice/Remembrance Day
Wednesday 12 th November	'The Reluctant Dragon' Panto by the Wizard Theatre
Thursday 13 th November	Year 4 Class Assembly
Thursday 20 th November	Year 2 Class Assembly
Monday 24 th November - Friday 28 th November	UK Parliament Week - visits to Parliament Year 6
Tuesday 25 th November	Year 6 – visit to the Parliament
Thursday 4 th December	Whole School Advent Mass in church 9.30am
Friday 5 th December	Christmas Fair
Saturday 6th December and Sunday 7th December	Our Lady Holy Souls Church Bazaar 6 / 7th December and
Wednesday 10 th December	EYFS Christmas Play 2.00pm
Thursday 11 th December	School Jumper Day (£1 donation) School Christmas Lunch
Friday 12 th December	KS1 Christmas Play 2.00pm
Tuesday 16 th December	KS2 Christmas Carol Concert 2.15pm in church
Christmas Holidays: Monday 22nd December to Friday 2nd January	

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**

PE KIT



A message regarding Attendance and Punctuality from Ms Hampton

Dear Parents/Carers,

Re: Attendance & Punctuality

***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.

Whole School Uniform

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 feedback, 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.



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 91.00%**. 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 & Key Stage 1

This week Early Years have been learning about some of the history behind bonfire night, ways to stay safe and enjoy the celebrations.

EARLY YEARS

In class we have made some bread stick sparklers for the children to enjoy.



Year 2 have been learning all about the Sacrament of Baptism, in class we role played a Baptism ceremony.

Year 2

The children discussed the different symbols and their meanings.



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.

Aktivita 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 07th November 2025**

Star of the Term:

Reception - Gio

Y2- Kai

Y3 - Kadie and Major

Y4 - Whole Class

Y5 - Deborah

Y6 - Amy

Star Reader:

Y2 - Jack

Y3 - John & Zoe

Y4 - Mariam

Y5 - Caleb

Y6 - Yael

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

Catholic Primary School

Catholic Primary School

 **St Mary's**
Catholic Primary School

 **St Mary's**
Catholic Primary School

 **St Mary's**
Catholic Primary School

 **St Mary's**
Catholic Primary School

 **St Mary's**
Catholic Primary School

 **St Mary's**
Catholic Primary School

 **St Mary's**
Catholic Primary School

 **St Mary's**
Catholic Primary School

 **St Mary's**
Catholic Primary School

 **St Mary's**
Catholic Primary School

 **St Mary's**
Catholic Primary School

 **St Mary's**
Catholic Primary School

 **St Mary's**
Catholic Primary School

 **St Mary's**
Catholic Primary School

 **St Mary's**

 **St Mary's**