

Weekly Newsletter
Friday 23rd September 2022

St Mary's Catholic Primary School

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MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHERS

We would like to thank all the parents of Year Six who came to our Transition Evening on Tuesday to find out about the process of moving to secondary school. Thank you also to Mr Sharp, headteacher of St Thomas More Comprehensive, who spoke about how strong the relationship was between the two schools and how the values that are instilled at St Mary's are built upon on at St Thomas More.

On Thursday, Mrs Hansen and Miss Brophy hosted a coffee morning where they spoke to Reception parents about phonics and the importance of reading. Thank you to all who attended. Please can we remind parents of two parents events next week on Tuesday (Meet the Headteachers) and Friday (Special Educational Needs Talk).

We would like to share with parents and carers, two pieces of feedback that were received this week. Year Two welcomed a visitor from Freshwater Theatre Company who said that the children were impeccably behaved, had intelligent and thoughtful ideas and were really engaged with the session.

Blackheath Rugby Club who were again on site today said that the behaviour of our children was excellent, despite the noisy final stages of the sports pitch that is being built!

Have a great weekend!

Mr J Sims and Miss C Phipps
Headteachers



WEEK BEGINNING 26/09/2022

Tuesday 27th

Coffee morning for parents at 9am in the dining hall

Whole school Harvest Mass celebrated by Fr John

Thursday 29th

Food and Fellowship Event at 3.30pm

Friday 30th

Chamber Choir performing at St George's Cathedral

SEN coffee morning for parents organised by Mrs Lopez at 9am

Black History Month begins

HARVEST FESTIVAL

Our **Annual Harvest Mass** takes place on **Tuesday 27th September**.

Every year, St Mary's collects items for a charity and this year, we are supporting The House of Mercy. This charitable organisation, run by the Sisters of Mercy, supports the homeless.

The charity is always in need of non-perishable food items so please try to donate, even just one item. Items can be taken straight to class, the main office or placed at the display in the main entrance.

Food must be non-perishable, sealed and in date e.g., tinned meat and fish, rice, pasta, dried herbs and spices, tea and coffee. Cleaning products, toiletries and plastic cutlery are always needed too. Thank you for your support.

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

FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP EVENT

Mrs Whitewood is organising the event so come along for an hour or two to enjoy nice food and company on **Thursday 29th September at 3.30pm**. This lovely event will take place in the gym hall to celebrate the richness and diversity of our school. Bring along your friends and mingle whilst trying out the different foods. The gym hall will be set up with different flags on the tables so when you see your country's flag you can leave your dish there.

Many parents have already offered to bring a dish so spread the word around. The office staff are aware of some of the dishes but please email to let them know if you can come and what nationality you are. The more people the merrier and the children will enjoy socialising too!

PHONICS WORKSHOP

The phonics workshop was very well attended yesterday. We hope you found it interesting. Information has been uploaded to the website, so please take a look.

<https://www.stmaryrc.org.uk/Reading-at-home/>

Many thanks to Mrs Hansen and Miss Brophy for arranging this.

MUSIC NEWS

CHAMBER CHOIR

Mrs McGarry and Mr Slms are accompanying the Chamber Choir to St George's Cathedral, Southwark, on Friday 30th September, to sing at a special ***Beginning of the Year Mass*** at 10.30am.

More information about this special occasion has been sent to the parents of children in Chamber Choir.

INSTRUMENTAL LESSONS

Please note that there are spaces for children who wish to learn a musical instrument. If your child is in Y4 or above please ask for information at the main office.

If your child has guitar lessons on a Monday, please note that the teacher will not be on site on Monday 26th September. He will make up his lessons on Tuesday so please ensure your child brings their guitar to school with them on Tuesday.

PA NEWS

Our Parent's Association is holding their AGM (Annual General Meeting) on Thursday 6th October at 7pm. This meeting will take place in the dining hall.

The roles of PA Chair/Co Chair and Treasurer/Joint Treasurer are becoming vacant. Parents can put their names forward, to be voted in at the AGM on 6th October. The Parents' Association depends on the assistance of the parents to keep it running. The events we host directly affect the facilities and tools that your child has access to within the school. We endeavour to keep this association active but without volunteers, events will not be able to take place.

If any parent is interested in stepping forward and would like to know more about these exciting roles, please contact the PA by emailing pastmaryseltham@gmail.com.

PE NEWS

Nursery children have been enjoying their first few P.E. lessons. They have been learning how to move in certain ways such as running and jumping, how to move like different animals, how to follow the leader with different instructions and how to work as part of a team! They have been enjoying the patterns and activities on the new AstroTurf and are looking forward to more P.E. fun to come!

The Blackheath Tag Rugby program has just finished its second day and is going brilliantly. The children are having a great time, learning new skills, tactics and teamwork!



WELLBEING

Mindfulness activities help us to be present in the moment and often create a feeling of calm. This week, as a family, put the screens away, step outside while the weather is still mild and notice three things you find beautiful outside. You could also complete a mindfulness colouring page together as a family; there is one attached to this newsletter!