

Weekly Newsletter

Friday 21st March 2025

St Mary's Catholic Primary School



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MESSAGE FROM OUR HEAD OF SCHOOL

ST OSCAR ROMERO FEAST DAY

We will celebrate St Oscar Romero Feast Day on Monday 24th March. Parents and carers are invited to a prayer session, led by the Faith Friends, to celebrate the life of St Oscar Romero. Please join us at 8.30am in the gym hall. Everyone welcome.

What a week it is has been at St Mary's!

I am incredibly proud of our Chamber Choir for their outstanding success in the Bromley Music Festival! Their hard work and dedication are evident to see, and this achievement is down to their talent and teamwork. A huge congratulations to everyone involved, including Mrs McGarry and all the parents and carers.

Each year over 20,000 children enter the Utilita U11's Kids Cup Regional Football competition and out of these 20,000, our 9 strong football team has earned it's place to play in Wembley! The team have represented St Mary's with determination and sportsmanship, setting a fantastic example for others.

Enjoy a wonderful weekend.

Mrs Hansen

Head of School

MESSAGE FROM MR DAVID GARRIDO, CEO

As from Monday 24th March 2025 the South East London Catholic Academy Trust (SELCAT) will officially change to **St Oscar Romero Catholic Academy Trust**. This change marks a significant step in our ongoing commitment to Catholic Education in the Archdiocese of Southwark, as we move away from our founding geographical name to one that embodies the values and teachings of St Oscar Romero, a revered figure in the Catholic community and an emblem of social justice, compassion and faith. The decision to rename our Trust reflects our own faith journey as an organisation. The inspirational life and teachings of St Oscar Romero as a powerful symbol of faith, courage and commitment to human dignity very much aligns to our values as an organisation and faith community. We are blessed that the location of the National Shrine to St Oscar Romero is at our Diocesan Cathedral and provides a natural alignment to our Trust.

St Mary's remains an important part of St Oscar Romero Catholic Trust, and at this time of change we renew our commitment to excellence in Catholic education, faith, community service and putting opportunities for children and young people at the heart of everything we do. Our new identity as the St Oscar Romero Catholic Academy Trust reflects our dedication to nurturing a community rooted in excellence, justice, compassion, and faith in Jesus Christ

We are grateful for the continuing support of our school communities and families.

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

WEEK BEGINNING 24th MARCH

Monday 24th

St Oscar Romero Feast Day

Tuesday 25th

Y5 Stations of the Cross
End of Term Gymnastics Display.
4.10pm

Wednesday 26th

Y6 Stations of the Cross
Parent's Evening 3.30pm – 6pm

Thursday 27th

St Oscar Romero Feast Day Mass at
12.30pm in St George's Cathedral,
Southwark. Chamber Choir to attend.
Y5/Y6 Football Competition
Parent's Evening 3.30pm – 6pm

Friday 28th

PA Event – Mother's Day Gift Sale
End of Term Creative Stars Show

FAITH FRIENDS

As part of the *Catholic Social Teaching Principle of The Common Good*, the Faith Friends gathered today, to tell the story about a tree that did not bear fruit and how the gardener tried to help it grow better. Trees need nourishment to grow and be healthy, just like we do. We need the right conditions to live our lives well; food, water and belief in Jesus.

The gardener is like Jesus. He is nourishing the tree to help it grow just like Jesus is nourishing us to help us grow and live good lives.

Forgiving God, we thank you for the love and care that you show for us all. Help us to grow in that love, and to do all that we can to help each other to live free from hunger and poverty. Amen.



SPORTING NEWS

We are thrilled to announce that a group of Y5 and Y6 students from St Mary's have earned the incredible, once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to play at Wembley Stadium!

Their journey began at Sparrows Lane, where they triumphed as winners of Greenwich, securing a spot to represent Charlton in the regional finals of the competition. They got through to the final without having conceded a single goal. In the knockout rounds, they beat Wycombe Wanderers and then Bristol Rovers in a penalty shootout before defeating Reading in the final 2-0. Now, St Mary's will proudly go on to represent Charlton in the national finals, which will be held at Wembley Stadium during the Sky Bet EFL Play-Off weekend in May. These talented pupils will follow in the footsteps of international stars like Jamal Musiala, Jude Bellingham and Scott McTominay, who all participated in the Utilita Kids Cup in their younger years.

During the medal ceremony our team was praised for promoting peace throughout the competition. Thank you to Mr Jones who volunteered his time to assist the team on the day and to all of the parents and families of the children in the team that helped prepare their children and supported the team on the day– it truly was a team effort! Many thanks to Miss Gannon for her encouragement and belief!

Catholic Social Teaching Principles of Participation and Promoting Peace.



MUSIC

Our Chamber Choir participated in the Bromley Festival last Friday in Bromley High School. They were awarded 86 marks for their performance, coming first place. The winners of the competition last year were awarded 84 marks!

They were amazing and Mrs McGarry was very proud of them, competing against some other amazing choirs.

Many thanks for all your support; leading up to the event and on the evening of the performance.

The Chamber Choir is joining the choir at St Thomas More Secondary School on Thursday 27th March in St George's Cathedral, Southwark to sing at the St Oscar Romero Feast Mass. The Archbishop of Southwark will be conducting the Mass. Details have already been emailed to parents and carers.

Catholic Social Teaching Principle of Participation.



CHILDREN'S CORNER

This week.....

Maja Harding, 6M, was awarded the Jack Petchey Award for Outstanding Achievement in her netball club. Maja was lucky enough to be gifted tickets for herself and her family to go to the London Pulse games in May. A lovely day out to look forward to.



Sebi Sbraga, RB, took part in an Inter Club competition and received first place for completing floor work, bar and vault. Well done Sebi.



Erin Murphy, 3G, earned her first stripe at Brazilian Jitsu class. The first stripe indicates commitment and grasp of basic techniques. She is confident moving onto the next level of training.



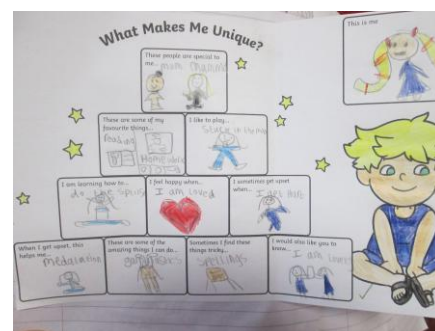
Catholic Social Teaching Principle of Human Dignity

NEURODIVERSITY CELEBRATION WEEK



To celebrate Neurodiversity Week, the Y2 children made a page about what makes them unique. The children wrote one word on a whiteboard and shared what they wrote. We all love being unique and special!!

Catholic Social Teaching Principle of Human Dignity



SCIENCE PHOTO COMPETITION

'National Science Week' is currently taking place with the theme 'change and adapt'. At St Mary's we will celebrate our own Science Week from Monday 16th June 2025. In recognition of 'National Science Week' we invite **all** pupils to participate in a fun and creative **photo challenge**.

We would like children to take a photo that captures something scientifically changing and adapting, that is happening in Spring.

Examples of this could be:

- plants growing from seed to plant
- Buds opening into flowers
- insects that have come out of hibernation
- changes that can be seen in the weather.

Along with the photo, please include a short explanation (2-3 sentences) about what is scientifically happening in your picture. You can either email the photo and explanation to the main office or print it out and bring it to school by **Friday 4th April**.

We look forward to seeing the wonders of Spring and celebrating Science Week together. There will be prizes awarded for the most unique and interesting image/series of images so be sure to be creative!

Catholic Social Teaching Principle of Participation.

PRE LOVED BICYCLES

Please see below details of a preloved bicycle sale that will take at St Mary's on Thursday 8th May. What a brilliant initiative!



SECOND-HAND BIKE MARKET

ST MARY'S PRIMARY
THURSDAY 8TH MAY



Our second hand bike markets are an excellent way to create affordable bike stock for your community and to help everyone to experience the joys of cycling.

Donate your outgrown, unwanted bikes in the morning - Peddle My Wheels will spend the day getting them ready. Proceeds from the sale of donated bikes will go back to your school.

After school you can buy a serviced, affordable, used bike (you can pay by cash or card).

The bike markets are run by Peddle My Wheels
For more information visit peddlemywheels.com
@peddlemywheels

Partnering with
ROYAL BOROUGH OF GREENWICH

Catholic Social Teaching Principle of Stewardship.

MESSAGE FROM THE ECO WARRIERS

Tuesday 18th March was Global Recycling Day. The day is recognised by the United Nations and is celebrated around the world. The first Global Recycling Day was celebrated on March 18, 2018, and it has since become an annual event that brings together individuals, organisations, and governments to promote recycling and sustainable practices.

Here are some ways to get the whole family involved in recycling:

- **Learn about recycling:** Take some time to learn about the recycling process, what can and cannot be recycled, and how recycling helps to reduce waste and conserve resources.
- **Take action:** Start by making small changes in your daily routine, such as using reusable bags and water bottles, reducing food waste, and properly disposing of hazardous materials. You can also participate in local recycling programs and volunteer for community clean-up events.
- **Spread the word:** Share information about recycling and promote the importance of sustainable practices. Encourage your friends and family to get involved and make a difference.
- **Attend local events:** Check your local events calendar for Global Recycling Day activities and events, such as recycling drives, workshops, and community clean-up efforts.

Catholic Social Teaching Principle of The Common Good and Stewardship.

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**. Children are invited to write a short story, no more than 500 words, preferably typed, on the theme of **HOME**.

All entries can be sent to Miss Gannon by Friday 18th April. Please include your full name and class.

Catholic Social Teaching Principle of Participation.

LITERACY

This week Ms Gannon recommends a poem....

Shel Silverstein
I think I'm stuck on you

Bunny Rabbit went to see
His good friend Teddy Bear
Who had some nice sweet honey
That she was glad to share
They gobbled it and slurped it
It stuck to them like glue
Said Teddy Bear to Bunny,
"I stink I'm stuck on you!"