

Weekly Newsletter

Friday 10th February 2023

St Mary's Catholic Primary School



Glenure Road, Eltham. SE9 1UF

020 8850 7835

jsims@stmary-rc.greenwich.sch.uk

governors@stmarys-catholic-primary.org

office@stmary-rc.greenwich.sch.uk

Twitter: @stmaryseltham

Visit us online at www.stmaryrc.org.uk

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

This half term marks the halfway point of the year, a time for reflecting on the successes that the children have had so far. During our achievement assemblies this week, it was so satisfying to see the children receive certificates and prizes for their hard work. Also, just as pleasing, was hearing teachers describe how children had lived up to our school values. The children are what make this school such a great place to be.

This week, we celebrated Safer Internet Day and Children's Mental Health Week. Both of these topics encourage families to talk and be open. The world around us can seem crazy at times, with information bombarding us on all fronts so we should all be encouraged to take valuable time to talk and listen.

When we return to school after half term, Spring will be on its way and the cycle of life is being renewed once more. There are so many things around us during this season to be thankful for. There is more sunlight, birdsong is more noticeable, daffodils are beginning to grow and trees are beginning to show signs of coming to life. These signs of new life bring us to the most celebrated season in our liturgical year – Easter and the Resurrection of Jesus.

We will begin the season of Lent on Ash Wednesday (Wednesday 22nd February) so all the focal points around the school will change to purple. We should all take this time to be reflective about our actions and try our best to be kind and to think about others.

Fr John will visit us on Ash Wednesday to celebrate Mass with the Junior children. The Infant children will have a separate service with Mrs Hansen. All children will receive Ashes.

We would like to wish Miss Phipps all the best as she went on maternity leave this week. We will keep parents updated with news when the baby arrives.

Please remember in your prayers the people of Turkey and Syria, whose lives have been devastated by the earthquake.

Have a very restful half term holiday.

Mr J Sims

Headteacher

WEEK BEGINNING 20th
FEBRUARY

Monday 20th

Children return to school after the half term

Tuesday 21st

Y2 children visit Christchurch
Y4 children singing in Southwark Cathedral
Shrove Tuesday

Wednesday 22nd

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent
Fr John on site – Ash Wednesday Mass with the distribution of ashes

FAITH FRIENDS

Today the Faith Friends shared with everyone that we are all God's children and we are part of one big global family. We should learn not to argue with our brothers and sisters; we should always try to make peace. (Matthew 5:17-37)

Loving God, when we do wrong and hurt others help us to be brave and say sorry. Help us to all live together in peace. Amen



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

READING DURING HALF TERM

Helping children and families read together at home

Over half term, we are asking families to spend some time reading together and to take some pictures so that we can create a display when we return to school after half term. The photographs should be of the children reading in front of their bookshelf at home or even somewhere bazaar! Be creative! Photographs can be brought to school or emailed to the main office.

We would like to share some reading links for parents so please take a look:

Share A Story Corner can be enjoyed at home: easy to follow video stories and accompanying free fun activities
<https://www.worldbookday.com/share-a-story-corner/>

Access free audiobooks for children to enjoy at home in our *World of Stories*
<https://www.worldbookday.com/world-of-stories/>

Parents and carers can find our free fun *Book Club*, activities, book recommendations and much more
<https://www.worldbookday.com/families/>

SAFER INTERNET DAY

This week, children at St Mary's celebrated Safer Internet Day. The theme this year was: *'Want to talk about it? Making space for conversations about life online'*. The aim of the day was to promote safe, responsible and positive online experiences for children and young people. Try to check in regularly with children about their experience in the digital world- both good and bad - it is a brilliant way to engage with what children are currently into online, while also discovering any potential issues. One survey conducted on Safer Internet Day last year found that *'more than one in six parents never talk to their child about staying safe online.'*

Please see the online poster attached to the newsletter for some ideas regarding these conversations.

GARDENING CLUB

Children attending the gardening club have been very busy!

This half term, Mrs Everett and the children made bird feeders, using birdseed and gelatine, to hang from trees, they sowed some rainbow chard but the cold weather has stopped anything coming through yet and they have planted a cherry tree. The children all wanted to plant a fruit tree and they all voted for a cherry tree!



CHILDREN'S CORNER

This week.....

Clara Lopez, 1D, has just completed stage 1 in her swimming lessons!

Margot O'Connor, 3H, passed two different levels in her swimming lessons!

Well done to both children.



VICTORIAN DAY

The Y2 children enjoyed their Victorian Day yesterday, although there were some sceptical faces when their visitor arrived! It gave them a taste of school life in Victorian times and I am sure they enjoyed telling you all about it.

The children all looked very Victorian so many thanks for your support.



END OF TERM AWARDS
CELEBRATING ACHIEVEMENT

Class A	Harry, Lottie
Class B	Rory, Gloria
Class C	Freddie, Amelia
Class D	Ziylon, Yamen
Class E	Zicora, Tiggy
Class F	Teddy, Aya
Class G	Alexander, Titi
Class H	Kevin, Rebecca
Class I	Rio, Evelyn
Class J	Charles, Emma-Rose
Class K	Malachy, Harriet
Class L	Muko, Betty
Class M	Kylan, Seline
Class N	Joel, Sophia

END OF TERM AWARDS
CELEBRATING SCHOOL VALUES

Class A	Jools, Pixie
Class B	Jendrick, Connie
Class C	Dexen, Alexandria
Class D	Zachary, Eden
Class E	Connor G, Elisa
Class F	Oscar, Ania
Class G	Rory, Nel
Class H	Francesco, Connie
Class I	Tymon, Sofia
Class J	Grace G, Peter
Class K	Jenaro, Beatrice
Class L	Oliver, Osasere
Class M	Isaac, Hayleigh
Class N	Barney, lyla

END OF TERM AWARDS
PSHE

Class A	Naga
Class B	Dominic
Class C	Samuel
Class D	Jago
Class E	Sydney
Class F	Annie
Class G	Amani
Class H	Dotty
Class I	Ruby
Class J	Finn
Class K	Alice
Class L	Max
Class M	Jamison
Class N	Jaden

ATTENDANCE

FRIDAY 1ST SEPTEMBER 2022 – FRIDAY 10th FEBRUARY 2023

RA	RB	1C	1D	2E	2F	3G	3H	4I	4J	5K	5L	6M	6N
95%	94%	96%	96%	97%	97%	97%	95%	96%	96%	97%	97%	97%	96%

The teachers would like to bring parents attention to attendance. It is so important that children attend school every day but it is also understandable that children get sick and need to take time off to recover. It has been a challenging Winter with many different viruses.

Classes 2E, 2F, 3G, 4I, 5K, 5L and 6M have all achieved 97% so far this academic year. Let us hope the half term break will give everyone the rest they need and come back energised for the next half term. Spring is around the corner so we will all feel better with some sunshine and longer days.

MESSAGE FROM ROYAL BOROUGH
GREENWICH

Free packed lunches for children during
half-term holiday

Any child in Royal Greenwich can get a free lunch this half-term as the Council's holiday meal scheme returns to libraries and leisure centres.

Grab a healthy, nutritious packed lunch throughout the week, with no forms or fuss. Just turn up and tuck in!

Serving times vary so check our website for details.

www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/holidaymeals

SCHOOL MAGAZINE

Call Out for Content – Message from the PA!

Our annual school magazine is always a brilliant showcase of all the children's work and achievements! We would like parents and carers to please send us their children's photos, artwork and poems so they can all be included in the magazine. We would also love to hear about any sporting activities or even holiday highlights that you would like to share.

The magazine will be printed in the Summer term and will go on sale at the Summer Fair. Please include your child's name, class and some details with all content.

Items can be emailed to stmarysmagazine2023@gmail.com or alternatively if it is easier, you can leave items with the main office staff.

Deadline for entries is Wednesday 12th April. Thank you for your support.

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