



St Mary's
Catholic Primary School





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Newsletter - Friday 12th December 2025

Message to parents from Mr Larke

Dear Parent/Carers.

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Welcome to issue 15 of our Newsletter.

As we approach the end of a very busy and successful term, we immerse ourselves in the Advent/Christmas season and embrace all that it has to offer. We are very proud of what we have achieved together as a community: staff, pupils, parents/carers and governors.



We continue to work incredibly hard to ensure all pupils are supported to achieve their academic potential whilst being provided with opportunities to demonstrate their faith and school values in action by serving others. That is why it has been wonderful to see our children play an active role in all aspects of school life this term. Pupils have taken part in liturgies, acts of worship, fundraising and charity events, school trips, school concerts, and community and social activities.

It has also been a joy to welcome so many parents, carers, and visitors to our schools, especially in recent weeks during the Season of Advent. This week, some of our scheduled nativity plays have taken place in both schools and all children performed beautifully and with reverence. We would like to extend our congratulations and sincere thanks to both the children and staff for their tremendous hard work and we look forward to seeing the remaining performances and Carol Services next week. We must also congratulate the children from St Charles and St Mary's who took part in this week's Tri-borough Christmas festival at the Kensington Town Hall. They sang beautifully and were proud representatives of their schools. We would also like to thank Ms Alena,

Mrs Sebuyira and Miss Crealey for preparing the children so well so that they could perform at the highest level.

Well done everyone!

Wishing you a joyful and peaceful weekend,

Best Wishes,

The Senior Leadership Team

Catholic Life and Mission of the school

The Holy season of Advent

-We are reaching the end of the second week of the Holy Season of Advent.

This coming Sunday will be the 3rd Sunday of Advent. In addition to the two purple candles on the Advent wreath we will light the pink candle, which symbolises Joy.



Within the **Catholic Social Teaching**, we are looking in depth and learning about one of the principles: **Dignity of the human person**. This is in conjunction with looking more in depth at the School Value of **Respect** this half term.

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

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Tri-Borough music even at Kensington Town Hall

Year 5 children participated in a tri-borough music event with other schools on Tuesday at Kensington Town Hall. It was a whole day event where they sang a medley of songs and used sign language and actions to accompany their singing.

All children thoroughly enjoyed the rehearsals, met other children across the borough and represented St Mary's with maturity, sharing



the enjoyment of Christmas with us all! Big thankyou to Ms Elena for preparing the children beautifully and enthusiastically. What an experience to remember!

Christmas Fair

A huge thank you to everyone who joined us for this year's Christmas Fair - it was a fantastic evening of festive fun! We're delighted to share that we raised an amazing £1,465.93.

We are so grateful to everyone who attended, and an extra-special thank you to all those who volunteered their time and energy to help make the fair such a great success (**especially our PTA**). Well done, everyone!







Love2bounce and gorrysgreatcakes

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Special thank you to our wonderful Filipino families for providing such delicious food, to **love2bounce** for the generous donation of the bouncy castle, and to **gorrysgreatcakes** for their brilliant raffle donations.







Event dates leading up to Christmas.

Christmas Dates:

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Christmas Plays and Concerts: Christmas Plays and Concerts: Tuesday 16th December 2.00pm: **KS2 Christmas Concert in church** Wednesday 17th December 2.15pm: **KS1 Christmas Play**



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

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We look forward to receiving your Nursery application.

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



Half term holiday: Monday 27 th October to Friday 31 st October.			
December 2025			
Tuesday 16th December	KS2 Christmas Carol Concert 2.15pm in church		
Wednesday 17 th December	KS1 Christmas Play 2.00pm		
(changed date)			
Christmas Holidays: Monday 22 nd December to Friday 2 nd January			

New diary dates will be provided weekly

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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

<u>PE KIT</u>







Whole School Uniform







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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		

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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

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-Key Stage 2

Year 3 have been working hard in English, planning their own trick based on the story of The Twits by Roald Dahl. We can't wait to see the results.







Our current Science unit is "Animals, including humans". Over the last two weeks we have been studying teeth. We set up a practical enquiry to answer the question: "Which drink causes the most teeth decay?" The children had to think about how we could use eggs to represent teeth and how we could create a test to work out which dr

Year 4

represent teeth and how we could create a test to work out which drink causes the most decay.

They had to consider what drinks would be suitable for the test, what variables there were in the test and so which ones we had to keep constant and which one we had to vary. After waiting 5 days, the children then recorded their observations on the changes to the eggs and how this could help us answer our question.



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All children thoroughly enjoyed the rehearsals, met other children across the borough and represented St Mary's with maturity, sharing the enjoyment of Christmas with us all! Big thankyou to Ms Elena for preparing the children beautifully and enthusiastically. What an experience to remember!



This week, the class have been rehearsing for the Christmas Carol Service and perfecting their respective roles.



We enjoyed a lovely Christmas lunch together as a class and expressed our festive spirit on Christmas jumper day. Everyone in the year 6 community wishes you a wonderful holiday season





Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club runs from 8am and will cost <u>£4</u> 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.!

<u>This provision is only available to children from Reception to Year 6.</u>
<u>www.schoolgateway.com</u>

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 regrading 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 11th December 2025**

Star of the Term:

Nursery - Whole Class

Reception - Whole Class

- Y1 Whole Class
- Y2- Whole Class
- Y3 Harry
- Y4 Harry
- Y5 Whole Class
- Y6 Adrien

Star Reader:

- Y1 Whole Class
- Y2 Aniyah
- Y3 Azahyre
- Y4 Grae

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- Y5- Deborah
- Y6 Ana-Clara

Term Dates 2025-2026

FACEBOOK

INSTAGRAM

TWITTER

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