



# St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter - Friday 13th February 2026

## Message to parents from Ms Trusting

Dear Parent/Carers,

Welcome to issue 22 of our Newsletter.

I hope you have had a good week.

Thank you to all parents who signed up and attended Parent Consultation Meetings this week. These meetings are very important as they provide an opportunity to discuss your child's progress with their class teacher, celebrate successes and consider next steps. If you were not able to attend the Parent Meeting this week, please contact your child's Class Teacher to make an appointment.



Last week Ms Hampton wrote to you all about the importance of Attendance for your child's education.

**Attendance** at school is key. It is important that your child attends school regularly and is on time.

However, an important part of attendance in school is **punctuality**.

Punctuality plays a vital role in the smooth running of our primary school and in the success of every child. Arriving on time ensures that learners begin the day calmly, participate in morning routines, and receive important instructions that set the tone for learning.

When children are regularly late, they might miss key explanations, class discussions, and foundational lessons that are difficult to repeat, which can negatively affect their academic progress and confidence.

Lateness can also disrupt the class, interrupt teaching time, and distract other learners.

**By encouraging punctuality, we help our children develop responsibility, respect for others, and positive habits that will benefit them throughout their education and future lives.**

Monitoring and Supporting Pupil Attendance

Therefore, **attendance and punctuality** at school is vitally important for learning.

Please, do read our school's Attendance and Punctuality Policy, which was sent out to everyone this week. This will give you information on the Attendance and Punctuality Policy and procedures.

Thank you parents for your support with this.

## **Y2 Class Assembly**

On Thursday Year 2 pupils presented their learning in History in their wonderful assembly.

They children spoke confidently, worked together very well and sang beautifully. The assembly they presented was of the very high standards. Well done and congratulations everyone in Year 2! And a huge Thank you to our wonderful Y2 Teaching Team for teaching children and guiding them in presenting their learning so well.

I hope you all have a relaxing fun half term week!

**Mrs Tusting**

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

We are starting a number of new projects with our pupil groups, based on the Catholic Social Teaching principles and our school Values.

Please, look out for more news in the near future.



## **20 Acts of Kindness Challenge**

Our School Council, led by Ms Cummings, has started a new project this week called 20 Acts of Kindness Challenge.



They went around the classes and introduced the challenges explaining and encouraging all pupils to take part. Thank you our School Councillors! We are proud of you!

Our School Value for this half term is **Kindness** and the matching Catholic Social Teaching Principle is **Option for the Poor**. It is a core principle emphasizing a **preferential love and commitment to the needs of the poor and vulnerable**, seeing their plight as a challenge to the entire community, not just an individual problem, and calling for systemic change, empowerment, and justice, inspired by Jesus' own focus on the marginalized.

It involves actively taking up the cause of the poor, advocating for them, sharing resources, and working for economic systems and societal structures that respect human dignity and ensure everyone's basic needs are met, making them central to moral action.

## **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.



#WakeUpWednesday

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As shared in the previous Newsletters, part of our commitment to online safety, we are subscribing to *Wake Up Wednesday*.

**This week: Continued from last week: Tips on boundaries around gaming; game controls**



Please click on the link below to read the #WakeUpWednesday guide on setting boundaries around gaming and game controls.

#### New Parental Control Videos

Internet Matters have uploaded 3 new short videos onto YouTube, each focussing on parental controls for YouTube, Roblox and TikTok, the links are:

- [YouTube parental controls top features.](#)
- [The top 3 parental controls to use on Roblox.](#)
- [The top 3 parental controls to use on TikTok.](#)

For more information on how to keep your child safe online, please click on the link to our website page.

[Click here](#)

Google Family Link

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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## **The National Year of Reading 2026!**

We are excited to support the Department for Education's National Year of Reading 2026 and its [Go All In campaign](#). This initiative encourages children to "read into" the things they already love—whether that is football, music, or gaming—to rediscover the joy of books. Reading for pleasure is the "master key" to your child's success, improving vocabulary, wellbeing, and performance across all subjects. We invite you to "go all in" with us by sharing a story for just 10 minutes a day, helping to build a lifelong habit that unlocks their full potential.

- **Discover Passions:** Use reading to dive deeper into your child's existing hobbies.
- **Boost Skills:** Children who read for pleasure often perform better in all school subjects.
- **Daily Habit:** Just 10 minutes of shared reading can dramatically improve a child's confidence.

Find out more about the campaign at the following link: <https://goallin.org.uk/get-involved/families/>

The Children's Literacy Trust has created 'Reading Missions' for our EYFS and KS1 children. Why not have a look at completing some of these missions with your child this half term? The first mission is attached.

Use the Words for Life portal for age-specific milestones and fun literacy games.  
<https://literacytrust.org.uk/parents-and-families/>

Access the link below for the "BooksForTopics" 100 Modern Books list, curated specifically for the 2026 campaign.

<https://www.booksfortopics.com/reading-for-pleasure/national-year-of-reading-2026/>

**Day 1:** Read or watch the book 'Look Up!' Sit with an adult and **tell** them the story in your own words.



**Day 2:** Learn about meteor showers. **Think** of as many words as you can describe a meteor shower. **Write** one in a sentence.



**Day 3:** Think of a word to **describe** how Rocket feels on each page of the book. **Draw** a picture to go with each emotion.



**Day 4:** Look at the picture of Rocket's bedroom. **Make a list** of all the things in the room that are to do with space.



**Day 5:** Design a flyer to invite people to the meteor shower.



**Day 6:** Read about Mae Jemison. Write down **five facts** that you find out.



## Reading challenge

As a part of our Year of Reading our PTA have organised a school sponsored read on the 4th March in classrooms. We would like children to take home a sponsor form and ask family or friends to help to sponsor them.

Our aim is for each child to raise £20.26 by reading for 26 minutes. Children can ask sponsors over the half term holidays and we will collect the money raised after the challenge. Thankyou for all your support.



## Scholastic Travelling Book Fair

After half term from **Monday 23rd February until Friday 27th February 2026** we have the Scholastic Travelling Book Fair at our school.

You can purchase books in the school hall after school from **3.30pm – 4.10pm**.

We will be accepting cash for payment or we will have QR codes that you can scan with your phone to make a payment online.

Money raised from these book fairs go back into our school to support your child so this is a wonderful time to purchase books for gifts and encourage the love of reading!



# COME TO OUR BOOK FAIR

and earn  
**FREE BOOKS**  
for our school!



## Diary Dates

<b>February 2026</b>	
<b>Monday 16<sup>th</sup> Feb – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> Feb Half Term</b>	
W/c 23 <sup>rd</sup> February	Scholastic Book Fair (date tbc)
<b>March 2026</b>	
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>World Book Day</b>
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>Whole school Lenten Mass in church 9.30am</b>
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Y5 Class Assembly</b>
W/c 23 <sup>rd</sup> March	<b>Shakespeare Week</b>
<b>Easter Holidays Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March to Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April</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.

## 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.

Unfortunately, we had to change the PE days and swap two year groups: Year 3 and Year 6. Please, find below the final PE days:

Mondays – **Year 3 and Year 5**

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

## PE KIT

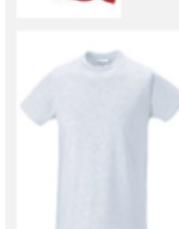


## Whole School Uniform

Nursery Uniform



Whole School Uniform



## 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. 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

## Look what we have been doing - Early Years & Keystage 1

Early Years have been looking at ourselves this week and reflecting on our friendships for mental health week.

## EARLY YEARS

We have been learning how important it is to have friends who are kind and help us to be happy. We have made a new display in our classroom to welcome everyone to Early Years



Last week we were very lucky to welcome Father Damien into our classroom as we celebrated Candlemas together. We have been learning all about this special event, remembering when Jesus was presented at the Temple and Simeon recognised Him as the Light of the World.

## Year 1

Father Damien helped us understand that Jesus is like a little nightlight – always shining for us, even in the darkness. We talked about how we can follow His example and be lights in the world too, showing kindness, love and care in our everyday actions.

It was a very special time of reflection and celebration for us all.



Year 2 had their class assembly this week which was all about our recent History topic 'Significant Queens'. The children spoke clearly and loved acting out what we have learnt in class.

## Year 2

A huge thank you to parents and carers in supporting your child with their lines.



# 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 3-3.15 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 Kenil Road, followed by a bridge 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](#)

**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 afterschool 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 families' employment status.

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

**TERM TIME**

**WHAT'S ON FOR JUNIORS**

**WHAT WE OFFER**

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

**HOLIDAYS**

**SPRING TERM**

**SUMMER TERM**

**AUTUMN TERM**

**SCHOOL HOLIDAYS** (Ages 8-11)

## 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](mailto: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](http://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 13th February 2026**

### Star of the Term:

Nursery - Noah

Reception - George

Y1 - Valentin

Y2 - Whole Class

Y3 - Zoe

Y4 - Holly

Y5 - Nevaeh

Y6 - Kessiah

### Star Reader:

Y1 - Cecilia

Y2 - Jack

Y3 - Major

Y4 - Rhenn

Y5 - Alessia

Y6 - Jeorgina



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# Term Dates 2025-2026

## Term Dates 2025-2026

### **Spring Term - 2026**

#### **First Half Term**

Staff Training – Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January – INSET Day

First Day of School – Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January

Last Day of School – Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February

**Half Term** – Monday 16<sup>th</sup> – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February

#### **Second Half Term**

First Day of School – Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February

Last Day of School – Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March – **School closes at 1.30pm**

**Easter Holiday** – Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March – Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April

### **Summer Term – 2026**

#### **First Half Term**

First Day of School – Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April

**Bank Holiday** – Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May

Last Day of School – Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May

**Half Term** – Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May

#### **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)

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

Location: [East Row, London W10 5AW, UK](https://www.google.com/maps/place/100+East+Row,+London+W10+5AW,+UK)

Phone: 020 8969 0321



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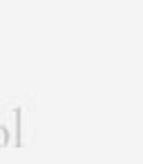
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