



# ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOLS TRUST

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

[www.stmaryscatholicprimaryschoolstrust.co.uk](http://www.stmaryscatholicprimaryschoolstrust.co.uk)



## ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC JUNIOR SCHOOL

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Newsletter 5

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Dear Parents,

After the troubling events of last week in Croydon, it has been a week of reflection in school and a chance to remember people who are suffering in our prayers. We have also had the opportunity to reflect on our shared Mission.

### **Faith Leaders' Day at Good Shepherd Catholic Primary and Nursery School, New Addington**

On Tuesday Mr Chappell and Mrs Shutler accompanied our young Faith Leaders for a day of prayer, reflection and activity with children from the other Catholic Primary Schools in the Deanery. It was a fascinating day and the Faith Leaders are going to report back to the rest of the school to describe their experiences.

### **Catholic Teachers' Mass**

It was a privilege to attend the annual mass for those working in Catholic Education at Our Lady of the Annunciation, Addiscombe, on Tuesday evening. We were fortunate to have Father Patrick, our Dean, as the main celebrant. We thank him and all the clergy for the support that they continue to offer those working in Catholic Schools.

### **Staying Safe in our Town**

This week parents and carers of children in Years 5 and 6 received a .pdf version of a leaflet that we share every autumn term with parents. This leaflet pinpoints potential dangers around Croydon and equips parents and carers with guidance. If any family would like a paper copy, please ask at the school office. The children receive their own, slightly different version of this guidance in PSHE lessons in Year 6.

### **Ofsted Report**

We have received our final Ofsted report following the inspection of 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> September. All members of the School Community are welcome to read the findings of His Majesty's Inspector. The most pleasing strand that runs through the whole report is what wonderful children we have at St Mary's. Well done, children!

Congratulations to all the staff at the Junior School for this great report.

Many thanks too to Miss O'Callaghan, our CEO; Miss Mitchell, and the Governors for their support.

The report can be found on our website at 'Trust Information' and then the 'Ofsted' tab. If you require a paper copy of the report, please ask at the school office.

### **Choir Practice**

Choir Practice will start again on Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> October, after a week off.

### **World Mental Health Day – Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

We will be marking this important day for raising awareness on all issues relating to mental health. To find out more, a good place to start is the World Health Organisation:

<https://www.who.int/campaigns/world-mental-health-day>

The children will receive information in school, and Mrs Ifill is happy to talk to children on the day.

## Office

Please be patient if responses from our School Office are not as quick as usual over the coming weeks! We are working on securing a replacement for Miss Trombetta and until then, Mrs Lord will be working solo for a while.

## Assemblies

Thank-you to the children from Class 5B who shared some great poetry for National Poetry Day. Here are the remaining assemblies of this term:

12<sup>th</sup> October – Class 4T – a Class Liturgy

19<sup>th</sup> 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.

## Achievement Certificates

The achievement certificates this week are awarded to Daniella in 3A, Nikola in 3E, Afia in 4D, Franchesca in 4T, The Whole Class in 5B, Laura in 5C, Jonathan in 6G and Zarak in 6P. The Head of School's award goes to Olivier in 4D and the swimmer of the week award goes to Oluwasegun in 4D. The Kindness Award this week goes to Sreya in 6P.

## Staff vacancy

The Governors are seeking to appoint an Assistant Head of School for the Junior School. This will bring the staff structure into parity with our sister school, St Mary's Infant School. The Job Advertisement, Job Description and Person Specification are available on our school website under the tab 'Trust Information – Staff Vacancies'. The closing date for applications for this post is next **Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> October**.

I wish you a peaceful weekend.

Yours faithfully,

Andrew McDonald

Head of School

### **Health Advice for parents**

#### **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/>

***When using a test, check that it is a recent one that is set up to detect new strains of the virus.***

#### **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>