

Weekly Newsletter

Friday 6th June 2025

St Mary's Catholic Primary School

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Nurturing Our God-Given Talents

MESSAGE FROM HEAD OF SCHOOL

Today, on June 6th, we remember a pivotal moment in world history: D-Day, the Allied landings in Normandy in 1944 during World War II.

This day marks the bravery and sacrifice of thousands of soldiers who fought for the values of freedom, peace, and justice. It was a turning point that helped lead to the end of the war and the restoration of peace in Europe. We must always pray for all those people who gave their lives for peace in the world.

This week we welcomed our new cohort of Reception and Nursery children to St Mary's. Starting school is a big milestone — not only for the children but for parents too — and we understand that it can bring a mixture of excitement and nerves. I hope that parents walked away feeling assured that we are here to make the transition as smooth and supportive as possible.

This half term is always one of the busiest! There are many exciting events and important milestones over the next few weeks as we hurtle towards the end of this academic year. From sports days, class trips, and end-of-year performances, to transition sessions, reports, and final assessments, there is a real sense of energy and celebration in the air.

We know this time can feel full-on for families too, and we truly appreciate your continued support in helping everything run smoothly.

Have a lovely weekend and I hope to see many families at the Summer Fayre tomorrow.

Best wishes

Mrs J Hansen
Head of School

WEEK BEGINNING 9th JUNE

Monday 9th June

Charlton Athletic Captain on site for KS2 Assembly

Tuesday 10th June

Vision Screening Nurses on site - Reception Children

Wednesday 11th June

Nursery Sport's Day
Tag Rugby Final – Gunnersbury Park

Thursday 12th June

PA Event – Father's Day Gift Sale

Friday 13th June

Sport's Day in Eltham Park South
Infants – 9.30am – 11am
Juniors – 1.15pm – 3pm

ECO EXPLORERS

This week, our fantastic Eco Explorers completed their rainforest design for a troop of displaced monkeys!

Please take a look at the video posted on X.

<https://x.com/StMarysEltham>

Catholic Social Teaching Principles of Stewardship.

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

FAITH FRIENDS

Today the Faith Friends invited the Infant children to their gathering to talk about how Jesus sent the Holy spirit to guide and protect the disciples.

Mya Grant, 1D, told the group " *The Holy Spirit made the disciples brave so that they could go to other countries to tell them about Jesus*".

Loving God, out of love you sent your Son Jesus to save us, and out of love Jesus sent the Holy Spirit so that we might never be alone. Thanks be to God.

Holy Spirit guide, direct and enlighten us. Amen



PRAYER AND LITURGY

Mia and Cece, 1D, led a Prayer and Liturgy focused on the Catholic Social Teaching principle of stewardship.

The children heard the story of Sofia the Sloth, which reminded us of the importance of looking after God's creation. Through their reflections, they encouraged us to care for the many gifts that God has given to us. These include our environment, our own talent and other resources.

It was a beautiful reminder that even the smallest actions can make a big difference when we act with love and care for the world around us. Well done to our Y1 leaders for sharing such an important message!



MUSIC NEWS

We are pleased to announce that The Royal Greenwich Music Service has announced that St Mary's is one of four schools in Greenwich that has been awarded a Lead School in Music for the academic year 2025-2026. St Mary's will play a pivotal role in championing high-quality music education across Greenwich Borough.

To achieve this accolade, St Mary's has demonstrated outstanding commitment to music education, exemplifying best practice in our curriculum, co-curricular opportunities, and inclusive musical culture. We will now, therefore, support peer schools through collaborative projects and development opportunities.

Congratulations to Mrs McGarry, our music co-ordinator, who continues to work very hard in raising the level of music appreciation in school, nurturing talent and ensuring that music remains a vital part of our children's education.

Many thanks also to the team of music tutors, who come on site each week to teach a variety of instruments and to all the families for their wonderful support.

CHAMBER CHOIR

Please click on the link below to view some pictures from the recent Singing Spectacular Event in Blackheath Halls. This link will expire in 3 days. We were very proud to be part of the audience looking of their amazing performance.

<https://we.tl/t-EkghkmTolp>

Catholic Social Teaching Principles of Participation.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Emily Morris, 5L and Jago Jennings, 3G, both recently completed the Greenwich Junior Aquathlon. This included a 150m swim followed by a 1,500m run. This is an amazing achievement so very well done to both children.



Anna Chiosso, 4I, climbed Cat Bells, a fen in the Lake District, during half term. At 451m, it is the first proper peak she has climbed and she loved scrambling over the rocks!

Another amazing achievement.



Catholic Social Teaching Principles of Participation.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

The school council welcomed our local MP, Mr Clive Efford, on site for a question and answer session. Mr Efford did his best to answer the children's questions about being a Member of Parliament and the local issues that arise which he deals with.

He also took part in a KS2 assembly for children in Y3-Y6.

Many thanks to Mr Efford for taking the time to join us.



Catholic Social Teaching Principles of Solidarity.

SUMMER FAYRE

The PA are very excited about the Summer Fayre, taking place at St Mary's tomorrow, Saturday 7th June.

The weather is looking a little bit unsettled but please do not let that put you off attending. There will still be fun things to see and do and the children love coming to it. There will be delicious food to eat, hot and cold drinks, tombola, face painting, plant stall, portraits, crochet stall and many more.

If you are baking a cake, please take it directly to the cake stall, which is traditionally very popular and sells out quickly!

The PA still want volunteers so if you can spare a half hour, please contact the PA, as many helpers are needed on the day. The more volunteers there are, the easier the event will be to organise. Volunteers are needed to set up before the event, during the day and for cleaning duties afterward. Please sign up by following the link below:

volunteersignup.org/L7L8K

Many thanks for all your support.

SPORT'S DAY

INFANTS - 9.30am-11.30am

JUNIORS - 1.30pm-3.00pm

ELTHAM PARK SOUTH

I hope that the weather will be dry for the St Mary's Sport's Day on **Friday 13th June!** Please ensure your children wear adequate sun protection and hats or bring a light raincoat if needed.

Water will be provided for the children so they will not need to bring their own water bottles to the park. If you are planning to attend, please ensure that you stand in the designated area to keep children safe.

Infants will start at approximately 9.30am. Parents are invited to Eltham Park South to support their children.

Juniors will commence at 1.30pm. Parents are also invited to come along and if you wish to take your Junior child home straight afterwards, please inform the teacher when the events are finished. Any Junior child not collected will be escorted back to school. If another person collects your child, please inform the teacher or the main office.

Wraparound care and after school clubs (science, drama and American football) will take place as normal in the school.

The **NURSERY** Sport's Day is taking place on **Wednesday 11th July** in the Nursery and parents can come along to watch.

AM children – Activities begin at 9.15am

PM children – Activities begin at 1.20pm

FT children – Children who attend all day Nursery will take part in both activities so parents can come along to either session.

After the children have finished their sporting challenges, there will be a small celebration in the Nursery for the children and parents. Once this is over, parents will be free to take their children home.

Full time Nursery children will remain at school for lunch.

SPORTS NEWS

Children in Y5 represented St Mary's at the Platform Cricket Inter-Schools Final at Blackheath Cricket Club this week, achieving 5th place out of 18. The competition actually started with 450 teams when the children were in Y4, so the team did remarkably well. Many thanks to Mrs Thornton and Mrs Farrell for accompanying the children on the day and for the parents who were able to volunteer.



A huge well done to both teams who represented St Mary's at the Charlton Athletic Partnership Tournament! They had the incredible opportunity to play at Charlton Athletic's home ground, The Valley. Out of 28 teams, our teams finished an impressive 1st and 3rd — an outstanding achievement!



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