

**Weekly Newsletter**  
**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

**St Mary's Catholic Primary School**

Glenure Road, Eltham. SE9 1UF  
020 8850 7835

[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)



*Nurturing Our God-Given Talents*

**WEEK BEGINNING 20<sup>th</sup> MAY**

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May**

First Holy Communion at Christchurch. We wish all the children a very special day.

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> – Friday 24<sup>th</sup>**

Walk to School Week  
Y5 Cycle Confident Bikeability

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup>**

Y6 First Aid Course

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup>**

Y5/6 Girl's Cricket

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup>**

Crowning of Our Lady  
Y2 Visit Eltham Park North

**Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup>**

Assembly for Reception Parents 9.15am  
Boy's Cricket Competition

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May**

Rosary – 8.30am. Gym Hall  
Break the Rules Day – Own Clothes  
Y5/6 Tennis Festival – Shooters Hill

**HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE**

Thank you to those parents and carers who joined us to say a decade of the rosary this morning in the dining hall. The children planned and lead the group and even accompanied the singing on guitar.

Y4 are eagerly looking forward to leading the Crowning of Our Lady next Wednesday which is a special tradition at St Mary's.

I have noticed a real improvement at the beginning and of day in regard to parent use of mobile phones; thank you for your support.

Have a great weekend.

Kind regards

Mr Sims  
Headteacher

**ROSARY**

Faith Friends led the rosary for parents this morning focusing on the 3rd Glorious mystery - Pentecost and the gift of the Holy Spirit. Dante kindly played his guitar for us. Next week will be the last Rosary, focusing on the 4th Glorious Mystery. We would love to see many parents and family members attend. If any parent/family member/child would like to say the Hail Mary in their home language please let us know. It would be lovely to hear how other counties celebrate Mary, our mother.



**PRAYER AND LITURGY**

Children in Y2 created a beautiful prayer table for Pentecost, using red cloth and drawing flames to symbolise the Holy Spirit



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

## ROSARY IN THE PRAYER GARDEN

At lunchtime today, in the beautiful sunshine, members of the Faith Friends brought the Infant children to the prayer garden to say the Rosary.



## Y6 SATS

Y6 have worked very hard this week at their SATs. The children are relieved the week is now over! They arrived at school on time each day, enjoyed their daily breakfast with Mrs Williams and Miss Gannon and settled quickly to their tests.

Bethany and Dantae led Y6 with a decade of the Rosary in Our Lady's Prayer Garden. Children and staff gave thanks for a successful SATs week and prayed for private intentions.



The papers have been collected and will be marked externally. The results will be shared with parents and children in the end of year reports.

Many thanks to the parents for all your support and to all the members of staff who supported and encouraged the children.

Booster classes for Y6 have now finished for this year.

The children enjoyed a picnic in Eltham Park South today, with fun and games; a nice way to end their busy week.

## LITERACY



*This week Mrs Thaxter recommends.....*

Ember Spark and the Thunder of Dragons

Aged 7 - 8

Rusty Fizzbang, vet to magical beasts, needs an apprentice. Ember Spark, looking for adventure, is his newest recruit - and together with an unlikely friend, Arno, she is sent to help a baby dragon whose parents have gone missing. But keeping magical beasts a secret isn't an easy task, especially with arch-villain, Jasper Hornswoggle, hot on their heels and keen to derail them...

## CROWNING OF OUR LADY WEDNESDAY 22ND MAY

Y4 children will lead this wonderful celebration of Mary, our Blessed Lady (9.15am on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May). The weather is looking good so pray that the service can take place in the Junior playground. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Traditionally here at St Mary's, the children bring flowers to honour Our Lady, so we are asking everyone to bring some flowers to school. You can start to send these in from Tuesday so we can gather all the flowers together by Wednesday morning. We can then arrange them in appropriate vases and containers.

Please do not feel you have to bring a big bouquet of flowers, as a few flowers from your garden will be beautiful. We do not want to put extra expense on families. Ask your children to help you arrange the flowers into a lovely bunch.

Traditionally, the May Altar consisted of the statue of Our Lady with primroses placed at Her feet.

Many thanks for your support.

## CHILDREN'S CORNER

This week.....

Evelyn Kovacs, 2E, and Izabella Lloyd Jones, 2F, ran the Greenwich & Bexley Community Hospice Mini Marathon, raising money for this important charity. A superb achievement!



Jessica Demmon-Calvo and Violet Hill, 1C, and Sofia Demmon-Calvo, 1D, all received awards from their gymnastic club. Well done to the girls!



## OUTSTANDING WRITING IN RECEPTION

Pedro, Kit, Raphie, Noah, Samuel and Elijah, RB, showed Mr Sims their outstanding writing. The boys worked incredibly hard while showing excellent listening skills and attention. Their final pieces of writing were beautiful. Everyone felt very proud of their achievement.



## WALK TO SCHOOL WEEK

Next week is walk to school week. We encourage all families to do the best that they can to walk to school, on as many days as possible. There will be activities in class to support this and information about the long-term benefits of using cars less frequently.

We realise that many families are very busy and cannot always find the time to walk but we just ask to do what you can. Walking to school can be therapeutic and mindful; listen to the birds and take in the beauty around you. It will make you feel good for the day ahead.

Please click on the link below to read more:

[https://www.livingstreets.org.uk/walk-to-school/primary-schools/walk-to-school-week/?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=engagingnetworks&utm\\_campaign=EN\\_School+Comms&utm\\_content=20240513+ENSchools+WTSW+Engagement+E3+WTSW+2024](https://www.livingstreets.org.uk/walk-to-school/primary-schools/walk-to-school-week/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=engagingnetworks&utm_campaign=EN_School+Comms&utm_content=20240513+ENSchools+WTSW+Engagement+E3+WTSW+2024)

## PYJAMARAMA DAY

A huge thank you to the children and their parents for taking part in Pyjamarama today. Everyone looked fantastic and we have raised lots of money for an amazing charity. The money raised today by St Mary's will help all children across the country have access to a bedtime story. Mrs Thaxter taught all infant children a poem about pyjamas - can they remember it? Here is Class C enjoying some time in our school library, reading for pleasure in their PJs!



## PA NEWS

### Summer Fayre (Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> June).

If you can volunteer, please contact the PA, as many helpers are needed on the day. The more volunteers there are, the easier the event will be to organise. Volunteers are need to set up before the event, during the day and for cleaning duties afterward. If there are not enough people to help, the event will not be successful and the future of the event is in jeopardy.

Please use this link to sign up:

<https://volunteersignup.org/WTPPK>

The PA have already started collecting bottles and teddy bears for the tombola at the Summer Fayre.

The children have been asked to wear their own clothes to school on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May for "Break the Rules Day". To support this, the PA have asked if every family can bring a bottle to donate to the tombola stall at the Summer Fayre. More details about "breaking the rules" will be sent to parents. If you wish to donate a bottle, please give it to a member of the PA in the parent's waiting area or take it to the main office where it will be looked after until the day of the fayre. Bottles must be full and unused. They can have anything in them e.g., squash, wash up liquid, bubble bath, alcohol etc.

Mrs Jefferys from the main office will be running the plant stall this year so if you can donate any plants, please let her know. This used to be a very popular stall so we are trying to revive it! We are appealing to all the gardeners out there to start propagating plants, both indoor and outdoor, so we can sell them at the fayre. All donations will be gratefully received. We would also love if people could make up window boxes and hanging baskets. Contact Mrs Jefferys as she will give you an idea what sort of plants are needed.

Many thanks for all your support.