



ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOLS TRUST

C.E.O.: Miss L. O'Callaghan

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ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC JUNIOR SCHOOL

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Newsletter 2

Friday 15th September 2023

Dear Parents,

It has been a very busy second week and there is lots to share with you, including news that can make us all proud of your wonderful children.

Ofsted inspection

On Monday I received a call informing me that the school was to receive an Ofsted inspection on Tuesday and Wednesday. The inspection has now been completed, and I can share with you that it was an extremely rigorous and useful process. I am very proud indeed of the children and the way that they responded to the observations. The completion of the report from His Majesty's Inspector includes validation, and usually takes around a month before publication. Until publication, nobody is permitted to discuss the outcome of the inspection, but as soon as we receive the report I will share it with you.

Many thanks to the parents who submitted opinions as outlined in the letter from the Inspector. Your input was valuable. Please make sure that you congratulate your children for showing the Inspector their wonderful learning in the school.

Head Girl, Head Boy and School Council

On Monday it was my pleasure to announce which children have been elected to the School Council, and who the Year 6 children voted for to represent the school as Head Girl and Head Boy this year.

I am delighted to allow the new Head Girl and Head Boy space to introduced themselves:

Hello! My name is Lily and I have been elected for Head Girl in our new academic year. Head Girl is a big responsibility that was given to me and it's an honour.

My name is Omogbolahan, and I am the new Head Boy of St Mary's Catholic Junior School. I am really looking forward to representing this school and to help out during important events this year.

Many congratulations to both children and their families.

The School Council representatives are as follows:

- 3A Daisy & Jaden
- 3E Mia & Josh
- 4D Afia & Gabriel
- 4T Veronica & Joel
- 5B Adya & Harrison
- 5C Ivy & Chidiuto
- 6G Ysamae & Jack
- 6P Chidimma & Zarak

All these children can feel proud that their classmates have elected them to this important responsibility.

Year 6 to Year 7 – Transition Meeting

I will be presenting important information for parents of children currently in Year 6 regarding the process of selecting Secondary Schools and making your online application. You are invited to join me at 3.45pm in the School Hall on Thursday 21st September. The presentation will last about half an hour.

Parentpay

Thank-you to all parents who have children new to the school for your patience initiating Parentpay and making initial bookings. A reminder that bookings for Homework After-School Club need to be made the preceding Sunday for the forthcoming week, so that we can check numbers and allocate the appropriate number of staff.

Party bags

Can parents please exercise extreme caution when preparing party bags for birthdays. We appreciate the desire to be generous to friends and celebrate together. However, we have several children in school who have extreme allergic reactions to some kinds of foods and are therefore in danger if some chocolates and sweets are included. Our advice to parents is to put together party bags with simple stationery, toys and stickers.

Assemblies

We have already sent apologies to the children and parents of Class 6P, as it was impossible with our other commitments this week to prepare an assembly as planned. However, this will be rescheduled for a later date. Here are the dates for the forthcoming assemblies, which all take place at **10.25am**:

21st September – Class 6G

28th September – Class 5C

5th October – Class 5B

12th October – Class 4T

19th October – Class 4D

We are aware that the start of the assembly later in the day may be difficult for some parents which is why we are trying to give you as much notice as possible and I apologise if parents of 6P children were inconvenienced this week.

The achievement certificates this week are awarded to Elijah in 3A, Mikaela in 3E, Alex in 4D, Marija in 4T, Patryk and Jason in 5B, Kamsiyochi in 5C, Sharon in 6G and Oscar in 6P. The Head of School's award goes to Mrs Lynch. The swimmer of the week award goes to Anushik in 3A. The kindness award goes to Vanessa in 6P. The computer wizz of the week goes to Windsor and Atinuke in 5C.

Job Vacancy

The school is looking to recruit an Administrative Assistant for our School Office. To find details of this role, click the Trust Information tab and navigate to Staff Vacancies. The closing date for applications is **Monday 25th September**.

I wish you a restful weekend.

Yours faithfully,

Andrew McDonald
Head of School

Health Advice for parents

Heat Health Alerts

Please visit the Met Office website for up to date information about all extreme weather events:

<https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/>

Coronavirus

The World Health Organisation now considers the covid pandemic to not be a global health emergency. For advice and support if you suspect someone has covid, please visit:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/covid-19/covid-19-symptoms-and-what-to-do/>

Fevers

UKHSA advises parents of children with a high temperature ($+38^{\circ}\text{C}$) to keep them home from school, and monitor symptoms. If in doubt, ring **111** for advice.

Group A Strep (*streptococci*)

Scarlet fever is usually a mild illness, but it is highly infectious. Look out for symptoms in your child, which include a sore throat, headache, and fever, along with a fine, pinkish or red body rash with a sandpapery feel. On darker skin the rash can be more difficult to detect visually but will have a sandpapery feel. Children with these symptoms should not attend school.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/living-safely-with-respiratory-infections-including-covid-19>