



# ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOLS TRUST

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



## ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC JUNIOR SCHOOL

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Newsletter 11

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2024

Dear Parents,

Christ is our King: Rejoice! This Sunday we read of Christ's calmness in the face of an interrogation from Pilate, who did not understand the majesty of Jesus and only understood the idea of a kingdom in earthly terms. Sunday is the feast of Christ the King, now properly called *Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe*. In school we will be asking each other the question, 'In what ways has Jesus become 'king' in my life?'

We have had an interesting week in school with several different events to report.

### Our Christmas Charity

Over many years families in our community have received support from the Catholic Children's Society. This year we intend to support their work by making a charitable donation from all our Advent and Christmas events.

[www.cathchild.org.uk/](http://www.cathchild.org.uk/)

### Year 6 Fundraiser – Sending books to Uganda – WEAR YOUR DISNEY COSTUMES

The children in Year 6 have been arranging to send unwanted books to a school in Uganda. However, there is a cost involved in this. We would like to link this to the themed day for our school dinners on **Thursday**. If your child would like to wear his or her Disney Dressing up clothes, please allow them to dress up on Thursday and bring a donation. This can be cash or ParentPay, and the minimum suggested is £2.

### Cross Country Champions

After many years of close second and third places, our children finally won the Catholic Schools' Cross Country Championship last Friday. It breaks a long period of dominance from bigger schools. The effort that the children in the team put in was remarkable. We are very proud of their achievement, and children received certificates and showed everyone the winners' trophy on Tuesday in assembly. The trophy is now on display in our entrance hall, please take a look when you next have reason to come into the building.



### Quiz Club Science

On Wednesday we hosted a regional heat of the national Quiz Club competition. We welcomed children from seven other schools and they competed answering science questions. It was a really fun event and all the children learned a lot – both scientific facts and quiz strategy. The winning team were St Aidan's from Coulsdon. Congratulations to Leonardo, Heloisa, Gabriel and Emma who represented our school so well.

'Aspire not to have more but to be more'



Another reason  
to choose us.



### HSBC Life Skills

On Monday and Tuesday all the children took part in a really useful workshop from HSBC that highlighted financial responsibility and the skills needed to manage money. In a changing world in which physical cash is less and less evident, it is important training.

### Assemblies and Liturgies

It was a privilege to share a liturgy with the children and parents from Class 3A yesterday. The children show such reverence in prayer and were able to teach us all about Christ the King.

Next week the children of Class 5B are invited to share a liturgy with the children in the hall at **9.15am** on Thursday. **Please note the earlier start time for this liturgy.**

### After-school swimming – temporary change

Next week's lesson will be on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> at 3.30pm instead of Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> because Miss Aherne will be attending a training session. Timings will return to normal in the following week.

### Christmas Decoration Competition

It is a little early to be thinking about Christmas decorations as we are not yet in Advent, but we are keen for children to start thinking about their designs. We will be running our Christmas Tree decorations competition again this year. The blank templates cost 50p per item and are available from the School Office. Winners will be chosen by Mrs Chappell and prizes will be given for first, second and third place. Money raised will be donated to our Christmas Charity.

### Head of School Blog

As we have reached the solemnity of Christ the King and Advent is just around the corner, there is a new Head of School Blog on our website. The theme is 'waiting'. Find it under Junior School Information.

### Achievement Certificates

The achievement certificates this week are awarded to Tomoki in 3A, Julian in 3E, Racheal in 4D, Eliza in 4T, Michael in 5B, Samantha in 5C, Theodore in 6G and Mokshitha in 6P. The Head of School's award goes to Antonio in 4T. The kindness award goes to Ivy in 5B. The Swimmer of the Week is Leonardo in 6P.

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.***

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