

St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter - 10th Nov 2023

Head of School's Welcome

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Issue 3 of our school Newsletter!

On the top right hand side, you will see a box, which you can use if you would like to read the Newsletter in your own language, by pressing the Translate button!

We have started the new half term with looking at the new School Value: **Responsibility**.

Within the **Catholic Social Teaching**, we will be looking in depth and learning about another one of the CST principles: **Preferential Option for the Poor**.

Anti-bullying Week: 13th – 17th November

Next week is the National Anti-bullying Week.

This year the theme is '**Make a noise about bullying**'.

Children at St Mary's will enjoy a range of activities throughout next week to explore bullying and what we can do to stop it from happening. We can all do something positive to counteract the harm and hurt that bullying causes.

We can also reach out to others with little acts of kindness, which can break down barriers and brighten the lives of the people around us.

Over the last few years, and to raise awareness of bullying, all staff and pupils at St Mary's have taken part in '**Odd Socks day**'.

This year, we will celebrate this on Thursday, 16th November at St. Mary's, to coincide with Year 4's Class Assembly on the theme of Anti-Bullying. Together we will stand united against bullying and raise awareness of this important issue. Children should wear their school uniform with odd socks. The more colourful the better! Our odd socks will celebrate how we are all unique.

If at any time you need to speak about your child's wellbeing in school, please do not hesitate to see your child's class teacher. At St. Mary's, your child's safety, wellbeing and happiness are of the utmost importance.

I hope you and your families have a lovely, restful weekend!

Magdalena Tusting
Head of School



NURSERY OPEN MORNING

WEDNESDAY 29TH NOV 2023
09.30AM- 10.45AM



If you are considering local schools for Jan 2024 or Sep 2024, we would like to invite you to our "Open Morning" at St Mary's Catholic Primary School.

This is an opportunity to engage with our staff, ask questions about our Nursery and have a tour of our EYFS department.

Please contact the school for further information or to book a place.

 0208 969 0321

 info@st-marys.rbkc.sch.uk

Christmas lunch and Christmas Jumper Day

The children will have their **Christmas lunch** on **Thursday 7th December**.

If your child is on packed lunches, they are welcome to join in the fun that day and have Christmas lunch with all of us.

This is also going to be a **Christmas Jumper day**, so please let your child wear a Christmas jumper or top that day.

Christmas Jumper Day



For their half-term break, the Year 4s were given a project to celebrate Black History Month. Students could choose anyone who has made a significant impact in their chosen field. Some popular choices were Martin Luther King Jr., Nelson Mandela, Rosa Parks, and Michael Jackson. Here are some of the fabulous projects the children created!



RE at Year Two

In RE, Year Two have been learning about the story of Daniel in the lion's den through drama. We discussed in our groups what the characters were thinking and feeling when Daniel was talking to the King, when the King's people were making a plot against Daniel and when Daniel was thrown to the lions. We then used 'thought tracking' to show our understanding. In the photo below we have the King, Daniel and two plotters.



Nursery

'Nursery had a great week getting to know more about themselves and different cultures within the local community. We celebrated International Day by wearing our traditional costumes, we sang a song called 'Hello to All the Children of the World' and said hello in various languages and we danced to a range of cultural songs. Here are some photos of us celebrating our diverse cultures!'



Attendance

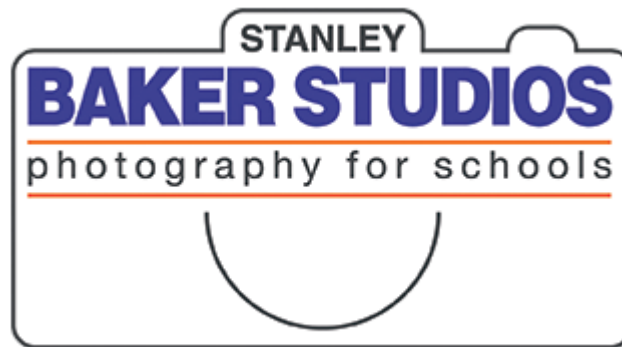
Attendance

Our school attendance this academic year to date is 92% which unfortunately is very low. The Government set out a target for school attendance at **96%** so that is our target.

There is strong correlation between progress and attainment and attendance and punctuality. Unless your child is unwell, they should be at school every day.

Please, inform the office in good time when your child has a medical appointment and bring the appointment card, text message or letter for us to copy and keep on file.

If your child cannot attend school, please make sure that you contact the office **before 10.00am** on the morning of **each day** of absence.



School Photos

Baker Studio, the school photography company will be attending the school on **Friday 17th November 2023**, to take 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.

School



Breakfast Club & Tea Time Club

Breakfast Club runs from 8.00am daily. The cost per child is **£4.00** per day. Booking is essential and is done through **SchoolGateway**.

We have a Tea Time Club, which runs daily from 3.30pm to 5.30pm on St Mary's premises. The daily cost is £11.00 per child. The provision includes an afternoon snack. If you are interested in a place for your child, please book and pay through SchoolGateway. Unfortunately, children cannot attend unless a place is booked and paid for.



Star of the Week

Congratulations to all the pupils who have received **Star of the Week** awards on:

Star of the Week winners for Friday 10th Nov:

Rec: Naomi

Y1: The Whole Class

Y2: Yara

Y3: Sofia

Y4: Zamarah

Y5 Emily

Y6: The Whole Class

Star Readers:

Rec - Ethan

Y1 - Luna

Y2 - Ryan

Y3 - Esey

Y4 - Ana Clara

Y5 - Naz

Y6 - Teddy

Handwriter of the Week:

REC- Torrah-Leigh

Y1 Nelson

Y2 Sheraii

Y3 - Cali

Y4 - Mohamed

Y5 - Sebastian

Y6 - Dylan

Congratulations to all the Stars!

Important Dates:

Monday 13th November to Friday 17th November: National Anti-bullying Week

The theme this year is: **Make a Noise About Bullying**

Thursday 16th November: Y4 Class Assembly on the theme of Anti-bullying and the Odd Sock Day (Please, let your children to come to school wearing odd socks).

Friday 17th November: School photographs

Friday 24th November: Dance Share for Y2 and Y3 (after Star of the Week Assembly, in the school hall)

Tuesday 28th November: Parent Consultation Meetings from **2.15pm (school closes at 2.00pm)** on that day; please collect your children promptly).

Thursday 30th November: Parent Consultation Meetings from 3.50pm (school closes at usual times)

Thursday 7th December: Whole school Mass Advent Mass

Thursday 7th December: School Christmas lunch and Christmas Jumper Day

Class Assemblies: at 9.10am in the school hall

Thursday 16th November: Year 4 Class Assembly

Thursday 23rd November: Year 3 Class Assembly

Thursday 30th November: Year 2 Class Assembly

Wednesday 13th December at 2.00pm EYFS Christmas Play in the school hall (Dress rehearsal on Tuesday 12th December)

Tuesday 19th December at 2.00pm KS1 Christmas Play in the school hall (Dress rehearsal on Tuesday 19th December in the morning).

Monday 18th December at 2.00pm KS2 Christmas Concert in the parish church (Dress rehearsal on Monday 18th December in the morning)

Term Dates 2023-2024

Autumn Term – 2023 First Half Term

Staff Training – Mon 4th & Tues 5th September - School Closed

First Day of School – Wednesday 6th September

Last Day of School – Friday 20th October

Half Term – Monday 23rd – Friday 27th October

Second Half Term

First Day of School – Monday 30th October

Last Day of School – Thursday 21st December - 1.30pm - School Closed

Christmas Holiday – Friday 22nd December – Friday 5th January 2023

Spring Term - 2024

First Half Term

Staff Training – Monday 8th January – School Closed

First Day of School – Tuesday 9th January

Last Day of School – Friday 9th February

Half Term – Monday 12th – Friday 16th February

Second Half Term

First Day of School – Monday 19th February

Last Day of School – Thursday 28th March - 1.30pm - School Closed

Easter Holiday – Friday 29th March – Friday 12th April

Summer Term – 2024 First Half Term

Staff Training – Monday 15th April – School Closed

First Day of School – Tuesday 16th April

Bank Holiday – Monday 6th May

Last Day of School – Friday 24th May

Half Term – Monday 27th May – Friday 31st May

Second Half Term

First Day of School – Monday 3rd June

Staff Training – Monday 24th June – School Closed

Last Day of School – Wednesday 24th July - 1.30pm - School Closed

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