

Weekly Newsletter
Friday 17th April 2026

St Mary's Catholic Primary School

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WEEK BEGINNING 20th APRIL

Monday 20th April (2.50pm – 3.30pm)
Y5 parents and carers to bring passports and GHIC cards. Please refer to email.

Wednesday 22nd
Earth Day

Thursday 23rd
St George's Day

Friday 24th
Y5 Day trip to France. Meeting time 4.50am.
Croissant making at Chez Maitre. 1.30pm
Information and details have been sent to parents.

Saturday 25th
London Mini Marathon

MESSAGE FROM OUR HEAD OF SCHOOL

I would like to welcome everyone back to school after a lovely Easter break. I hope families had a restful time.

As you may have noticed this week, we are currently upgrading our gate system as part of our ongoing work to make the St Mary's site as safe and secure as possible.

After careful consideration, we have decided to move away from the automatic gates. While convenient, we have found that they can occasionally become stuck or unreliable, which creates challenges when trying to keep the site fully secure throughout the day. We are therefore moving to a push gate system, which we know will require a little more physical effort when entering and leaving the site, but will be far more dependable and secure.

Alongside this change, we are also installing a video monitoring system to further strengthen site security. This will support staff in monitoring entry and exit points and provide an additional layer of reassurance for pupils, families, and staff.

These changes are part of a wider commitment to safeguarding and ensuring that the school site can be securely managed at all times. We appreciate your understanding and support while these improvements are put in place.

An email was sent to all families today regarding the use of the new playground equipment after school. Please ensure you read it carefully, as it contains important information to help keep all children safe.

Have a restful weekend.

Best wishes

Mrs J Hansen
Head of School

KEY DATES

An updated key dates is currently being prepared. When it is emailed out, please add the relevant dates to your calendar so you do not miss key events.

Summer term is very busy with many events taking place so we want parents to be informed.

All dates are also uploaded to our website

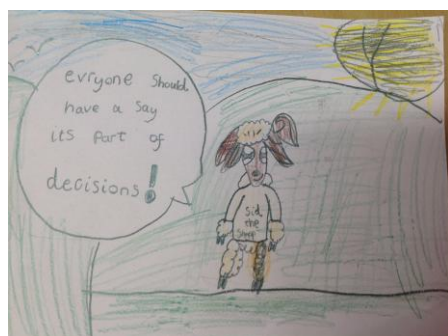
SCHOOL VALUES: FAITH, MERCY, TRUTH, RESPECT, RESILIENCE, LOVE

PRAYER AND LITURGY

Everyone has a Say

In Class D, Sophie and Elwood led Prayer and Liturgy this week, with Sophie reading the opening prayer. The children explored Sid the Sheep and the idea of subsidiarity, reminding themselves that everyone has a voice and what they say matters.

Through a story about Sid, they learned that people have important ideas and know what is best for their families and communities. The children also drew their own pictures of Sid and shared their own examples, showing that everyone has a say in decisions that affect them.



PA NEWS

School Magazine - Children's Content Needed!

Our wonderful annual school magazine is distributed every year. We would like the magazine to feature content from as many of the children as possible so please share it with us!

Contributions we're looking for are:

- Creative corner: artwork, poetry, photography, recipes etc
- Achievements: photo with any awards or achievements they'd like to share
- Talent showcase: photo showing any skills or talent they're proud of

Please send your child's content (with their name & class) to stmaryrcmagazine@gmail.com by Friday 24th April.

Advertising – We're looking for individuals or businesses to advertise and please also email us if you are interested in advertising in the magazine.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Zachary Atsetski, 4J, successfully completed the Yorkshire Three Peaks Challenge, climbing all three peaks in a single day. He covered an impressive 25 miles on foot in just 12 hours, showing great determination, resilience, and commitment. What an incredible achievement....well done!



Samuel and William De Thibault De Boesinghe (Nursery and 1D) are both delighted to have passed their next stage of ski school. Sam passed Floucon and William passed Ourson!



ROYAL BOROUGH GREENWICH SHORT STORY COMPETITION

In line with World Book Day, Royal Borough Greenwich has launched this year's **500 Word Short Story Competition**, inspired by the theme **THE UNEXPECTED**. Children are invited to write a short story, no more than 500 words, preferably typed, on the theme of **THE UNEXPECTED**.

All entries can be sent to Mrs Thaxter by **Thursday 23rd April**. Please include your full name and class.