

Weekly Newsletter

Friday 25th April 2025

St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Glenure Road, Eltham. SE9 1UF
020 8850 7835

office@stmaryseltham.org

X: @stmaryseltham

Visit us online at www.stmaryrc.org.uk

Instagram: @sorcatrust

X: @SORCATrust

Facebook: Selcat: Catholic Multi-Academy Trust

BlueSky: @sorcatrust.bsky.social

MESSAGE FROM HEAD OF SCHOOL

Upon our return to school this week, we held an assembly to pray for the late Pope Francis.

The Archbishop of Southwark, John Wilson, said "*Pope Francis' commitment to walk with the poor, to shine a light on their suffering and to offer a way forward is why so many considered him a Pope for the poor. "Yet, Pope Francis has not just been a Pope for the poor, but also a Pope for peace and mercy".*

Pope Francis often spoke about the importance that young people play in shaping a better future. He encouraged young people to be courageous, to dream big, and to live with hope. These words remind us that faith is not just something we hold in our hearts but something we express in the way we treat others every day.

As we begin the final term of this school year, we would like to approach the term with focus, determination, and kindness, keeping our Catholic Social Teaching Principles at the forefront of what we do. It is a busy time as we prepare for exams and all the end-of-year events, but we will support one another and take pride in all that we do.

I ask that we keep one another—and especially Pope Francis—in our prayers as we move forward together, guided by faith, compassion, and community.

Have a restful weekend

Mrs J Hansen
Head of School



Nurturing Our God-Given Talents

WEEK BEGINNING 28th APRIL

Thursday 1st May

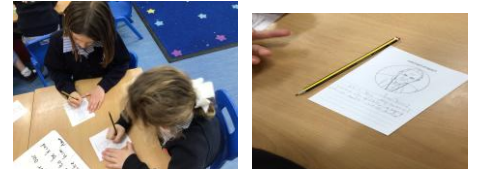
Feast of St Joseph the Worker and
International Worker's Day

Friday 2nd May

Y2 Educational Visit to Woodlands
Farm

FAITH FRIENDS

At the prayer session today, led by the Faith Friends, the children all prayed for Pope Francis. The Faith Friends helped the Infant children to write their own prayers for the Pope. The children spoke about the kindness he showed for those less fortunate in the world.



*Catholic Social Teaching Principle of
Solidarity and Human Dignity*

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

PRAYER AND LITURGY

Today, the children in Class D gathered for a special time of prayer and reflection, led beautifully by Atharva and Molly. The focus of the liturgy was to remember and pray for Pope Francis, following the news of his passing.

In preparation, Atharva and Molly thoughtfully decorated the prayer table with a purple cloth, a St Mary's candle, and a painting of St Peter's Basilica in the Vatican, displayed on a plate.

It was a meaningful moment for the children to come together in prayer and remembrance. They finished with a prayer chosen by Atharva and Molly for this special occasion, bringing the liturgy to a peaceful close.



Catholic Social Teaching Principle of Solidarity

MAY IS A SPECIAL MONTH!

May is a very special month as it marks the month of Our Lady. She is especially important to us at her school, St Mary's.

Our Faith Friends would like to invite parents, with their children, to join them saying the Rosary every Wednesday during May, at 8.30am in the gym hall. The first Rosary will take place on Wednesday 7th May. To pray as a community, led by wonderful children, is a privilege.

Maybe make a May altar at home with your children. A few flowers around a picture or statue of Mary would be a lovely way to honour Our Lady. Take pictures of your home altar and email them to us and we will upload them to the school Twitter account and share them with our families.

The Crowning of Our Lady will take place on Wednesday 21st May at St Mary's, so please save the date.

LITERACY

This week Ms Gannon recommends a poem....

Christina Rossetti
Mix a Pancake

*Mix a pancake
Stir a pancake
Pop it in the pan*

*Fry the pancake
Toss the pancake
Catch it if you can*

SPORTING ACHIEVEMENT

Dotty Steele, 5K, represented St Mary's in the recently held National Schools Equestrian Association Show Jumping Competition. Against some fierce competition, Dotty came 2nd, which qualifies her for the Grass Roots Championships at Hickstead in August.

This is an amazing achievement and as a representative of St Mary's, Dotty showed resilience and sportsmanship.

Catholic Social Teaching Principle of Participation.



CHILDREN'S CORNER

Catholic Social Teaching Principle of Participation.

Philip Medves, 2F, moved up to bronze stage during his Easter holiday. Well done, Philip!



Jack Saunders, 3G, has completed the gold award in his swimming class and has moved up to Academy. Well done, Jack!



Margot Maitre, 3H, passed her swimming stage 2 during the Easter holiday. She now moves to stage 3 and is very excited.



Samuel De Thibault De Boesinghe, RA, gained his Ourson ski award this Easter holiday. Well done, Samuel!



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!

Please bring your old bikes to school on Thursday morning, where they will be collected and serviced by Peddle My Wheels.

There will be a collection of preloved bikes for sale on Thursday afternoon so if you are interested, please take a look.

Catholic Social Teaching Principle of Stewardship.



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

MARATHON RUNNER

One of our staff members, Mrs Marchant, is taking part in her first London Marathon, which is taking place on Sunday 27th April. To prepare, she recently participated in the London Landmark Half Marathon, which she completed in 2 hours and 20 minutes!

Best of luck to Mrs Marchant and all the other competitors.

If you would like to sponsor her, please contact the office where we will pass on your details.



Catholic Social Teaching The Common Good.

KEY DATES

An updated key dates is currently being prepared. When it is emailed out, please add the relevant dates to your calendar so you do not miss key events.

Summer term is very busy with many events taking place so we want parents to be informed.

All dates are also uploaded to our website

CAFOD LENTEN WALK

Many thanks for all your sponsorship money. Your support is truly amazing and we are very grateful. As soon as we have received all the donations, we will inform parents of the total amount.

We ask that all donations are received in the office by Wednesday 30th April.

Catholic Social Teaching Preferential Option for the Poor.