



# 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

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Newsletter 7

18<sup>th</sup> October 2024

Dear Parents,

It often seems that the first half term of a new Academic year passes quickly, and this year has been no exception. We are delighted now to see how well the Year 3 children have become active members of the Junior School and they have already made some great contributions.

### Holy Mass

Our rota of different classes attending Mass continued this week and it was the turn of Class 4D. Mass will continue when we returning from the half term break.

### Tempest Photographs

On Wednesday proofs were delivered for your child's individual photograph. Please follow the instructions carefully when completing the request for prints.

### Important – Secondary School Applications

Parents of Year 6 students, please don't forget that the clock is ticking for completing applications for Secondary School.

The deadline for applications at Croydon Council is **Thursday 31st October**, which is in the first week that we are back after the half term holiday. Please don't leave it too late!

### Parent / Teacher Interviews

Thank-you to all the parents who attended on Wednesday evening. It was a useful first meeting for many parents with the new teachers, and it was a pleasure to welcome the new Year 3 parents to the Junior School. (Next parents evening will be held on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2025)

### Uniform

Your child should arrive to school in full school uniform including black school shoes and pencil case. Swimming: Navy bathing suit/trunks, swim hat and goggles. Please ensure all items are labelled clearly with the child's full name. **No glass bottles** should be brought onto the school grounds, either a reusable plastic or tin bottle.

### British Summer Time & Half term holiday

A special reminder to everyone that the change from British Summer Time back to Greenwich Mean Time happens in the final weekend of half term. Clocks go **BACK** one hour on the night of Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> October / Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> October.

The school gates will re-open on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October at 8.50am.

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



Another reason to choose us.



### **New Government Attendance Framework**

Please be mindful if there are **ten sessions of unauthorised absence recorded within a ten-week period** a referral could be made to the local authority and a penalty notice may be issued to you. For a first referral the amount being £160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days, reduced to £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days. There would be no reduction for a second referral within a three-year period.

**Unauthorised absence** includes absence without justified cause, including medical evidence not been provided when requested / no communication with school regarding absence / term time absence / lates recorded after registration has closed.

### **Voluntary contributions – Governors Fund**

The area of ParentPay for parents to make voluntary contributions is still open. These vital contributions have a direct benefit to the children in the school so please consider making a donation if you can afford it.

### **Harvester Collection**

Local charities are helping to share out food and essentials where they are needed in our community. They produce regular lists to avoid waste and to focus collections and donations on those things they are running short of. Please find attached poster for more details.

### **Future Planning**

**Assemblies and liturgies** to which parents are welcome are listed below.

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November – Class 6P

All assemblies and liturgies begin at 9.30am to give the children time to prepare.

### **Trip**

Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> October – Year 4 are going to The Ragged School. Remember – “No slip, No trip”

### **Book Fair**

Get ready for this years scholastic Book Fair, 11<sup>th</sup> November – 18<sup>th</sup> November. You and your child can browse the many discounted and new books on the scholastic website. If you are unable to attend but your child would like to purchase book(s), you can use the book fair gift card, so that your child does not have to carry cash. Pre-paid gift vouchers are available in £5, £10, £15, £20 and £25. Go to [www.bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/gift-vouchers](http://www.bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/gift-vouchers) to buy vouchers for your child before the Fair.

### **Nativity**

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December - Year 4 children will present a Nativity Story at 11am. Parents of children in Year 4 are welcome to join us for this special part of our year.

### **Achievement Certificates**

The achievement certificates this week are awarded to Kailyn in 3A, Sophia in 3E, All children in 4D, Daniella in 4T, Olivier in 5B, Sofiiia in 5C, The mini choir in 6G and Jeremiah in 6P. The swimmer of the week is Chiduto in 6G. The Head of School’s award goes to Jeremiah in 6P. The kindness award goes to Kosidimma in 3A.

Have a well-rested half term break, and we look forward to welcoming all children back on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October.  
Yours faithfully,

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Andrew McDonald

Head of School

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