

Weekly Newsletter

Friday 28th February 2025

St Mary's Catholic Primary School

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Nurturing Our God-Given Talents

MESSAGE FROM OUR HEAD OF SCHOOL

Happy St David's Day to all our Welsh families. I hope you enjoy your special day.

Our Y6 children receive confirmation on Monday of their secondary school destination for September 2025. I hope that every child is happy with their outcome but if any parent has any questions, or are unhappy with the school that has been offered, please make an appointment to see me where we can talk things through.

It was lovely seeing the Y2 children celebrate school life in Victorian times today – very different times for children!

We believe that good behaviour is the foundation of a positive and successful learning environment. Respect, kindness, and responsibility are values that we uphold at St Mary's. These values were highlighted this week at the Eltham Centre when class 3G was commended by both the swimming instructors and a member of the public for their good behaviour.

By following school rules, showing good manners, and being considerate of others, we are proud to share this good news, particularly in this uncertain world when bad news seems to outweigh the good.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Hansen

Head of School

WEEK BEGINNING 3rd MARCH

Saturday 1st March

Happy St David's Day to our Welsh families.

Monday 3rd March

Class 5L Bikeability Training all week

Tuesday 4th March

Coffee Morning at 9am. Focus on Dyslexia

Wednesday 5th March

Ash Wednesday

Infant Service – 10am. Dining Hall

Junior Service – 10am. Gym Hall

Thursday 6th March

Y2 Stations of the Cross. Christchurch.
11am

Y4 Stations of the Cross. Christchurch.
1.30pm

Saturday 8th March

International Women's Day

LENT

We will begin the season of Lent on Ash Wednesday (Wednesday 5th March) so all the focal points around the school will change to purple. We should all take this time to be reflective about our actions and try our best to be kind and to think about others.

Fr John will visit us on Ash Wednesday to celebrate Mass with the Junior children. The Infant children will have a separate service with Mrs Hansen.

All children will receive Ashes.

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

JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE

As part of celebrations for the Jubilee Year of Hope, we wanted to create an artwork display that the whole school contributed to. The theme is *Hope*.

Each year group from Nursery to Y6 produced a piece of art. Please see the picture below showcasing a range of beautiful artwork.



FAITH FRIENDS

Today the Faith Friends led a beautiful prayer service for the Infant children focusing on the importance of giving and being generous. Jesus asked us to love everyone, even those who may not display kindness. The children thought about ways that they can spread kindness this week.

"But I tell you who hear me: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, and pray for those who ill-treat you"

Generous God, we thank you for all that you have given us. May we also be generous to others and treat all people as we would wish to be treated. Amen.



LITERACY

This week Ms Gannon recommends a poem.....

**Roger McGough
Pineapple**

*Though as fearsome
as a hand grenade
A pineapple will quench your thirst*

*But before you take
A mighty bite
Make sure you peel it first!*

DYSLEXIA WORKSHOP

Parents and carers are invited to the coffee morning on Tuesday 4th March at 9am. The focus is on Dyslexia. Mrs Henderson will talk about:

- The signs of dyslexia and how it can present itself
- How it can impact the life and education of children
- Ideas and strategies to support your child at home

Tea, coffee and biscuits will be served.

WRAPAROUND SUNSHINE OF THE MONTH

Well done to Patrick O' Shea, RA, who was awarded the Wraparound Sunshine of the Month for February. Patrick's confidence has grown enormously since starting in Wraparound.



CHILDREN'S CORNER

This week.....

Freddie Clark, 3H, was recently signed by Charlton Athletic FC. He is very happy and looking forward to the next part of his football journey. Great news Freddie!



Margot Maitre, 3H, passed her 2nd level cross country skiing (Ourson). Margot is doing very well working her way up through the different levels.



Rose Aslaner, 4I, recently completed stage 5 swimming. Rose was also awarded a bronze medal in the Artistic Swimming Achievement Awards in the Erith and District Swimming Club. Very well done Rose.



Pedro Luzio Santos Gouveia, 1D, was awarded best footballer of the week. Great achievement Pedro!



MOTHER LANGUAGE DAY

Today we celebrated International Mother Language Day at St Mary's. A Mother Language is defined as the language that a child first hears from birth. International Mother Language Day is an opportunity to raise awareness of language, cultural diversity and multilingualism across the world. The whole school have got involved during French lessons, by helping Mrs Flynn, (MFL Lead), to make a short video in which each class has learnt to say hello in a different language. The language chosen by each class is a Mother Language spoken by one of the students from that class. Our short film serves as a celebration of just a few of the languages and cultures that we share in our community of St Mary's.

The children in KS2 enjoyed a special assembly this afternoon, in which they had the chance to learn more ways of saying hello in other Mother Languages from our Year 5 Language Ambassadors, as well as having the opportunity to view the premiere of the film!

There will be more events planned later in the year to celebrate our rich and diverse cultures; details will follow soon.

We look forward to sending the video to parents next week.



SEWING CLUB

Mrs Perrin and Mrs Evans would like to share pictures of the beautiful work the children have made at the sewing after school club. Well done to all the children, who really enjoy attending the club.



PA NEWS

The Parent's Association are working behind the scenes organising their next two events. Please put these dates in your diary:

Friday 14th March – St Patrick's Day family event (PM). Tickets will be on sale soon.

Friday 28th March – Mother's Day gift sale (during the school day)

ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARTY!
FRIDAY 14TH MARCH
7PM - 10PM

Join us for St. Mary's annual St. Patrick's Day celebration!
A fabulous family evening with live Irish music and dancing.
Bar and bar snacks available on the night, sweets and fun for the kids.

Tickets available online
<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/stmaryspa/1551035>

Adults: £7.50
Children: £4.50 (under 3 years old free)
Volunteers: free
<https://volunteersignup.org/TKJK3>