



St Mary's
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Newsletter - Friday 21st November 2025

Message to parents from Mrs Tusting

Dear Parent/Carers,

Welcome to issue 12 of our Newsletter.



The weather has turned really cold, however this has not stopped our pupils from learning and gaining new knowledge! The children have been working very hard on their learning. This was a very busy week for everyone!

Year 2 Class Assembly

Yesterday **Y2 children** presented their **Class Assembly** to the rest of the school and their families. The assembly was on the **theme of Baptism**. We were all amazed at how well the children presented their learning on Baptism. All children knew their lines; they spoke loudly and confidently. They used drama and music to enrich their presentation. Y2 Class sang three beautiful hymns and they touched many the people in the audience! We would like to congratulate and thank every child in Y2. We also want to say a huge Thank You to the wonderful Y2 Team: Ms Sweet, Ms Marta, Ms Roberts, and of course our wonderful Music Teacher, Ms Alena.

Food Bank MUFTY Day

As you know, as part of the school's charitable work, we had a MUFTY Day today. This was to aid our food collection that will then be donated to the local Food Bank to help people in our communities who are less fortunate than we are.

You can still donate any items, no matter how small, of dry or tinned food for the next two weeks. Every little helps and together we can make a difference. Please, just pop any items into the boxes

in the main office area.

The donations have already started coming in and we are very grateful and want to say Thank You to everyone who already contributed to this worthwhile cause.

Hope you all have a lovely, restful weekend

Mrs Tusting

Catholic Life and Mission of the school

Feast of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Today, on 21st November is the Feast of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary is a Christian feast celebrated every year on 21st November. This should not be confused with the feast of the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple celebrated on 2nd February.



Tradition teaches us that Anne and Joachim, Mary's parents, presented her in the temple at the age of three to consecrate her to God.

This episode from Mary's life can be found in the "apocryphal Gospel of St. James," most accurately known as the **Protevangelium of James** or Gospel of James, which is a 2nd-century text that details the life of Mary, the mother of Jesus, and events before the Nativity. Although never canonized as a gospel, it was highly influential, shaping traditions about Mary's birth and perpetual virginity, and it is the earliest surviving text to present these details.

The spiritual message that we can take from this feast is that Mary's heart was always wholly dedicated to God.

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!

1st Prize £200

2nd Prize £100

3rd Prize £50

Plus, many more lovely prizes

Tickets are £1 each or £10 for a Book of 10 tickets.

Winning Tickets will be drawn 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 Fr Christmas.

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:

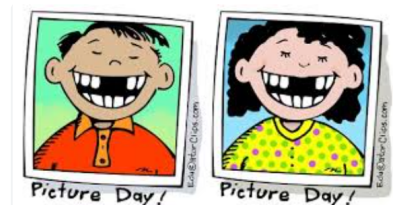


New dates for Baby and Toddler Group

Pupils Photographs - Thursday 27th November

Vancols-Baker Studio, the school photography company will be attending the school on **Thursday 27th November 2025**, to take individual photographs of all pupils.

There will be an opportunity for you to buy the photograph of your child/children, should you so desire, but there is no obligation to do so.



The photographers will also take photographs of sibling groups. We will assume that, where relevant, you are happy for sibling photographs to be taken unless you inform us otherwise.

Event dates leading up to Christmas.

Christmas Dates:

Thursday 4th December: **Advent Mass in church 9.30am**

Friday 5th December: **Christmas Fair, organised by PTA from 3.45pm**

Tuesday 9th December: **Y5 taking part in the RBKC Christmas Festival in Kensington Town Hall**

Thursday 11th December: **Christmas lunch and Christmas Jumper Day**



Christmas Plays and Concerts:

Wednesday 10th December 2.15pm: **EYFS Christmas Play**

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
-

We look forward to receiving your Nursery application.



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



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.

Half term holiday: Monday 27th October to Friday 31st October.	
November 2025	
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 27 th November	Individual and sibling photos at school
Friday 28 th November	PTA MUFTY Day Bring a bottle for Christmas Fair
Thursday 4 th December	Whole School Advent Mass in church 9.30am
Friday 5 th December	Christmas Fair from 3.45pm
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
Tuesday 16 th December	KS2 Christmas Carol Concert 2.15pm in church
Wednesday 17th December (changed date)	KS1 Christmas Play 2.00pm
Christmas Holidays: Monday 22nd December to Friday 2nd January	

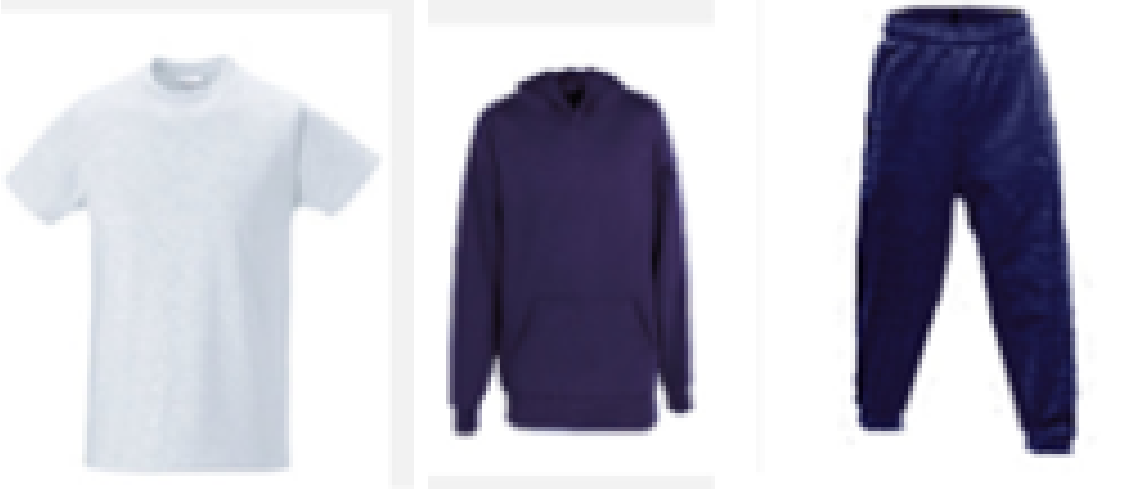
PE Days

PE Days:

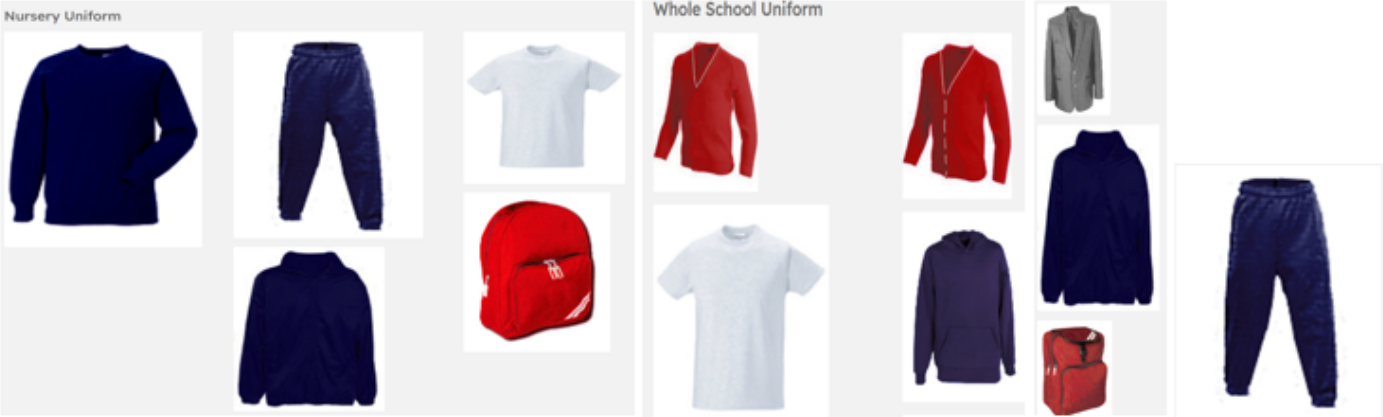
Please remember that children can come to school in their PE kits on PE days. Please refer to our guidance on school uniform and ensure your child has the correct PE kit. If for any reason they are not able to come in the correct kit, we require an email or phone call from home to explain the circumstances.

Wednesdays – EYFS, Year 1, Year 2, Year 5 and Year 6

PE KIT



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

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 **92.05%**. 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 and Key Stage 1

This week, Nursery and Reception have had some super fun learning together. We had a joint Spanish lesson, where children have been learning the names of some familiar animals and foods.

EARLY YEARS

To celebrate learning a new story 'Room on the broom' we all made fruit wands.



Last week in Year 1, we used Chromebooks to learn how to log in and how to navigate Sketchpad, to come up with our own unique drawings. In RE, we re-told and role played the Annunciation story, Where Angel Gabriel tells Mary that she is going to have a special baby.

Year 1

We also wrote down a promise that we are going to keep on a strip of paper, which was made into a paper chain. We did this because we learnt about God keeping his promise to send Jesus, so we wanted to keep our own promise.



Year 2 have worked hard all week in preparing for their class assembly. Yesterday they performed in front of the whole school and shared their learning on Baptism.

Year 2

The children spoke clearly and sang beautifully. They made their parents and teachers very proud, Well done Y2!



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.

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 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 21st November 2025**

Star of the Term:

Reception - Vanessa

Y1 - Ayda

Y2- whole Class

Y3 - Alana

Y4 - Mariam

Y5 - Cali

Y6 - Gideon

Star Reader:

Y1 - Giniayah

Y2 - N/A

Y3 - Mia

Y4 - Delilah

Y5- Alby

Y6 -Beza

Term Dates 2025- 2026

FACEBOOK

INSTAGRAM

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Charles Mary

Charles is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters