



ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOLS TRUST

CEO: Miss L. O'Callaghan

www.stmaryscatholicprimaryschoolstrust.co.uk

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC JUNIOR SCHOOL

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Newsletter 18

Dear Parents,

Friday 24th January 2025



Launch of the 2025 Jubilee – Pilgrims of Hope

Today is the date of the official launch of the Church's Jubilee. As you know, our children have already been making preparations and we are going to focus on one area per month for the duration of 2025. Our first action is to prepare ourselves through prayer, and the children have been busy in assembly time practising the prayer of the Jubilee.

Amazing insects

Our collaboration with the artist Tim Davies was completed on Tuesday when the fantastic pieces of sculpture that the children built from scratch were displayed from the ceiling of the school hall. They look very impressive indeed. If you follow the schools on Instagram you can see the results on our page (stmarystrust). The great thing about the art is that everyone had an input. Many thanks to Mrs Chappell for organising the project and to Mr Williams who had the job of displaying the art safely from a great height.

Young Voices

I am sure all the parents and carers who attended the concert in the O2 on Monday evening will never forget the experience. Our Choir came back to school on Tuesday tired but euphoric at what they have achieved. We must thank Miss Attwell and her team of staff who supported the children through the whole process.

Mayan culture and history

Our Year 4 children were time travellers on Thursday when they spent the morning exploring Mayan civilisation. I am sure that they will learn a lot from their experience and it will deepen their understanding of other cultures.

Swimming Pool

Our swimming pool is well on the way to being operational again. Unfortunately, it is unlikely that we will be able to provide after-school tuition until after the half term holiday because of the number of sessions that will be available. The School Office will be contacting parents who have booked and arranging for lessons to be carried forward to the next half term.

'Aspire not to have more but to be more'



Another reason to choose us.



Child allergy safety – nuts

Please check all packaging for *any* food that you give to your child for school. We have some people in school whose allergic reaction to nut products is extreme so we need to be extra vigilant.

Parent / Teacher Interviews

Parents and carers will have the opportunity to meet Class Teachers on the evening of Tuesday 11th February. Bookings open on Monday 27th January.

Kinship Roadshow Croydon

A kinship carer is someone who steps in to raise a child when their parents cannot. They are usually grandparents or aunts and uncles. There is a special roadshow hosted by Croydon Council at Hilton London Croydon, 101 Waddon Way, Purley Way CR9 4HH on 26th February 2025 from 9.30am to 2.30pm. For more information, please visit: <https://kinship.org.uk/support-and-advice/training-and-events/kinship-roadshow-croydon/>

rags2riches4schools

We are having another clothing collection to raise funds for the school. Please bring (in bags) clean, used clothes, paired shoes, bedding and towels. The last day to bring items to school is Friday 7th February and the school will be paid by weight. <https://rags2riches4schools.co.uk/>

Class Liturgies and Assemblies

Our first liturgy of the new year will be on Thursday 6th February at 9.30am when the parents of children in Class 3E are welcome to join us for quiet prayer and scripture.

Term dates for 2025-26

The holiday dates for the next academic year have been confirmed by the Trust Governing Body. You can find them in the tab 'Term Dates' on the website as a .pdf document at the foot of the page.

Achievement Certificates

The achievement certificates this week are awarded to Ashton in 3A, Leon in 3E, Giulia in 4D, Ava in 4T, Zachary in 5B, Leon in 5C, Kyla in 6G and Divine in 6P. The Head of School's award goes to Jordan in 6P. The kindness award goes to Nile in 4D. Sports star of the week is Eliora in 5B. The musician of the week is Raphael in 6P. Have a good weekend.

Yours faithfully,

Andrew McDonald

Headteacher

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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