

**Weekly Newsletter**  
**Friday 10th December 2021**

**St Mary's Catholic Primary School**



Glenure Road, Eltham. SE9 1UF

020 8850 7835

[headteachers@stmary-rc.greenwich.sch.uk](mailto:headteachers@stmary-rc.greenwich.sch.uk)

[governors@stmarys-catholic-primary.org](mailto:governors@stmarys-catholic-primary.org)

[office@stmary-rc.greenwich.sch.uk](mailto:office@stmary-rc.greenwich.sch.uk)

Twitter: @stmaryseltham

Visit us online at [www.stmaryrc.org.uk](http://www.stmaryrc.org.uk)

**HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE**

As we approach the end of this term, we are, once again, required to be extra vigilant. A letter was sent to parents today, informing you of the amount of Covid cases within the school and the actions that the school are taking.

We ask our school community to take the necessary precautions to keep everyone safe and follow the guidance the government is setting.

Although disappointed that the normal Christmas events could not take place with parents on site, we are endeavouring to make the end of term fun for the children. Please take a look at all the photos uploaded to the school twitter account taken of the various events and activities that are taking place within the school.

The third Sunday of Advent takes place this Sunday. The Joy candle will be lit at all Masses. Our priests will wear rose vestments to emphasise the joyous occasion that is coming. Being close to Jesus will bring that joy to our hearts and keep a smile on our faces.

Have a safe weekend

Kind regards  
Mr J Sims  
Headteacher

**LAST DAY OF TERM**  
**THURSDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER**

The school will close for the Christmas holidays on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December. Children should be collected at a slightly earlier time than normal – 2pm.

If your Y5/6 child normally walks home on their own, please ensure they are collected by an adult on this day. They will not be allowed to leave the school premises on their own at the earlier time.

**SPECIAL MENTION.....**

A special must go to Oliver Marnham, 5K, who made a selection of facemasks with his mum for the St Mary's staff. Well done to Oliver for being so inventive!



## ADVENT 2021

The third candle of the Advent wreath will be lit this Sunday at Mass. It is known as Gaudete Sunday. The pink candle symbolises JOY.

*A candle's but a simple thing  
It starts with just a piece of string  
Yet dipped and dipped with patient hand  
It gathers wax upon the strand  
Until, complete and snowy white  
It gives at last a lovely light  
Life seems just like that bit of string  
Each deed we do a simple thing  
Yet day by day if on life's strand  
We work with patient heart and hand  
It gathers JOY, makes dark days bright  
And gives at last a lovely light*

Please click on this link to read the latest Ten Ten Parent Newsletter. There are some interesting articles to read and share with your families.

<https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/parent-newsletter/>

## INFANT NATIVITY

We were very disappointed that the Infant Nativity could not go ahead as planned but fortunately our Parent's Association organised a cameraman to film the performance so parents and other family members can see it.

From Monday 13th December, parents will be able to purchase a recording of the show. Payment can be made from Monday 13th on Wisepay (£8).

The PA are working very hard to get it to parents as soon as they can so please be patient.

## BLESSING OF THE CRIBS

Fr John came on site last week to bless the crib in the main entrance. He also went around to all the classes to bless the crib figures that the children brought to school.

Here are some pictures from some of the classes in Y1 and Y2:



**SCHOOL VALUES: FAITH, MERCY, TRUTH, RESPECT, RESILIENCE, LOVE**

## APPLYING TO ST MARY'S

Please inform any parents you know that may be interested in applying for a place in Reception/Nursery 2022.

Mr Sims, our Headteacher, will set up a Zoom meeting for prospective parents when we return to school in the new term. In the meantime, please look at our website where you will see lots of information about our school.

Application forms to both St Mary's and your local authority must be completed and returned by Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> January.

<https://www.stmaryrc.org.uk/Admissions-04122019150956/>

## PHOTOGRAPHS

We had a delivery of photographs this week, which was sorted and the photographs sent home with the children.

If you have not yet received your photo, please contact the main office.

## CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

Many thanks to all the families for supporting Greenwich and Bexley Hospice Christmas Jumper Day. The school felt very festive!

As soon as all the donations are counted, we will inform the parents how much we will be giving to the hospice. Here is a selection of photos from the classes and more will be uploaded to the school Twitter account. Please take a look at the website <https://www.stmaryrc.org.uk/>

