



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

Newsletter - Friday 17th October 2025

Message to parents from Mrs Tusting

Dear Parent/Carers,

Welcome to issue 06 of our Newsletter.

Children have been working really well across all areas of curriculum this week and it is great to see it reflected in their books.



You will have a chance to discuss your child's learning and the progress they have been making in out Parent Consultation Meetings that are taking place next week on **Tuesday 21st and Wednesday 22nd October between 3.45pm and 6.30pm.**

As you are aware from our communication, we encountered technical issues with the new MIS system and we are using signing sheets for you to book your slots. Teachers have been speaking to parents at the gates at home time and signing them up for the meeting slots. If you have not been able to sign up at the gate, please call the office and Ms Herman will offer you a slot.

Several educational trips have already taken place in the last few weeks and there are more to come.

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. Thank you also to those parents who were able to give their time and accompany their child's class on the trip. We appreciate all your support.

We had a fantastic Year 6 Class Assembly this week on the topic of Caring for our Common Home, with special focus on St Francis. The children presented the message about the importance of looking after the world and all God's creatures through drama, narrating, thoughtful questions and a beautiful traditional hymn. It was lovely to see the year 6 pupils working together in harmony and respect, showing confidence and joy in sharing their learning with the audience. Thank you Year 6 pupils and Team and very well done!

Pupil Voice at St Mary's

As part of Pupil Voice at our school every year we select School Council, Prefects, Head Boy, Head Girl and their deputies as well as House Captains.

Children have to apply for these positions and a lot of factors are taken into consideration for these important roles as they carry a lot of responsibility. Behaviour, positive attitudes towards all areas of the school life, living our School Values as well as excellent attendance and punctuality are considered before appointing pupils.

We are delighted to announce the following:

Head Girl: Zamarah

Deputy Head Girl: Yael

Head Boy: Nicholas

Deputy Head Boy: Carlos

Prefects:

Layla, Gideon, Amarah, Jericho, Eden and Zayan

School Council:

Year 3: Mia and Asher

Year 4: Vanna and Savannah

Year 5: Nathaniel and Sofia

Year 6: Nicholas and Zamarah

House Captains Year 5:

Cali, Franzen, Olivia Q, and Caleb

Deputy House Captains Year 5:

Poppy, Nathaniel, Alby and Elly

Congratulations, everyone! I hope all our families have a restful weekend

With best wishes

Magdalena Tusting

Head of School



Parents Evening

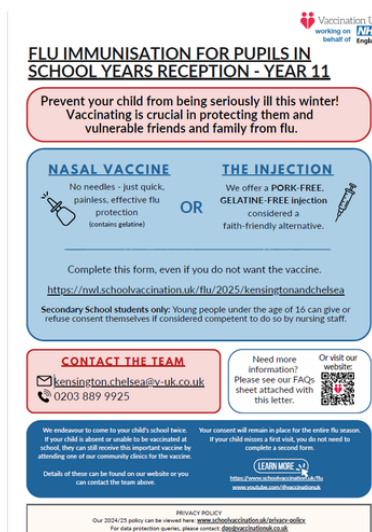


Parents Evening - Tuesday 21st October and Wednesday 22nd October -
Between 3.45pm and 6.30pm

Flu Immunisation sessions - Tuesday 2nd December.

If you have not yet done so, please visit the office to collect and complete the consent form indicating whether or not you give permission for your child to receive the **nasal flu vaccine**.

Your prompt response is appreciated to help us ensure all records are up to date.



FLU IMMUNISATION FOR PUPILS IN SCHOOL YEARS RECEPTION - YEAR 11

Prevent your child from being seriously ill this winter!
Vaccinating is crucial in protecting them and vulnerable friends and family from flu.

NASAL VACCINE	OR	THE INJECTION
No needles - just quick, painless, effective flu protection (contains gelatine)		We offer a PORK-FREE, GELATINE-FREE injection considered a faith-friendly alternative.

Complete this form, even if you do not want the vaccine.
<https://nwl.schoolvaccination.uk/flu/2025/kensingtonandchelsea>

Secondary School students only: Young people under the age of 16 can give or refuse consent themselves if considered competent to do so by nursing staff.

CONTACT THE TEAM
✉ kensington.chelsea@nwl.co.uk
☎ 0203 889 9925

Need more information? Please see our FAQs sheet attached with this letter.

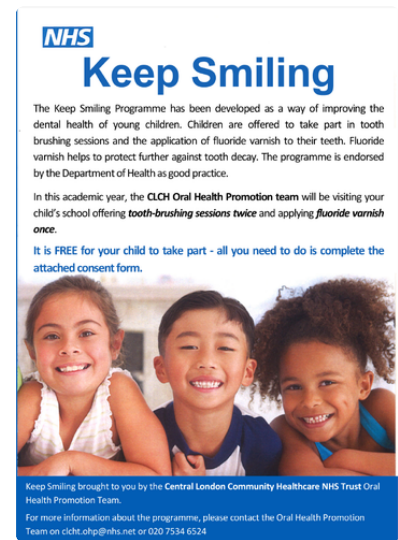
Or visit our website: nwl.schoolvaccination.uk

LEARN MORE
www.nhs.uk/flu

PRIVACY POLICY
Our 2024/25 policy can be viewed here: nwl.schoolvaccination.uk/privacy-policy
For data protection queries, please contact: info@nwl.schoolvaccination.uk

Tooth Brushing Programme - Tuesday 21st October 2025

Tooth Brushing Programme for Early Years and Year 1, please complete the consent form and return to the school office before Tuesday 21st October.



Catholic Life and Mission of the school

Our School Value for this half term is **Responsibility** and the matching Catholic Social Teaching Principle is Stewardship – **Caring for our Common Home.**

We will be exploring thinking about how each and every one of us can show responsibility in caring for and protecting our planet.



This Sunday is the 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time The Gospel Reading is from the Gospel of St Luke 18:1-8

The parable of the unjust judge



Jesus told his disciples a parable about the need to pray continually and never lose heart. 'There was a judge in a certain town' he said 'who had neither fear of God nor respect for man. In the same town there was a widow who kept on coming to him and saying, "I want justice from you against my enemy!" For a long time he refused, but at last he said to himself, "Maybe I have neither fear of God nor respect for man, but since she keeps pestering me I must give this widow her just rights, or she will persist in coming and worry me to death.'"

And the Lord said 'You notice what the unjust judge has to say? Now will not God see justice done to his chosen who cry to him day and night even when he delays to help them? I promise you, he will see justice done to them, and done speedily. But when the Son of Man comes, will he find any faith on earth?'

October is the Month of the Holy Rosary.

This month of October, **Pope Leo XIV** invites the faithful to pray the Rosary daily for **peace in our world** and to be faithful instruments of reconciliation in their daily lives.



In October we also celebrate the feasts of some of the most popular saints of the universal Church: **St. Therese the Little Flower** (France), **St. Francis of Assisi** (Italy) and **St. Teresa of Avila** (Spain).

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!



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**

Monday 3rd November is **Staff Training Day** and the **school will be closed** to children.

Schools resumes on **Tuesday 4th November**.

A message regarding Attendance and Punctuality from Ms Hampton

Dear Parents/Carers,

**Attendance
&
Punctuality**

Re: 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 circumstance 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 feed back, 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 90.00%**. 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

Early Years have been super busy this week, opening our doors to local families to come and visit the provision for new nursery and reception classes next year.

EARLY YEARS

Nursery have been equally busy exploring mark making opportunities and displaying their wonderful creations.

Reception have been learning about the famous artist Kandinsky and have even independently recreated his famous painting.



Last week, Year 1 went on a trip to Kensington Palace; to learn about the different types of toys, Queen Victoria use to play with.

Year 1

Year 1 also ended the Little Red Hen story, by baking some bread of their own and eating it. We then started a new story called Little Red Riding Hood, and in groups we acted out the story.

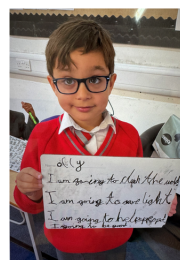
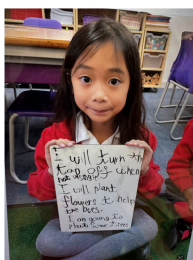


This week Year 2 have been learning about ways to care for our Earth!

Year 2

They have watched videos and had discussions about how we all can make a difference with little steps to care for our community and school and home.

Here is some of our work to share! Who knows, we might see some very important decision makers one day from Year 2 at St Mary's.



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

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: 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 17th October 2025**

Star of the Term:

Reception - Wofie

Y1 - Lillie-Mae

Y2 - George

Y3 - Isla

Y4 - Noah

Y5 - Makda

Y6 - Yael

Star Reader:

Y1 - Isadora

Y2 - Mai-mariam

Y3 - Victor

Y4 - Vanna

Y5 - Kian

Y6 - Kessiah

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



Charles Mary

Charles is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters