Weekly Newsletter
Friday 2th October 2026

St Mary's Catholic Primary School

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MESSAGE FROM THE DEPUTY HEADTEACHERS

What a fantastic week we have had at St Mary's! The sun has shone brightly, and so have our wonderful children.

On Wednesday morning, the beautiful voices of our choir filled St George's Cathedral. They represented our school incredibly well, with the CEO of our Trust commenting that they were "sensational." We are so proud of them and the joy and confidence they brought to such a special occasion.

Year 6 also had an exciting week as they visited the Imperial War Museum, diving deeper into their learning and bringing their World War II topic to life.

It was lovely to welcome so many of our parents and carers to our Phonics Workshop. Thank you to everyone who joined us and continues to support their children's learning at home. For anyone who was unable to attend, the workshop will be repeated on Thursday 12th November at 9.15am in the gym hall.

Finally, a huge thank you to our wonderful Parent Association for organising their AGM on Wednesday evening and for the continued time, energy and support they give to our school community. If you would like to get involved and join our PA, please do get in touch – they would be delighted to welcome new members!

On Tuesday 6th October at 9.15am, we welcome prospective parents and carers to visit St Mary's and have a look around our school ahead of September 2027 admissions.

If you know anyone who may be interested in joining our school, please do pass this information on. We would love to see them!

Another busy and brilliant week at St Mary's – I hope all our children and families have a restful and enjoyable weekend.

Kind regards

Miss Brophy & Mrs Pita
Deputy Headteachers

WEEK BEGINNING 5th OCTOBER

Monday 5th October
World Teacher's Day

Tuesday 6th October
Open Morning for Prospective Parents and Carers. 9.15am

Y5 Class Mass. Christchurch.10am

Friday 9th October
Rosary led by the Faith Friends.
8.30am. Gym Hall. Everyone Welcome

OCTOBER – THE MONTH OF THE ROSARY

Many thanks to all the families who attended the Rosary this morning. I hope it helped start your day in a positive mindful way.

Parents and family members are invited to join the Faith Friends again on Friday 9th and Friday 16th October at 8.30am in the gym hall. The children will continue to lead this prayer service.

WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY SATURDAY 10th OCTOBER

World Mental Health Day is a reminder of the importance of looking after our mental health and wellbeing. At St Mary's, we encourage the children to talk about their feelings, look out for one another and remember that it is always okay to ask for help. Small acts of kindness, spending time with friends and talking to someone we trust can all make a difference. We will continue to look after ourselves and each other.

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

CHAMBER CHOIR

The Chamber Choir sung at the Beginning of Year Mass in St George's Cathedral this week, accompanied by Mrs McGarry, Miss Brophy and Mrs Pita.

They sang beautifully and were commended by the other schools in attendance.

We are very proud of our choir and look forward to many more events this year.

CHARITABLE DEEDS

Jessica Little and Florence Marnham, 6N, recently participated in a Triathlon, part of the Hever Castle Multisports Weekend, to raise money for the Team Phoenix Foundation. This charity is a breast cancer survivorship programme that addresses mind, body, and soul through the sport of triathlon.

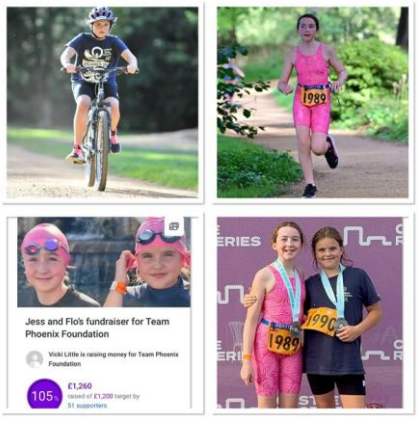
Jessica and Florence completed their triathlon, inspired by the women they met on the day who are participating in the programme. This is the second time the girls have undertaken this feat of endurance, raising money for the charity that has become very close to their hearts.

Please take a look at the video on X.

https://x.com/StMarysEltham

If you would like to donate, please follow the link to their Just Giving page.

https://www.justgiving.com/page/jessandflo?utm_source=WA&utm_medium=DT



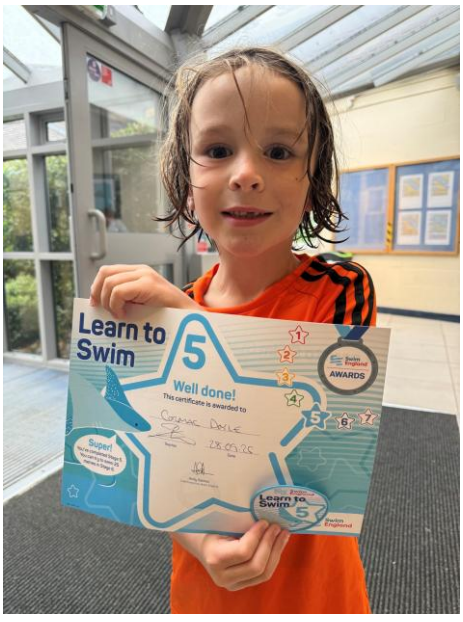
CHILDREN'S CORNER

Sophie Smith, RB, has achieved her Red Swimming Award after completing the first level at her Swim School. She has moved into a new class and is now working towards the Amber Certificate.

Very good work Sophie!

Cormac Doyle, 2F, passed his swimming stage 5 and is now working his stage 6.

Well done Cormac!



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SCHOOL FUND

We would like to ask for your support with the St Mary's School Fund. This year, we are hoping to raise money towards replacing the Trim Trail in the Junior playground, which is very popular and enjoyed by our Junior children during playtime.

We are suggesting a voluntary contribution of £50 per family per year. We understand that not every family will be able to contribute this amount, so please give what you are able to.

Contributions should be made via WisePay, under General Payments.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support of St Mary's. Your contributions help us to provide the best possible environment and experiences for our children.

PUPIL PREMIUM
IMPORTANT REMINDER

Please refer to the email sent this week regarding the changes to Pupil Premium.

If you think your child may be eligible, we ask that you reapply, even if you have applied in the past. Applications now need to be made every year.

If you have any questions or need any help with the application, please contact the school office.

Click on this link to apply:
https://fsm.lgfl.net/app/school/19592

SCIENCE WEEK
MONDAY 19TH – THURSDAY 22ND OCTOBER

We are looking forward to celebrating Science Week, with lots of fun and exciting science-related activities planned for the children. Children from Nursery – Y6 will take part. More details will be sent to parents and carers nearer the time.

To help towards the cost of these activities, we are asking for a voluntary contribution of £1 per child, which can be paid through WisePay, under General Payments.

COOKERY CLUB

This week the Cookery Club children baked healthy fruity, muesli cookies. After binding the mixture together, they rolled the dough into small balls and baked them in the office for 10 minutes. They looked and smelt delicious afterwards!

SIGNING PRIMARY/SECONDARY SCHOOL APPLICATION FORMS

Fr John in Christchurch is signing supplementary forms for both primary and secondary applications every Friday and Saturday in October from 3pm – 5pm.

Applications for secondary schools must be submitted by Saturday 31st October.

If you, or if you know someone who is applying to St Mary's for a place in Reception or Nursery 2027, please refer to the website for application details. Parents are required to complete a Certificate of Catholic Practice and an information form, and return them to the main office with your child's baptism cert and a proof of your address by Friday 15th January 2027. You must also apply to your local authority.

We have three open mornings for parents and carers to come and visit – Tuesday 6th October, Tuesday 10th November and Tuesday 5th January. Please phone the main office to book onto the tour.

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