



# St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter - 22 November 2024

## Message to parents from the Executive Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

**EXECUTIVE HEADTEACHER**

Welcome to Issue 10 of our school Newsletter!

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are blessed that whenever we reach out to parents for support, we know that there will be a positive response. This was demonstrated at the recent Winter Ball that took place at both St Mary's and St Charles. I would like to extend a huge thank you to both parent groups for organising this fabulous evening and also to everyone who attended. The money raised, is needed more than ever as we rely on the additional funding to further enhance the enrichment experiences that we offer your children as well as using the money to purchase additional school essentials such as books and pencils! Well done everybody.

The recent cold and frosty weather is a reminder that the Christmas season is fast approaching and before we know it, we will be celebrating the season of Advent. There are numerous exciting events coming up and I do hope you are able to join us in this season of preparation and celebration. Please check the school newsletter for dates and information on upcoming activities. Wishing you a very happy, warm and restful weekend.

Ms Hampton

**Executive Headteacher**

---

## Catholic Life and Mission of the school

### The Feast of the Christ, the King Sunday 24th November

#### Yes, I am a king

'Are you the king of the Jews?' Pilate asked. Jesus replied, 'Do you ask this of your own accord, or have others spoken to you about me?' Pilate answered, 'Am I a Jew? It is your own people and the chief priests who have handed you over to me: what have you done?' Jesus replied, 'Mine is not a kingdom of this world; if my kingdom were of this world, my men would have fought to prevent my being surrendered to the Jews.

But my kingdom is not of this kind.' 'So you are a king then?' said Pilate. 'It is you who say it' answered Jesus. 'Yes, I am a king. I was born for this, I came into the world for this: to bear witness to the truth; and all who are on the side of truth listen to my voice.'

**John 18:33-37**

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.

As for the last three years, we would like to organise the fundraising for those less fortunate than us in the local community. Therefore, we plan to have two MUFTY days, on which children will be able to wear their own clothes. In return, we ask for donations of dry and tinned/canned food for the Local Food Bank.

The MUFTY days will take place on **Friday 29th November** and **Friday 6th December**.



---

## Important Parent's Information

### Home time

Just a gentle reminder about home time arrangements.

EYFS: 3.15pm – Nursery Gate

KS1: 3.20pm - Brown Door (Y1), KS1 Gate (Y2)

LKS2: 3.30pm – Back Gate

UKS2: 3.30pm – KS2 Gate

We have 10 minute grace for pick up times, after which the respective gates are closed and children who have not been picked up are brought into the office.

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.

Please, also ensure that we have up to date written permissions for any person you might ask to pick your children up from school as we will not be able to release children into the care of anyone we do not have the permission for.

---

## 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 **94.11%**, which is still low, but better than previous weeks. 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.

---

### **School Tie**

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.



Staff will be checking to ensure that all school uniform criteria is followed. Thank you for your support

---

## Nursery and Reception School Admission - September 2025

You can collect a SIF application form for Nursery or Reception, from the school office.

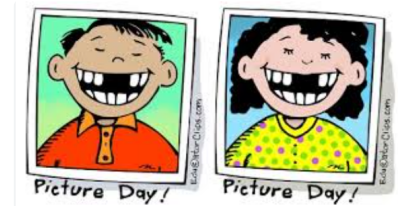
If you are applying for Reception, please ensure you also complete your online application with your Local Authority by January 15th 2025.

---



## School Photos - Thursday 28th November 2024

Baker Studio, the school photography company will be attending the school on **Thursday 28th November 2024**, 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.

## Christmas Lunch - Thursday 12th December 2024

If your child has pack lunch, but you would like them to have a Christmas Lunch. Please inform Ms Herman in the school office.



## Christmas Concert in the Church - Tuesday 17th December 2024

Our Christmas Concert will take place on Tuesday 17th December in the church at 2.00pm



## Christmas Fair - Wednesday 18th December 2024

Our Christmas Fair is taking place on **Wednesday 18th December** from 3.45pm.

We are starting to plan and prepare for this exciting event. We will hold the **PTA meeting next Wednesday, 27th November at 2.30pm** in the school hall. We are hoping to see many of you. Please, do come and share your ideas over coffee, tea and some treats!



---

## EYFS and Key Stage 1 update

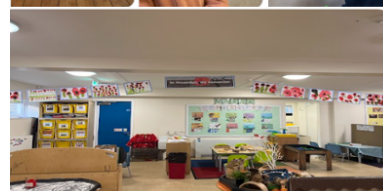
### EYFS

#### Nursery & Reception

We have had a very, very busy fortnight in Early Years. The children all had a fabulous time at their autumn disco, show casing their dancing skills and winning prizes for games.



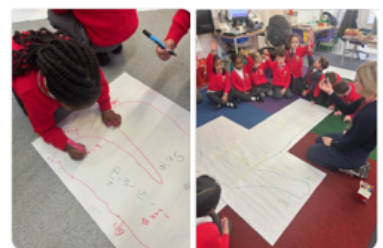
We are also very proud to say all children sat respectfully during a minutes silence for Remembrance Day. Children thought about the soldiers and all created a poppy picture, some children attempted to write the word poppy.



### Year 1

In Year 1 our Science topic is Animals including Humans. In this week's lesson we were looking at human body parts.

The children loved this labelling activity and even Mrs. M got involved!



### Year 2

Last Thursday, Year 2 performed a wonderfully respectful and reverent assembly on Remembrance. We learned about why we wear poppies – the flower that grew on the World War One battlefields - on 11th November, being the day in 1918 when World War One ended.



We talked about who we remember on Remembrance Day and the sacrifices they have made to keep us safe. The children then went on to explore the Catholic Social Teaching Principle of Human Dignity, and considered how conflict often arises from humans, including world leaders, not being respectful of others.

---

# 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)

## 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 Term**

Congratulations to all the pupils who have received **Star of the Week Certificate** - Friday 22nd November 2024

#### **Star of the Term:**

EYFS - (Rec)- Tegan

Y1- George

Y2 - Tay'Vion

Y3 - Vienna-Rae

Y4 - Nathaniel

Y5 - Regina

Y6 - Yaffet

#### **Star Readers**

Y1- Kenza

Y2 - Novena

Y3 - Guttenberg

Y4 - Lee- Lee

Y5 - Mohammed

Y6 - Sebastian



## Congratulations to all the Stars of the Week, Star Readers!

---

We would like to share some important dates for the second half 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.

## Upcoming Dates

### 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.

Tuesdays - **Years 1, 2, 3 & 5**

Wednesdays - **Years 2 & 6, Nursery and Reception**

Fridays - **Years 3, 4 & Year 6**

### Class Assemblies Autumn Term

Y3 Class Assembly **Thursday 21st November 9.05am**

**Week beginning 18th November:** Parliament Week for Y5 and Y6

**Wednesday 27th November:** PTA meeting – Planning and preparation for our Christmas Fair – All parents welcome

**Friday 29th November:** MUFTY Day (with food donations to local Food Bank)

**Thursday 5th December:** 9.30am Whole School Advent Mass

**Friday 6th December:** MUFTY Day (with food donations to local Food Bank)

**Thursday 12th December:** Christmas lunch (if your child has packed lunch, please make sure you book Christmas lunch with Ms Herman in the office)

**Monday 16th December:** Pantomime at school: Dick Wittington (funded by PTA)

**Monday 16th December:** Christmas outfit MUFTY Day (£1 to PTA)

**Wednesday 18th December:** Christmas Fair, organised by PTA

### Christmas Plays and Concerts:

**Wednesday 11th December 2.15pm:** EYFS Christmas Play

**Thursday 12th December 2.15pm:** KS1 Christmas Play

**Tuesday 17th December 2.00pm:** KS2 Christmas Concert in church

---

## Term Dates 2024-2025

## Term Dates 2024 – 2025

### Autumn Term – 2024

**Half Term** – Monday 28<sup>th</sup> – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November

#### **Second Half Term**

First Day of School – Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November

Last Day of School – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December - **1.30pm - School Closed**

**Christmas Holiday** – Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December – Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2025

### Spring Term - 2025

#### **First Half Term**

Staff Training – Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January – **School Closed**

First Day of School – Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January

Last Day of School – Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February

**Half Term** – Monday 17<sup>th</sup> – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February

#### **Second Half Term**

First Day of School – Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February

Last Day of School – Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April - **1.30pm - School Closed**

**Easter Holiday** – Monday 7<sup>th</sup> April – Monday 21<sup>st</sup> April

### Summer Term – 2025

#### **First Half Term**

Staff Training – Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April – **School Closed**

First Day of School – Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April

**Bank Holiday** – Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May

Last Day of School – Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May

**Half Term** – Monday 26<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May

#### **Second Half Term**

First Day of School – Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June

Staff Training – Monday 30<sup>th</sup> June – **School Closed**

Last Day of School – Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July - **1.30pm - School Closed**

**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](#)

Phone: 020 8969 0321



**Charles Mary**

Charles is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters



Catholic Primary School



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



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



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



St Mary's