

## Weekly Newsletter

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2025

St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Glenure Road, Eltham. SE9 1UF  
020 8850 7835

[office@stmaryseltham.org](mailto:office@stmaryseltham.org)

Twitter: @stmaryseltham

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

Instagram: @selcatacademytrust

X: @SelcatTrust

Facebook: Selcat: Catholic Multi-Academy Trust



*Nurturing Our God-Given Talents*

### MESSAGE FROM OUR HEAD OF SCHOOL

I wish you all a happy and peaceful New Year. I hope you enjoyed a restful Christmas break and managed to celebrate with families and friends, despite the challenges of the current Winter viruses.

We celebrated Mass for the Feast of the Epiphany on Monday, also known as Twelfth Night, which marks the end of the Christmas season.

This feast day celebrates the visit of the wise men bringing their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. The wise men were led to Bethlehem by a bright star (Star of Bethlehem) to see the newborn baby. These gifts were symbolic of the importance of Jesus' birth; gold representing his royal standing, frankincense his divine birth and myrrh his mortality.

We received a beautiful letter of thanks from the Into Schools Project Christmas Gift Collection which we co-ordinated with the Sisters of Mercy. Please take a minute to read the letter attached with this newsletter. Your contributions not only brought happiness to the children but also reinforced the strong sense of community that makes St Mary's so special. Together, we made a difference in so many children's lives this Christmas.

Have a restful weekend and keep warm!

Mrs Hansen

Head of School

### WEEK BEGINNING 13<sup>th</sup> JANUARY

#### Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January

Y1 Children visit Christchurch

#### Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January

Closing Date for Primary School Applications

Y1 Children visit Christchurch

#### Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January

Y6 visit Christchurch for Reconciliation

#### Friday 17<sup>th</sup> January

Y6 visit the Imperial War Museum

### APPLYING TO ST MARY'S

If you are applying for your child to start Reception in September 2025, please be aware that the closing date for applications is Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January.

Parents must apply online to Greenwich Council or your local authority if you do not live in Greenwich Borough, **as well as** providing a completed Certificate of Catholic Practice to St Mary's. Please ensure all the supporting documents are provided with the form.

We cannot stress enough the importance of submitting the correct forms. Failure to do so could prevent your child from joining St Mary's in September.

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

## FAITH FRIENDS

Today the Faith Friends spoke to the Infant children about Epiphany. They explained how the wise men followed a star and came to visit baby Jesus in the stable.

*God of wonder, help us to have as much faith as the wise men who followed your star to find Jesus. Lead us down the right paths and help us to recognise Jesus in the people we meet as we travel through life.  
Amen*



## ECO EXPLORERS INITIATIVE

Many thanks for your support so far! We have collected a lot of tubs but keep them coming! We have extended the deadline to Friday 17<sup>th</sup> January so if you have any more, or if you know of anyone who has any, please bring them to the school by Friday 17<sup>th</sup> January.

Mrs Evans will then take them to the collection point to be recycled and a donation will be made to Macmillan Cancer.



## INFANT NATIVITY

The links to download the Infant Nativity are available until 31<sup>st</sup> January. If you would like a copy, please make a £5 payment on Wisepay and we will send the links to you.

The year groups that were involved in the Nativity were Reception, Y1 and Y2.

## LITERACY



*This week Ms Gannon recommends a poem.....*

***The Joke is On Us  
Roger McGough***

*The sun is a joker  
Who likes having fun  
Especially when  
His work is all done.*

*He pins up a notice  
At the end of the day  
Saying 'MOON'  
Then, winking, slips quietly away*

## CELEBRATING HERITAGE

We are creating a display that celebrates the diversity and heritage of our school community. As we have just celebrated Christmas, families have come together sharing Christmas traditions and foods. We would love to hear about them!

Many thanks to Saoirse McCormack's (RB) parents for submitting the following:



Saoirse and her brother enjoyed a traditional Sri Lankan Christmas breakfast called *Kiri-Bath*. This is *Milk Rice* and it is eaten with *Kithul Treacle* (honey like syrup from *kithul* trees).

Many thanks to Saoirse for sharing this with us.

## BACK TO SCHOOL ILLNESS ADVICE

Please click on the following link for some helpful advice for parents as we start a new term at school. We are in the middle of the cold/flu season and it is important to follow practical steps to keep keeps colds at bay, for everyone to remain healthy.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/parents-and-carers-urged-to-help-children-start-new-year-healthy>

Also, please ensure that your children are wearing their coats, hats and scarves as we go through this cold period. Your child should have their Winter PE kit in school. Girls should have a spare pair of white socks in their PE bag for PE lessons.

If you need any advise about uniform please do not hesitate to contact the main office.

## AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

Please note that all after school clubs will restart next week.

Please ensure you have enrolled your child for their specific club of choice. Some of the clubs are already fully booked. Contact the main office if you have any questions.

Please see below the list of clubs available this term:

<b>MONDAY</b>	Y6 Football	3.30pm-4.15pm	Tommy Reeves
	Art	3.30pm-4.30pm	Arty Party
	Cookery	3.30pm-4.30pm	Mrs Rodgers
	Crochet	3.30pm-4.30pm	Mrs Mozharovska
	Y1 Football	3.30pm-4.30pm	Welling Utd
<b>TUESDAY</b>	Y2/Y3 Football	3.30pm-4.30pm	Welling Utd
	Art	3.30pm-4.30pm	Arty Party
	Gymnastics	3.30pm-4.15pm	J'amies Gymnastics
	Gardening	3.30pm-4.15pm	Mrs Everett
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	Y4/Y5 Football	3.30pm-4.30pm	Welling Utd
	Netball	3.30pm-4.30pm	Welling Utd
	Art	3.30pm-4.30pm	Arty Party
	Sewing	3.30pm-4.30pm	Mrs Perrin
<b>THURSDAY</b>	Chamber Choir	3.30pm-4.30pm	Mrs McGarry
	Sewing	3.30pm-4.30pm	Mrs Perrin
	Multisports	3.30pm-4.30pm	Tommy Reeves
	Tennis	3.30pm-4.30pm	Tommy Reeves
<b>FRIDAY</b>	American Football	3.30pm-4.30pm	Tommy Reeves
	Creative Stars	3.30pm-4.30pm	Hazel Bracken
	Science Club	3.30pm-4.30pm	Spectacular Science