

Weekly Newsletter  
Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2024

St Mary's Catholic Primary School

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WEEK BEGINNING 7<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup>**

Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup>**

Y5/6 Mixed Tag Rugby Competition at Old Colfeians RFC

**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup>**

World Mental Health Day

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup>**

Rosary in the Gym Hall at 8.30am for Parents and Carers.

### MESSAGE FROM OUR HEAD OF SCHOOL

On Monday, I accompanied the Chamber Choir and Y6 children to the Sisters of Mercy 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass in Christchurch. The Mass commemorated the foundation of Eltham Convent by Mother Clare Moore on 30<sup>th</sup> September 1874. It was a very special Mass to be a part of and I was very proud of the Chamber Choir for their beautiful singing and the Y6 children for behaving impeccably.

Many thanks to Mrs McGarry for preparing the Chamber Choir so well.



We celebrated National Poetry Day on Thursday. The children gathered in the playground to recite the following poem together. Take a look at the video which has been uploaded to Twitter.

*If I were a furry bear.  
And had a furry tummy.  
I'd climb into a honey jar  
And make my tummy yummy!*



Enjoy your weekend!

Mrs Hansen  
Head of School

### FAITH FRIENDS

The Faith Friends have been busy today!

First thing this morning the children led the Rosary for parents and carers. Many thanks to all who attended. They will lead the Rosary again next Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> October.

The Rosary is the most beautiful and the most rich in graces of all prayers; it is the prayer that touches most the Heart of the Mother of God...and if you wish peace to reign in your homes, recite the family Rosary. The Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary falls on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October.



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

## HARVEST

The Sisters from the Convent collected the Harvest donations today to deliver to the various charities they support. Many thanks to everyone who donated items. They have gone to a very good cause.



## LITERACY



*This week Mrs Thaxter recommends a poem.....*

One of our Y4 students wrote a beautiful poem this week and we thought we would share it with you. We hope you enjoy reading it as much as we did.

### ***A Fisherman's Chant*** ***By Beatrice Brewster, 4I***

*The fisherman wafts through the trees,  
Longing to set his stories free.  
He misses his loves, rivers and streams,  
For his fate is not for the stars it seems.*

### **RBG POETRY COMPETITION**

RB Greenwich have just launched their annual poetry competition. This year's theme is *counting*. Children can write any type of poem inspired by the *counting* theme. The maximum number of lines is 20.

Completed poems can be handed to Mrs Thaxter by Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November, stating your name, year group and class. We look forward to seeing your creative counting!

### **BBC 500 WORD COMPETITION**

BBC's 500 Words, the UK's largest children's writing competition for children aged 5-11 returns from Tuesday 24 September to Friday 8 November 2024. There are two age categories:

- 5-7 year olds
- 8-11 year olds.

All children need to do is to write a story in 500 words or less!

Please inform Mrs Thaxter if you enter a story...she would love to read it!

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/500-words>

## CHILDREN'S CORNER

George Collins, 2E, played in his first rugby tournament for Sidcup Rugby Club and scored an amazing 8 tries!

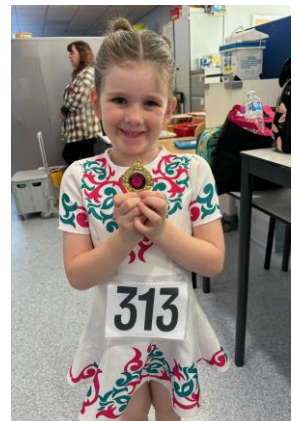
A wonderful rugby career beckons!



Hugo Piorkowski, 2F, moved up a level in his swimming class. He is now in the silver group and proudly wearing his silver swim hat!



Eile McNally, 2F, recently participated in her first Irish dancing Feis and won a medal for her reel. That is a great start for Eile!



## PRAYER AND LITURGY

Sam and Otilie, 1D, prepared the prayer table for the Prayer and Liturgy session, with blue and white colours to symbolise the month of the Rosary. They also displayed the rosary beads and a lovely picture of Mary holding baby Jesus in her arms. They chose a special prayer to welcome everyone.

*Dear Mary,  
Watch over me with love.  
Open my heart to welcome Jesus.  
Help me to grow today and every day.  
Amen*



## APPLYING TO ST MARY'S

If you, or if you know someone who is applying to St Mary's for a place in Reception or Nursery September 2025, 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 Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2025. You must also apply to your local authority.

<https://www.stmaryrc.org.uk/Admissions-04122019150956/>

We have two more open mornings for parents and carers to come and visit – Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November and Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January. Please phone the main office to book onto the tour.

From September 2025, our Nursery will be moving to all day sessions only. Morning and afternoon sessions will no longer be available. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

## PARENTS EVENINGS

WEDNESDAY 16<sup>TH</sup>/THURSDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER

Parents are now able to book their timeslot on Wisepay for their parent's evening meeting. If you are having difficulty with your booking, please contact the main office.

The appointments will run from 3.30pm – 6pm. Each appointment is 10 minutes long. When booking timeslots for more than one child, please allow time in between appointments.

Please note that on those two days, children finish school at 3pm. After school clubs will not take place on these two days. Wraparound care will take place as normal.

## UNIFORM

Please ensure your child's uniform is in line with our uniform policy, which is available to read on our website. The children will start wearing their Winter uniform when they return to school after the half term (Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November). If you are planning on purchasing new uniform and are unsure what to buy, please enquire at the main office. Also, please purchase the correct size bookbag for your child. Infant children should have the small folder, Y3/4 the middle sized one and Y5/6 the back packs.

[https://www.stmaryrc.org.uk/docs/UNIFORM/Uniform\\_List.pdf](https://www.stmaryrc.org.uk/docs/UNIFORM/Uniform_List.pdf)

Children in Reception have started getting changed into their PE kit for their PE lessons. Please ensure that you have sent a full PE kit to school with your child. The kit stays at school until the October half term, when children take them home for washing. The kits should be brought back to school again after the half term.

Please ensure every item of uniform is labelled clearly, including bookbags. Children should be able to identify their uniform easily. If your child misplaces any item, check the lost and found area as there seems to be many unclaimed items.