

# ST. MARY'S C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Dear Parents and Carers,

It is hard to believe, but we are now into the fourth week of the term. The start of a new term is exciting for a number of reasons, not least the arrival of new children in Reception. I am pleased to say that they have begun their time at Saint Mary's wonderfully. I would like to extend a huge thank you to parents and teachers alike for making the transition so smooth.

It has been an action-packed week this week with a wide range of afterschool clubs beginning. From drumming to arts and crafts; from football to basketball, there is truly a club for every interest and passion at Saint Mary's.

At the beginning of the week, Revd Vanessa Conant visited us to talk about the importance of working together to create a culture in which everyone feels supported by their peers. I was struck - as I often am - by the thoughtfulness of the ideas children shared. In assembly this month, we will continue to reflect on the significant impact prominent leaders like Nelson Mandela and Martin Luther King had in developing equal social opportunities for all. To end the term, I would like to invite parents and carers to a cheese and wine evening on Thursday 20th October. This will be a great chance for you to meet some of the team at Saint Mary's and see our fantastic learning environments. Finally, parent consultations will take place on Tuesday 8th and Wednesday 9th of November. These are a vitally important opportunity for you to meet your child's teacher and hear how your child is progressing this year. You should have received letters about the cheese and wine evening and parent consultations earlier this week.

This week, I would like to leave you with a quote from Hebrews 10:24-25 And let us continue to consider how to motivate one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Pitchford  
Head of School

# Year 6 Residential



**Year 6 went a fantastic residential at Kingswood where they took part in various different activities.**



# Attendance



**Our whole school attendance for Week 3 was 96.69%.**

**Our whole school attendance for Week 4 was 97.06%.**

Well done St Mary's!

Our whole school attendance for this academic year is: 97.04%

## **Gentle Reminder:**

If your child is going to be absent due to illness, please leave a message for the office team on the school absence line by calling 020 8521 1066 and dialling 1.

*Please ensure this message includes the reason your child is off sick - i.e. sore throat, temperature or stomach bug.*

**If you need to collect your child for a medical appointment during the day or they are late to school due to a medical appointment, you will need to provide the school office with an appointment letter/record.**

# Important Messages

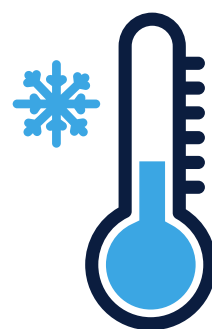
## Medication

If your child has medication in school, please ensure that you have noted down the expiry dates to ensure we have the correct medication in school. If your child's doctor has made any changes to their medication or the procedure for caring for your child, please ensure the office is informed in writing of any changes and receives a copy of the documents from the GP.



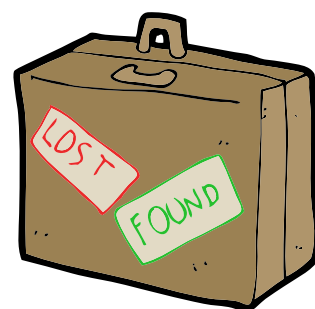
## Cooler Weather

As the temperature are getting cooler, we would like all children to bring a light jacket that is labelled with their name however still continue to bring in their own water bottle.



## Lost Property

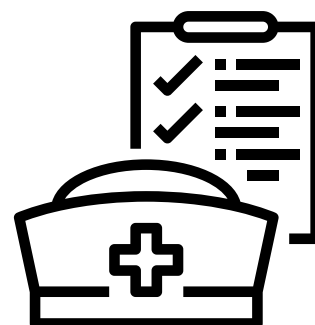
We have a large amount of lost property in the bag at our Chestnut Avenue South Gate. A large amount of the uniform is not named, if your child is missing any of their items, please could you check the bag for any missing items. Any remaining items at the end of next week will be washed and donated to our uniform sale.



## School Nurse Drop In

Our School Nurse will be visiting the second Monday of every month. If you would like to book a slot with our school nurse to discuss any concerns that you may have, please email the school office. Please see the details below:

- 10th October 2022
- 14th November 2022
- 12th December 2022



# Values

## Encouragement

1 Thessalonians 5:11

"Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing."

This week's value is encouragement. We discussed Martin Luther King in our assemblies this week and his famous quote "The time is always right to do what is right." As one of the most prominent leaders in the American civil war, Martin Luther King demonstrated that it is always worth standing up for justice and using your voice to support others. We focused previously on the value of caring and speaking for those who do not have a voice; activists such as Martin Luther King have shown this value in action, and through their powerful words, have encouraged others to join their cause. As a powerful speaker, he helped many people to see the necessity, the justice and the rightness of having equal rights. We looked at the Bible story of Barnabas in Acts 11:21-26. Barnabas was known as the "son of encouragement" because he was constantly encouraging those around him. As the apostles worked to spread the good news and grow the church, Barnabas played a large role in encouraging and connecting people. He put his reputation on the line to encourage the apostles to accept Paul after his conversion. He mentored the young John when others didn't want to give him a second chance. The children have been reflecting on how they can encourage others and the belief that God uses us all as His voice when He wants to build someone up. We should therefore be thankful when we receive encouragement from a friend as well, as this can be seen as coming from God. There is great power in encouraging each other. It is one of the most tangible ways to be an example of Jesus to those we come in contact with every day. During our classroom worship, the children have been writing notes of encouragement to people in their lives they want to support and build up.



# Healthy Snacks



We would like to remind parents and carers that St Mary's is a Healthy School. Children should not bring chocolate bars, crisps or fizzy drinks as morning snacks, if your child does bring these in, they will be replaced with a piece of fruit and sent home with them at the end of the school day. Please ensure that should you like to provide your child with a snack that it is a healthy option. Nut free cereal bars, yoghurt bars or fruit bars are recommended.

All children are encouraged to drink water regularly – please ensure that your child is bringing in their own water bottles, these can be refilled during the school day.

**We are proud to be a nut free school!**



# Parent Prayer

Parent Prayer is on Wednesday evenings at 8.30pm on Zoom- twenty minutes of prayer and reflection. A relaxing space for parents to come together at the end of the day. All are welcome!

If you would like the zoom link, please email Jacintha Danaswamy at: [jacintha@stmaryswalthamstow.org](mailto:jacintha@stmaryswalthamstow.org).

# St Mary's Church Quiz Night

Quiz Night to fundraise for St Mary's Church - Sat 8th October 7.30pm, all welcome (including children aged 10 and above). Tickets £10 for adults and £7.50 for children aged 10-17.

You may know that recently St Mary's Church has launched a fundraising campaign to raise £50,000 for the new chairs which are key to creating a welcoming, accessible space for worship, arts and community activities. There is more about the project, the chairs the church is buying and how this will help us serve our community here. St Mary's Church has secured over £3million funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund, other grantmakers and through the sale of properties. For this final part of our project, we are asking the church congregation and wider community for support as each chair costs £250 (a reflection of the fact that they need to be high quality, easily stacked and hard-wearing). Ways to support this are:

## **Buy a ticket and attend our Quiz Night -**

The Quiz Night will start at 7.30pm and will be suitable for children aged 10+. Tickets for the Quiz Night are on sale at <https://ticketlab.co.uk/series/id/557#/and> include a platter of cheese and biscuits to share on your table for your team of 8 people. There will be a paid bar, an auction of promises in the interval, and raffle tickets on sale with a top prize of tickets for a family of 4 to attend a top West End show.

## **Host an estate agent board -**

Another way to support the project is to host an estate agent board advertising our fundraising quiz on 8th October. The board is up for 2 weeks before the quiz and 1 week afterwards. You simply need to provide your name and address. You can sign up for a board here. Deadline to sign up for this is this Friday, 16th September.

## **Sponsor a chair -**

You might want to sponsor a chair as an individual, group of friends or family and, if you choose to do so, you can opt to have a dedication plaque added in your own name, in memory of a loved one or dedicated to someone important to you. There is no obligation to sponsor a whole chair - donations of any size will make a huge difference to the campaign. You can give very simply through this dedicated website (you will need to have mobile or online banking): <https://wonderful.org/fundraisers/NqyeN> or you can give by card through the Parish website (please write 'Chairs' in the notes section so we can track your donation): <https://www.stmaryswalthamstow.org/donate-to-st-marys-church/>

# Young Transformers

## Our Autumn Curriculum



### **EYFS - Caring**

Together with our church, Reception children will rehearse and sing some of our favourite Christmas Carols. Of course parents and carers get the treat to see them performed in church; however, the children will also perform these carols at the town hall for everyone in our community to enjoy. By sharing the gift of songs, we hope to transform an audience into joyful listeners.

### **Year 1- Community**

Our emergency services are there to keep us safe. Year one will meet real firemen/ women who will tell them how to become a fire worker and what work they do in London. They also learn that women can become a firewoman and that is a really exciting career choice. By knowing who keeps us safe, we feel protected and reassured.

### **Year 2 – Curiosity**

Space is big – infinitely so. We have invited a theatre company to visit our school to take the pupils on an incredible journey into space. There, children will get a sense of 'awe and wonder' about planets, stars, galaxies and everything in between. By reflecting about space and time, we are overawed by God's incredible Creation.

### **Year 3- Confidence**

Year 3 will be climbing to great heights this term - literally. All pupils will work with a professional climbing instructor to ascend and descend climbing walls at our local climbing centre. Children will learn how to use bouldering techniques to scale challenging routes.

Through embracing challenges we become confident. By facing new physical challenges, we endeavour to transform our own self belief.

### **Year 4 - Community**

With the winter months setting in, we know that some families appreciate a little support. Year 4 pupils will organise a Harvest Festival like no other before by personally putting together high quality hampers to share with our community. By giving to joy others, we share the best of ourselves.

### **Year 5- Caring**

During the autumn term, Year 5 will organise an ambitious charity project in conjunction with Christian Aid to raise money for some of the most vulnerable communities in the world. All the money raised, will be used to create reliable sources of water in drought hit areas. By raising awareness, we know we can affect major global causes.

### **Year 6- Creative**

A visit to the Royal Academy to see David Hockney's: the arrival of spring will inspire us to use our tablets to create art with a similar theme and skill set. By embracing new technologies, we learn to explore other ways of creating something beautiful.

### **Home- Mandatory Creative**

Young Transformers across the year groups are invited to use cameras, tablets and phones to take photos around the theme of 'Transformation'. Photographers are encouraged to consider how they see transformations in nature, art, architecture, communities and beyond. Everyone is invited to send their best photo to enter for the Autumn Term Young Transformers award. By viewing the world around us, we aim to change the way we see.



# St. Mary's Christian Vision

I AM THE VINE AND YOU  
ARE THE BRANCHES. IF  
YOU REMAIN WITH ME AND  
I WITH YOU, THEN YOU  
WILL BEAR MUCH FRUIT.  
LOVE ONE ANOTHER AS I  
HAVE LOVED YOU.  
(JOHN 15).