

Weekly Newsletter

Friday 20th May 2022

St Mary's Catholic Primary School



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HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

This week, the children in Y6 have been learning about money including the link between jobs and money, how they pay for things and what deductions can be made from wages. How we pay for things has moved on in my lifetime with contactless payments now representing the majority of my transactions.

Just like in areas such as computing and technology, what the children learn must always be kept up to date as it is likely that when the children are older they will have little use of cash in the same way that previous generations have.

For those parents that wish to find out ways that they can support the children in this area, then please click on the website below.

<https://natwest.mymoneysense.com/parents/>

Whilst it is raining as I write this message, I hope that the sun will shine at tomorrow's football event down at Eltham Town. I look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible.

I would like to thank the PA members who came to paint our library this week. Our library is in the process of having a complete refurbishment. We are working closely with *Acorn Book Club* as well as our PA to make the library the heart of St Mary's.

Many thanks to Miss Collins for coordinating and to Mrs Gosbee, our PA Chairperson, for gathering the parents together (Mrs Landais, Mrs Steele, Mrs Clark, Mrs Ball, Mrs Szymanski and Mrs Juskelyte). Many thanks also to Eltham DIY Store for donating the paint.

Kind regards
Mr J Sims
Headteacher

WEEK BEGINNING 23th MAY

Tuesday 24th May

Crowning of Our Lady

Wednesday 25th May

Reception children visit
Christchurch

Thursday 26th May

Ascension Thursday. Children will attend Mass in the Gym Hall at 10am celebrated by Fr John

Friday 27th May

Queen's Jubilee Day

Last day of the half term. School will close at 3.15pm

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sunday 5th June

Pentecost Sunday

Monday 6th June

Staff Training Day. Children will not attend school on this day.

Tuesday 7th June

Children return to school for an 8.55am start

Tuesday 7th – Friday 10th June

Maths Week. The children will take part in various maths activities this week.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Christchurch welcomes another group of children making their First Holy Communion on Sunday.

I hope you have a wonderful celebration.

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

QUEEN'S JUBILEE DAY

We are looking forward to our forthcoming Queen's Jubilee Day on **Friday 27th May**. We are looking forward to celebrating this momentous occasion at St Mary's. Many thanks to the School Council for helping to organise it.

The children will be invited to come into school in outfits appropriate for the day; this may be an outfit themed for the decade their year group are focussing on, a royal themed outfit (e.g., a Queen/King costume), a Cub/ Scout/ Rainbow/ Brownie uniform or own clothes in the red, white and blue colours of the Union Jack.

We ask parents not to go to any expense for special outfits. See what you can fashion at home or do a swap with friends. Make it easy for yourself.

The decade that each year group will study will be:

Nursery and Reception – 2010's

Year 1 – 2000's

Year 2 – 1990's

Year 3 – 1980's

Year 4 – 1970's

Year 5 – 1960's

Year 6 – 1950's

The children are invited to participate in the **St Mary's Bake Off**. This is, of course, optional but we would love to see the children try to bake something. It does not have to be a showstopper but a simple well-made cake will be perfect. All cakes must be homemade, single tier cakes or cupcakes, which represent the theme of the day (Queen's Jubilee).

Please bring all baked goods to school on the morning of Jubilee Day. We will then host a competition, with judges, to choose the star baker before putting the cakes into a school bake sale later in the day.

CROWNING OF OUR LADY

Y4 children will lead this wonderful celebration of Mary, our Blessed Lady. 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 in flowers to honour Our Lady, so we are asking everyone to bring some flowers to school. You can start to send these in from Monday but we would like all the flowers together by Tuesday afternoon. 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 as beautiful. We do want to put extra expense on families. Ask your children to help you arrange the flowers into a bunch so then they feel as they have really contributed.

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

Many thanks for your support.



ASCENSION THURSDAY

Next Thursday, 26th May, is Ascension Thursday. This is a Holy Day of Obligation.

This feast day celebrates Christ's ascension into Heaven 40 days after the Resurrection.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

This week.....

Orla Hilliard and Megan Coates, 2E, completed the Greenwich and Bexley Hospice Run. They both ran 2.62 miles, raising £500 between them



Hope Salter, 4I, got 1st place for reciting the poem, *Why Were You Late for School?* By Steve Turner at All the Arts drama Festival. Poppy and Ruby Salter, 4I, received end of year trophies from Welling United Football Club for their commitment all year.



Aoife Tate, 1D, achieved her stage 2 certificate in her swimming lessons.



WALKING BUS

Many thanks to all the children who joined the Walking Bus on Wednesday. Mrs Turpin and Mrs Whitewood led the children from the main post office on Court Road, all the way up Eltham High Street and eventually to St Mary's. It was a beautiful morning and everyone enjoyed a glorious start to their day.

There will be another Walking Bus arranged before the end of the school year. Look out for details.

ESAFETY – SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN

What Parents Need to Know about Discord

Discord is a free app, which allows users to communicate in real time via text, video or voice chat. Available on desktop and mobile devices, it was originally designed to help gamers cooperate – but has evolved into a more general networking platform for a range of online communities, discussing topics like TV series, music, Web3 and more. Discord is organised around closed groups, referred to as 'servers'. To join a server, users must be invited or provided with a unique link. It is a space for users to interact with friends, meet others with shared interests and collaborate in private online — but it is also a place where young people can be exposed to risks if the right precautions are not taken.

As with any app that allows communication between different people, parents must talk to their children about proper usage and the need to talk openly if situations get out of hand.

. PA NEWS

The PA are busy planning for the forthcoming events so they would like parents to save the following dates:

Saturday 21st May – Parent's football match in Eltham Town Football Club. The teams have been put together so the PA are looking forward to seeing crowds of supporters for the opposing teams! There will be food and drinks available and lots of space for families to get together.

Please arrive at the grounds at 10.30am for an 11am start.

Friday 17th June – Father's Day gift sale. Gifts from 50p - £3.

Saturday 25th June – Annual Summer Fayre. The PA are currently collecting teddies and soft toys so if you can donate some spares please do.

The bottle stall requires bottles! If you are able, please bring a bottle of 'something' to the main office. It can be anything from a bottle of washing up liquid to a bottle of gin! You decide and be inventive! All bottles must be unopened and in date.

Many helpers will be needed on the day so please email the PA to offer your services. There will be many stalls operating so many volunteers will be required. Do not feel you have to commit to the whole afternoon – every half hour of help will be beneficial.

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Wednesday 6th July – The PA are holding a meeting with food and drinks to say goodbye to the year 6 parents who have been part of the PA for many years. Everyone is welcome and if you have not been to a meeting before, this is a good time to introduce yourself. As one lot of parents leave, we need the new parents to take their places.

Saturday 16th July – Y6 Leaver's Party with a Hawaiian theme.

CAREERS DAY

We are planning to have a Career's Day for the children in years 5 & 6 before the end of the year. If you or you know someone who would like to come to the school to talk to the children, please let the office staff know.

We would like people from different career backgrounds to show case their jobs so please contact us for more information

VACANCY

A vacancy has become available for a school cleaner. This position is available every day, Monday – Friday, 3.15pm -6.15pm.

If you would like to apply, please contact the main office for an application form.

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