



# ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOLS TRUST

CEO: Miss L. O'Callaghan

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



## ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC JUNIOR SCHOOL

Sydenham Road, Croydon, CR0 2EW

Tel: 020 8688 4893

Head of School: Mr. A. J. McDonald

Email: [office@st-mary-jun.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:office@st-mary-jun.croydon.sch.uk)

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Newsletter 4

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Dear Parents,

This week in our assemblies we have been talking about the passage of time and the children shared the things that they knew about the autumn equinox. The changing of the season this year has certainly been matched by a change in the weather, and we have reminded everyone of the importance of warm, waterproof clothes for outdoor time. If you are buying hats, gloves or scarves this weekend please remember to choose *navy blue*.

### Holy Mass

It was a privilege to share Holy Mass in the parish on Monday. The children of Year 5 shared the celebration with the children of Year 2, who they will be paired with as Prayer Partners next year. Thanks to Father Michael who explained so clearly to the children about St Padre Pio on his feast day.

### First Holy Communion

As you are aware, all preparations for the Blessed Sacrament take place in our parishes, not in school. I have been asked to remind all parents of children in Year 3 that the deadline to complete applications to join the course for this year is this Monday, 30<sup>th</sup> September. The link for the parish website is below.

<https://saint-mary.org.uk/>

### Beginning of Year Mass at St George's Cathedral, Southwark

Yesterday our Head Girl, Head Boy and representatives from our Faith Leaders team travelled to St George's Cathedral, Southwark, to share in a beautiful celebration to mark the start of the academic year. Children from the Infant School travelled with us so that both schools were represented. If you would like to find out more about our Mother Church of the Diocese, you can follow the link below or click through our schools' Instagram account as we are followers.

<https://www.stgeorgescathedral.org.uk/>

### Transfer to High School for September 2025

It was a pleasure to welcome the parents of children in Year 6 yesterday afternoon to talk through the process of applying for secondary school places. The step-by-step guide that was referenced is on Croydon Council's website:

<https://www.croydon.gov.uk/schools-and-education/schools/school-admissions/admissions-secondary-schools-university-technical-colleges-and-studio-schools/step-by-step/apply-secondary-school-place-step-step>

Mr Patrick Shields, the Headteacher of St Mary's Catholic High School, also addressed the parents.

### Individual School Photographs

Advance notice: the children's individual photos will be taken by Tempest on 9<sup>th</sup> October.

*'Aspire not to have more but to be more'*



Another reason to choose us.



### Quidditch at St Mary's!

On Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2024 we will be hosting a Quidditch event. This has become a popular sporting activity that has arisen from the Harry Potter stories. We ask that all children wear PE kits next Wednesday, and children can also bring wizarding accessories.

### Liturgy and Assembly time

We had a pause this week whilst children were attending the Cathedral Mass.

Next week parents of children in Class 6G are warmly invited to share their assembly which will take place on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October at 9.30am.

### ASDA rewards

We have registered for Asda's Cashpot for Schools scheme. If you shop at Asda, please add us as your chosen school on Asda rewards, which will mean the school will receive cash every time you shop.

<https://www.parentkind.org.uk/cashpot-for-schools>

### Achievement Certificates

The achievement certificates this week are awarded to Raphael and Michael in 3A, Scarlett in 3E, Kevin in 4D, Riley in 4T, Emma in 5B, Cody in 5C, Gabriel in 6G and Leonardo in 6P. The swimmer of the week is Xorlali in 6G. The Head of School's award goes to Elissa in 5B. The kindness award goes to David in 5B .

Have a restful 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.**

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