



# St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter - Friday 20th March 2026

## Message to parents from Mrs Tusting

Dear Parent/Carers,

Welcome to issue 26 of our Newsletter.

This week in school, it has been a joy to see our children so engaged in their learning and in their friendships. Across the school, classrooms have been full of curiosity, creativity and kindness, reflecting the values we hold at the heart of our Catholic community.



As we continue our journey through Lent, we are reminded that this is a special time to pause, reflect and grow closer to God. Through small acts of kindness, prayer and self-discipline, we are encouraging our children to live out our faith each day. As we are called to **“walk in love”** and **care for one another**, we see this beautifully in the way our children support their friends and show compassion.

As we continue our journey through this term, we are placing a renewed focus on **attendance and punctuality**. Being in school every day, and arriving on time, makes a significant difference not only to children’s learning, but also to their sense of belonging and the friendships they build. Each morning is an important start to the day, and missing even small amounts of learning can quickly add up.

We know that strong habits are built together, and we are committed to working in partnership with families to support this. Thank you to those who are already ensuring their children attend regularly and punctually – it truly makes a difference.

Let us continue to work together to ensure every child has the very best opportunity to flourish, both academically and socially, within our caring and faith-filled community.

## Home - School Communication

As you know for our recent communication, we now have a text messaging service available and it is now being used to further strengthen our communication with families.

Please, kindly follow instructions sent to you last week. If you experience any problems, please contact the school office.

Best Wishes,

Mrs Tusting

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## Cases of invasive meningitis in Kent

Please find attached information regarding cases of invasive meningitis that have occurred in Kent.



Sent on behalf of Elizabeth Dunsford re- Meningitis.docx

Download

14.2 KB

## Catholic Life and Mission of the school

### 5th Sunday of Advent Gospel by John 11:1-45

At that time: A certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha.

Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus.

The disciples said to him, 'Rabbi, the Jews were just now seeking to stone you, and are you going there again?' Jesus answered, ...

'Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I go to awaken him.' The disciples said to him, 'Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover.'

Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days....

Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. Jesus said, 'Take away the stone.' Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, 'Lord, by this time there will be a smell, for he has been dead four days.'

Jesus said to her, 'Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone.

And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, 'Father, I thank you that you have heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me.'

When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out.' The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth.



Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, and let him go.'

Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what he did, believed in him.

## The Gospel of the Lord

Our School Value for this half term is **Honesty** and the matching Catholic Social Teaching Principle is **Participation (Rights and Responsibilities)**.



The Catholic social teaching principle of Participation (Rights and Responsibilities) for children emphasizes that all individuals, regardless of age, have a right to contribute to their communities and a responsibility to promote the Common Good. Children are encouraged to be active, caring members of society by practicing solidarity, treating others with dignity, and helping the vulnerable.

Key aspects of Participation (Rights and Responsibilities) for children include:

**Active Engagement:** Children are called to participate in their community and take responsibility for its well-being.

**Rights & Responsibilities:** Human dignity requires that rights (such as education and care) are protected while corresponding duties (such as treating others with respect) are fulfilled.

**Practical Application:** Our school engage with programmes and activities using organisations like CAFOD, Mission Together and Catholic Children's Society, where children learn through, for example, supporting local foodbanks (we did this in the Autumn Term) and fundraise for those less fortunate than us in our local area (Lent almsgiving)

**Common Good:** Children learn that their actions, even small ones, contribute to a more just and peaceful world.

Cases of invasive meningitis in Kent

Please find attached information regarding cases of invasive meningitis that have occurred in Kent.

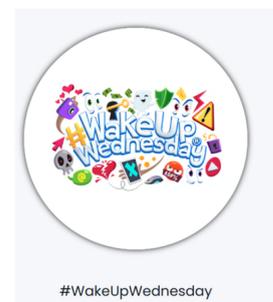
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## Safeguarding Information

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.

Online Safety Tips For Families



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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: What parents and staff need to know about Streaming Services



Please click on the link below to read this #WakeupWednesday guide on what parents and staff need to know about Streaming Services:

[Click here](#)

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

[Click here](#)

### 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.](#)

### 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.

### **Gentle reminder of the parents Coffee Morning: Thursday 26th March at 9.30am**

*Parents Coffee Morning*

*On Thursday 26th March, we will be holding a coffee morning at St Mary's Catholic Primary School*



### **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.

W/c 23 <sup>rd</sup> March	<b>Shakespeare Week</b>
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>Y6 trip to the Natural History Museum</b>
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>Bikeability Y4</b>
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>Bikeability Y4</b>
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 trip to the Cinema - Dogman</b>
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>PTA Egg Hunt</b>
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March 9.05am	<b>Star of the Term Assembly</b>
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>School closes at 1.30pm</b>
<b>Easter Holidays Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March to Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April</b>	

### **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 bellow the final PE days:

Mondays – **Year 3 and Year 5**

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

## PE KIT



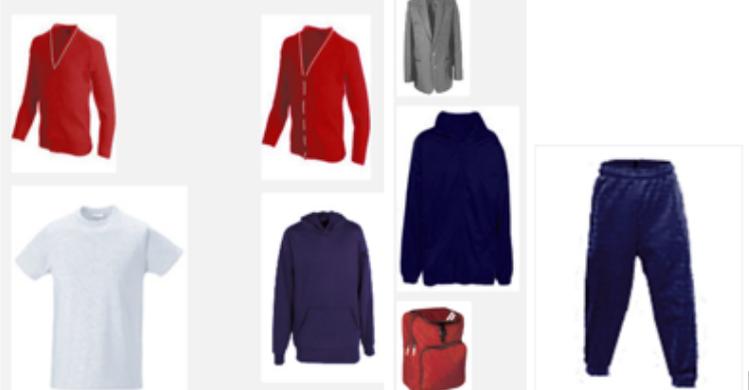
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### Whole School Uniform

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. Courtele
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



Star of the Week

**Star of the Term:**

**Reception - Matilda**

**Y1 - Lillie-Mae**

**Y2 - Mai-Mariam**

**Y3 - Lola**

**Y4 - Rakeb**

**Y5 - Julia**

**Y6 - N/A**

**Star Reader:**

**Y1 - Khailil**

**Y2 - George**

**Y3 - Asher**

**Y4 - Holly**

**Y5 - Deborah**

**Y6 - N/A**

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

Early Years had had an amazing fortnight with book week and growing our own magic beans we have all had a lot of fun and imaginative play.

### Early Years

We have also be learning about Lent and Easter and what we can do to prepare for Holy week. The children are able to recall main events of Lent and can share this with their peers. Please do ask them all about their learning this week.



Last Thursday, our Year One classroom transformed into a mini Toy Museum to support our history topic, *“What Can Toys Tell Us About the Past?”* Each child brought in their favourite toy, and we shared stories about what they are and why we love them.

### Year 1

We sorted and categorised our toys and even linked our science learning by describing the everyday materials they're made from. It was a fun, hands-on way to explore history and science

together!



The children in Year 2 had their Science lesson with our lovely school gardener Miss Hamida.

## Year 2

They were looking at how plants grow from bulbs and made observational drawings in the sunshine!



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# 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.

The banner is divided into three main sections. The left section, titled 'ROUTE DETAILS', describes a walking bus journey starting at St Mary's Primary School at 3:15 PM, passing through East Row, a park on Harrow Road, and crossing a bridge to Harrow Road. The middle section, 'A WALKING BUS SERVICE', features a photo of a walking bus and text explaining its purpose to provide a safe, supervised service for children, addressing financial barriers and incorporating road safety education. The right section, 'WHAT WE OFFER', includes a 'TERM TIME' table for 'WHAT'S ON FOR JUNIORS' and a 'HOLIDAYS' section with details for Spring, Summer, and Autumn terms, as well as school holidays. The bottom right corner features the 'THE AVENUES YOUTH PROJECT' logo.

TERM	TIME	AGE	DAY	TIME	DAY
SPRING TERM	15:30 - 18:00	5-11	MON	15:30 - 18:00	WED
SUMMER TERM	15:30 - 18:00	5-11	MON	15:30 - 18:00	WED
AUTUMN TERM	15:30 - 18:00	5-11	MON	15:30 - 18:00	WED

## Akvtia 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.

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## Term Dates 2025- 2026

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### Spring Term - 2026

#### **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/>

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Phone: 020 8969 0321

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**Charles Mary**

Charles is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters