

**Weekly Newsletter**  
**Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October 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)



### MESSAGE FROM OUR HEAD OF SCHOOL

As I look back on an incredible week of sports, we have much to be proud of at St Mary's. Our children have not only shown remarkable talent and determination but have also highlighted the values of teamwork, sportsmanship, and dedication.

On Wednesday, our children in Y3 and Y4 participated in the Blackheath Rugby Festival and received outstanding results. The children in Y3, class H won the trophy, showcasing their hard work and perseverance.

Some of our Y5/Y6 children took part in the Greenwich Cross Country Competition in Avery Hill Park. St Mary's won the event and each member contributed to the team's success, proving that team work is key.

Today, Blackheath Rugby hosted a rugby festival for the Y5/Y6 children. The children played brilliantly, winning all their matches.

A huge thank you to the Blackheath rugby coaches, Mr McGrath our PE co-ordinator, teachers and families for their support. Many thanks to the parents who came along to help.

As the staff at St Mary's are attending the SELCAT Primary Conference tomorrow, Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October, children will not attend school. School will be open as normal on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October.

Have a nice weekend.

Mrs Hansen

Head of School

### WEEK BEGINNING 21<sup>st</sup> OCTOBER

#### Monday 21<sup>st</sup>

RA Autumn Walk to Eltham Park  
South 9am

RB Autumn Walk to Eltham Park  
South 10am

#### Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup>

Y4 Class Mass - Convent

#### Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup>

PA Costume/Preloved Uniform Sale

#### Thursday 24<sup>th</sup>

End of this half term. Children will finish school at 3.15pm. After school clubs take place as normal.

#### Friday 25<sup>th</sup>

Inset Day. Children should not attend school on this day

### MESSAGE OF THANKS FROM THE SISTERS OF MERCY

The Sisters of Mercy would like to thank the St Mary's community for sharing in their celebrations for their 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on the foundation of Eltham Convent.

They were so grateful to the Y6 children who were able to actively participate in the Mass and the Chamber Choir singing was just heavenly.

Many thanks to all the families who attended the Mass and who came to the gathering afterwards.

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

## Y1 GEOGRAPY TRIP

As part of their geography topic, children from Y1 enjoyed a trip around Eltham. They looked at the names of the different roads and talked about which roads were quiet and which were busy. They pointed out the different buildings that they recognised in Eltham such as Christchurch and the fire station.



## COFFEE MORNING

Please put Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November (9am) on your calendar as Mrs Henderson, our SENCO, has invited the health advisors from the Young Greenwich School Nursing Team on site to talk to parents. They can help with health advice or any concerns regarding toileting, behaviour, healthy eating, sleep patterns, dental hygiene and headlice advice.

They will give an introduction to their service and talk about what they can offer parents and families.

## LITERACY



*This week Mrs Thaxter recommends a poem.....*

### **Numbers in Nature Evelyn Shallice, 6N**

*Spring brings countless little shoots.  
Bees emerge from their hives of thousands and their fuzzy bodies fly towards flowers with millions of tiny seeds.*

*Summer brings countless families to the beach. They walk on infinite grains of sand as the sea washes their ten toes with salty water.*

*Autumn brings countless conkers on the floor. Leaves fall from the trees as they turn different shades.*

*Winter brings countless cups of cocoa and many snowmen scattered around outside cosy cottages.*

### **RBG POETRY COMPETITION**

RB Greenwich have launched their annual poetry competition. This year's theme is *counting*. Children can write any type of poem inspired by the *counting* theme. The maximum number of lines is 20. Completed poems can be handed to Mrs Thaxter by Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November, stating your name, year group and class. We look forward to seeing your creative counting!

### **BBC 500 WORD COMPETITION**

The BBC 500 Word Competition is open for entries until Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November. Children who wish to take part must write a story in 500 words or less. Children should not miss out on this wonderful opportunity – we see some wonderful creative writing here at St Mary's!

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/500-words>

## CHILDREN'S CORNER

This week.....

Ava Desbruslais, RA, has attended Little Kickers football club since she was 2 years old and has now progressed to Mega Kickers! She loves football and wanted to share her achievements.



Adam Zielinski, 4J, recently joined 1<sup>st</sup> Royal Eltham Scout Group and has officially become a scout. He participated in his Badge Ceremony and received his Certificate of Investiture.



Emma Rose Mead, 6M, recently competed in the Regional Hotshot Dance Competition and won 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Tap-Dancing Solo Competition! She has qualified to compete in the National Competition.



## APPLYING TO ST MARY'S

If you, or if you know someone who is applying to St Mary's for a place in Reception or Nursery September 2025, please refer to the website for application details. Parents are required to complete a Certificate of Catholic Practice and an information form, and return them to the main office with your child's baptism cert and a proof of your address by Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2025. You must also apply to your local authority.

<https://www.stmaryrc.org.uk/Admissions-04122019150956/>

We have two more open mornings for parents and carers to come and visit – Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November and Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January. Please phone the main office to book onto the tour.

From September 2025, our Nursery will be moving to all day sessions only. Morning and afternoon sessions will no longer be available. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

## PA NEWS

### Dates for your Diary:

#### **Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October – Costume and Preloved Uniform Sale**

Members of the PA will be set up in the parent's waiting area selling preloved children's costumes and uniform. Please ensure you take a look.

#### **Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> November – Fireworks Night**

The annual Fireworks Night is taking place on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> November. This year, this enjoyable family event is happening at St Mary's and is taking on a new look! More information will follow regarding the event.

## CHRISTCHURCH CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Please put Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November in your diary for the Christchurch Christmas Fayre. It will take place between 10am-1pm.

If you have unwanted or unused toys, gifts or bottles, please consider donating them to Christchurch. There are black bins at the end of the church to take donations.

If you would like to rent out a stall please contact Halina Faratro on [halinkagawor@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:halinkagawor@hotmail.co.uk).

## CREAVTIVITY IN CLASS H

Fionn Doyle, 3H, made this amazing Stone Age cave model at home. The children are currently learning about life in Stone Age times. Fionn was inspired to make his model by Yamen, from 3G, who had showed us a cave model she had made in class.



## Y6 SECONDARY TRANSITION

Applications for secondary school must be submitted by **Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> October**. Please ensure you complete all the necessary forms for the different schools.

Fr John is signing forms this week and next; please make a note of the dates and times. Booking is not necessary.

Date	Time
18 October	5pm – 6.30pm
19 October	4pm – 5.30am
25 October	5pm – 6.30pm
26 October	4pm – 5.30pm

## BOOKSHOP

*St Mary's Book Shop* will reopen for Infant children after half term. The *Book Shop* has a lovely variety of books for sale.

Children can bring a small amount of money each week (amounts such as 5p, 10p, 20p, 50p, £1 etc.) and save up to purchase a book they would love to read at home. The books are varied in price but are discounted from the cover price and often no more than £3. Children do not have to bring money but will still get the opportunity to browse and read the books.

*Book Shop* will run every Wednesday during the school day. Reception children will receive a *Book Shop Savings Card*. Children in Y1 and Y2 are encouraged to continue with their *book shop card* from last academic year. If your child needs a replacement, please speak to their class teacher.