



# 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 22

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2024

Dear Parents,

The reflection and prayer that the children have been involved in this week as we move further into Lent has been impressive to be part of. The children are taking their Lenten promises seriously and responding to the challenging question, *'What am I called to do?'*

### World Book Day – Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March

Next week we will be having a particular focus on books and reading, as Thursday is World Book Day. To celebrate, children are allowed to come to school dressed as their favourite characters from books. Please keep the weather in mind when planning the costume with your child! On Thursday we will be celebrating by sharing our favourite books with the children.

### School uniform reminders

We have noticed that there is a growing number of children who are wearing coats that are not of the prescribed colours. All coats should be navy in colour. For a reminder about what is required, please visit the page on our school website:

<https://www.stmaryscatholicprimaryschoolstrust.co.uk/page/?title=School+Uniform&pid=260>

### CSMA Music Festival

Our preparations for this wonderful celebration are nearly complete, and the children will be performing at Fairfield Halls on Wednesday evening. Please make sure that you secure your tickets via the box office. The link is as follows:

<https://www.fairfield.co.uk/events/csma-festivals-2024>

### Parking

Over the past several years there have been frequent reminders to parents about parking cars in a responsible way when collecting children from school. It is shameful that a small number of selfish people are bringing the reputation of our great school down. **PLEASE:** (1) Do not park in front of the school's car park gate. This is an emergency entrance point and staff need it clear when leaving the site. (2) Do not park in front of the TA centre. This is a security risk and your car could be towed away. (3) Do not park on private property. We received a complaint this week from Little Pumpkins Nursery who have had to install a parking control system. I have contacted Mr Nicol, the Managing Director of the Nursery, to reassure him that the issuing of fines has the school's full support.

**It is unfortunate that I have once again had to apologise to members of the public on behalf of parents. What message does it send to our children to see parents flagrantly breaking the rules for their own convenience?**

### Assemblies and Liturgies

Thank-you to the children from Class 6P who presented such a beautiful assembly yesterday.

Here are the dates for the forthcoming assemblies:

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March – Class 6G

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March – Class 5B

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March – Class 5C

### **Achievement Certificates**

The achievement certificates this week are awarded to Katelyn in 3A, Daisy in 3E, Darija in 4D, Micah in 4T, Elroy and Annalisa in 5B, Margaux in 5C, Olu in 6G and all in 6P. The Head of School's award goes to Joshua in 4T. The Kindness Award this week goes to Olivier in 4D.

Have 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>