

Weekly Newsletter
Friday 16th September 2022

St Mary's Catholic Primary School

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MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHERS

As a reminder, the school closed on Monday due to the state funeral of Queen Elizabeth II. Please talk to your children about the special event.

Head Boy:

On Monday, the school held their annual Head Boy and Head Girl Elections reminding children of how they represented in the democratic process. After final nominations, the school elected:

Head Boy: Leon Golebiewski

Head Girl: Lilah Cork

Deputy Head Boy: Barney Biggs

Deputy Head Girl: Ania Harding

Thank you to all who put themselves forward to be elected.

Blackheath Rugby

The school have partnered with Blackheath Rugby Club who will be running coaching sessions in school with our Y3-6 children. This will culminate in a rugby festival where children will get the opportunity to compete against other schools. This is a fantastic opportunity for our children to play competitive sport and engage with our local community.

Individual Achievement

You will see in the newsletter this week that Summer and Freddie, who left St Mary's in July, were awarded a special award for their personal achievement to learning from the Royal Borough of Greenwich. We are so proud of both of these inspirational children who have proved that there are no barriers to achieving so well!

Mr J Sims and Miss C Phipps
Headteachers



WEEK BEGINNING 19/09/2022

Monday 19th

School closed for the state funeral of Queen Elizabeth II

Tuesday 20th

Class M Mass in The Convent

Y6 Secondary Transition Meeting – 6pm

Thursday 22nd

Phonics Workshop for Reception Parents – 9am

Friday 23rd

Y2 Fire of London Workshop

HARVEST FESTIVAL

Our Annual Harvest Mass takes place on **Tuesday 27th September**.

Every year, St Mary's collects items for a charity and this year, we are supporting The House of Mercy. This charitable organisation, run by the Sisters of Mercy, supports the homeless.

The charity is always in need of non-perishable food items so please try to donate, even just one item. Items can be taken straight to class, the main office or placed at the display in the main entrance.

Food must be non-perishable, sealed and in date e.g., tinned meat and fish, rice, pasta, dried herbs and spices, tea and coffee. Cleaning products, toiletries and plastic cutlery are always needed too. Thank you for your support.

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

WELLBEING

Our wellbeing message this week, from *The Happy Newspaper*, is to **feel positive!**



SPECIAL AWARDS

During the summer, we were informed that two of our students received awards from The Royal Borough of Greenwich for their commitment to their learning.

Very well done to Freddie Sansom and Summer White.



CODING WORKSHOP

This week some of our children were lucky enough to take part in a Coding Day run by BUPA. It involved fun activities where children used coding blocks to write an algorithm for the robot, to ensure that a healthy lunch was chosen. This included selecting the correct items and ensuring unhealthy options were not selected and packed by the robot.

This was great task for the children's computing skills as well as a lesson in healthy lifestyles.

Many thanks to Mrs Maskell-Gibson who nominated St Mary's for this event and we look forward to participating with more of the children next year.

PE NEWS

We have had a great two weeks of P.E. lessons with Mr McGrath with the children all enjoying and making the most of the new astro turf! The children enjoyed a variety of activities, learning different skills, techniques and keeping fit and healthy. Even our youngest Nursery children have been enjoying P.E. lessons and learning how to move their bodies in different ways!



National Fitness Day takes place on Wednesday 21st September. Celebrate the fun of fitness by doing something active with your children. This can be something as simple as a fun dance to some music or maybe a walk to school – just something to get moving.

Y6 SECONDARY TRANSITION EVENING

Y6 parents are invited to a meeting on **Tuesday 20th September** to hear all about the application process for secondary school and the residential journey to Kingswood in January 2023.

The meeting will take place in the **gym hall at 6pm**. It is important that you attend to answer any questions you may have about this important process. Mr Sharp, the Headteacher of St Thomas More Comprehensive, will be in attendance to answer any questions you may have about their application process.

If you are interested in a place for your child in St Thomas More Comprehensive, please note their open evening is on **Wednesday 21st September**

MUSIC NEWS

Mrs McGarry is accompanying the chamber choir to St George's Cathedral on Friday 30th September, to sing at a special Mass.

More information will be sent to parents next week but please put the date in your diary.

Please note that there are spaces for children who wish to learn a musical instrument. If your child is in Y4 or above please ask for information at the main office.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Coco Clarkson, 41, passed her green tag this week and has been promoted to yellow belt with CKD Martial arts. Well done to Coco!



BIRTHDAY BOOKS

We would love the children to celebrate their birthday at school by donating a book of their choice to their class. This special book is put on display so that everyone can enjoy reading it.

We realise that lots of birthdays happened during the summer holiday so the children may still like to bring a book of their choice, even if the birthday has already happened. It will give the children a chance to have a second celebration with their classmates.

This is not compulsory but we would like to encourage families to participate.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Food and Fellowship Event

Mrs Whitewood is organising a **multi-cultural Food and Fellowship Event on Thursday 29th September** at 3.30pm.

Families are invited to come to the gym hall, with a traditional dish, and try all the different international foods that will be on offer. Come along for a chat and to sample the delicious foods on offer.

Details of the event are attached and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

Please inform us if you are planning to attend and if are bringing a dish so we can prepare the hall accordingly.

CAR FREE DAY

Thursday 22nd September is worldwide car free day. This initiative is aimed at encouraging people to leave the car at home, just for one day. Taking part will help to improve the air quality around our school, reduce the congestion around Glenure Road and help keep everyone healthy by travelling to school actively.

We would like to encourage families to leave their cars at home and to walk, cycle or scoot to school. If you need to drive part of the way, please park away from the school and walk the rest of the way. This will ensure we can create a safe "car-free zone" around the school.

PA NEWS

Our Parent's Association is holding their AGM (Annual General Meeting) on Thursday 6th October at 7pm. This meeting will take place in the dining hall.

The roles of PA Chair/Co Chair and Treasurer/Joint Treasurer are becoming vacant. Parents can put their names forward, to be voted in at the AGM on 6th October. The Parents' Association depends on the assistance of the parents to keep it running. The events we host directly impact the facilities and tools that your child has access to within the school. We endeavour to keep this association active but without volunteers events will not be able to take place. If any parent is interested in stepping forward and would like to know more about these exciting roles, please contact the PA by emailing pastmaryseltham@gmail.com.

SCHOOL FUND

Each year we ask parents for a voluntary contribution (£10 per family) to subsidise extra events. If you would like to contribute, please log onto your child's Wisepay account where you will see "**School Fund 2022/2023**".

This fund helps to subsidise visiting theatre companies, merit awards etc. All children in the school benefit from these special events.

Many thanks for your support.