

ST. MARY'S C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Dear Parents and Carers,

The past two weeks have been as busy as ever, with multiple fundraising events taking place and much more besides. The end of this term will be an exciting one with an Easter fayre in the final week, and trips to Saint Mary's Church.

On March 3rd, many of the pupils dressed up as their favourite book characters for World Book Day. It was an extremely exciting day, and I was delighted with the justified pride in which the children showed off their well thought-out and expertly crafted costumes. A "best-dressed" child from each class received a book as a prize - well done to the winners.

On Friday 10th March, the pupils were invited to come in wearing their own clothes with the aim to raise money for the British Red Cross and support their work in Syria and Turkey following the devastation of the tragic earthquake. Thank you for your contributions.

Rabbi Lev Taylor, a Walthamstow resident and one of the Rabbis at South West Essex & Settlement Synagogue in Newbury Park, delivered a fantastically engaging collective worship. He told the children all about the festival of Pesach (Passover) and why it is important in Judaism, drawing comparisons with Christianity and Islam. He also spoke about what he does in role as Rabbi and how he impacts his local community on a daily basis; this relates very much with how the children at Saint Mary's are Young Transformers. After the assembly, the worship council was able to gain further insight with a special Q&A session. Thank you for visiting us Rabbi Lev, and we hope to see you again!

This week, we had another special guest join us for collective worship. Joe Whitehouse, a fundraiser, spoke about his work fundraising for charities and what has inspired him: from working with scientists with Cancer Research UK, to securing major donations to fund scholarships for people to attend university who might otherwise not be able to. Joe made links between his role as a fundraiser to the fundraising that the St Mary's pupils have done and the differences they make on a daily basis. Our pupils were inspired by his message and the Learning Council enjoyed having a Q & A session afterwards to get to learn about his job in more detail.

I would like to close this edition of the newsletter with a quotation from the John 13:34-35
"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another."

Kind Regards
Mr Pitchford
Head of School

Attendance



Our whole school attendance for Week 3 was 97.15%.

Our whole school attendance for Week 4 was 91.36%.

Well done St Mary's!

Our whole school attendance for this academic year is: 95.13%

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.

Presentation Awards

Year 1: Uliana

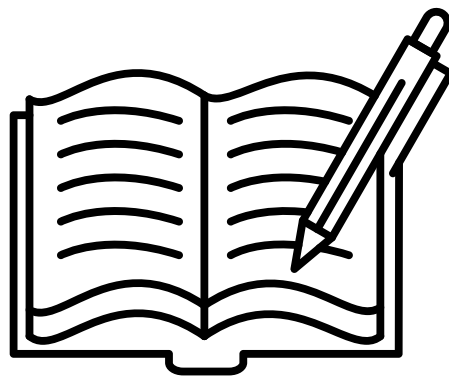
Year 2: Lewis

Year 3: Thea

Year 4: Oliver

Year 5: Arthur

Year 6: Emma



Important Messages

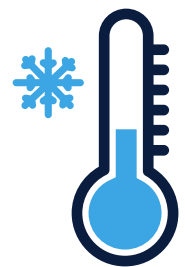
Medication

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.



Cold Weather

As the temperature are getting colder, please ensure your child comes to school with a warm winter coat that is labelled. The temperature is dropping fast and we want the children to be dressed appropriately. 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.



Large Bags

Unfortunately, many children are bringing very large backpacks to school. There is little storage space available for such large bags and they pose a trip hazard. Please send your child to school with the smallest bag possible - ideally a bookbag.



Values

Following instructions

This week we have been reflecting on the theme of following instructions. Our Bible verse for the week is:

“I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with My eye upon you.” Psalm 32:8

This ties into the part of our school vision which says “Remain with me and you will bear much fruit”. It reminds us that people who give us rules and an ethos to live by are helping us to stay on the right track; the rules guide us to remain with God and to follow the path that will lead us to bear fruit – in other words, to be productive and to reach our potential.

Instructions and rules form a big part of everyday school life and we are given instructions multiple times a day, by teachers and our parents especially. Christians believe that we are also given instructions throughout our daily life from God. These might come to us from reading the Bible, from listening to teachers and leaders, or from a spiritual connection with the Holy Spirit.

The Bible has many stories about those who follow God’s instructions faithfully. Noah, for example, is instructed to build an ark and rescue 2 of every kind of animal. Without questioning God’s plan, Noah follows God’s instructions. The story of Noah repeats that “Noah did everything just as God commanded him” and as a result he and his family are saved from the great flood.

Jesus himself, as he prepares to be crucified, is calm and accepting of his fate as he knows that his death is part of God’s larger plan for the salvation of humanity.

In class this week, we have written some rules of our own to help us live a good life. God loves us and ultimately wants us to have a joyful life. The reason we are given instruction is often to benefit ourselves. This helps us to learn how to love one another. Noah lived a good life. He was obedient. Take time this week to reflect on the benefits of being obedient. Think about the benefits of receiving and following good instructions.



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!



Edwards and Ward Food Hygiene Rating

We are pleased to inform you that a recent inspection of the Edwards and Ward kitchen resulted in a 5 star rating.



Food Bank



We have now got a food bank located in our school office foyer. We are welcoming donations of tinned goods and non perishable items.

The food bank is open for any families struggling with the cost of living crisis. You are welcome to come into the office at any time to collect items that you may need.

Any extra donations will be donated to local food banks to provide support our local community.

Walthamstow Cafe

WALTHAMSTOW WELCOMES

**DROP IN COMMUNITY CAFÉ &
PAPERWORK SUPPORT**



ST MARY'S WELCOME CENTRE

8 CHURCH END, E17 9RJ | 10:00—12:00

E17welcomecafe@stmaryswalthamstow.org



Parent Prayer

On Wednesday 29th March, we would like to invite you to join our parent prayer community. We will meet from 4:00 - 4:30pm and come together in praying for each other and the life of the school as we approach Easter. We will be led by Jacintha, one of our parents who is a trainee vicar and has been leading a community prayer group online since the pandemic. We are looking forward to holding space for the community to pray together in person and will provide tea and biscuits! Please let us know if you plan to attend by filling in the google form ;
<https://forms.gle/ykzUA6xaJpg5eG5w9>



Parent Workshops

We have online workshops for parents that cover a variety of topics. This can be located under the Parents Tab on our school website. We offer these workshops to support learning at home.



Special Assembly

"Rabbi Lev Taylor, a Walthamstow resident and one of the Rabbis at South West Essex & Settlement Synagogue in Newbury Park, delivered a fantastically engaging assembly. He told the children all about the festival of Pesach (Passover) and why it is important in Judaism, drawing comparisons with Christianity and Islam. He also spoke about what he does in role as Rabbi and how he impacts his local community on a daily basis; this relates very much with how the students are Young Transformers, positively impacting our local and global communities. After the assembly, the worship council was able to gain further insight with a special Q&A session. Thank you for visiting us Rabbi Lev, and we hope to see you again!"



Local NHS Dentists

NHS Dentists in Waltham Forest

This is an up-to-date list of NHS dentists currently offering routine appointments and accepting new patients

.....

Forest Dental Care
73 Hoe Street
E17 4SA
0208 521 3777

Mr Evans and Associates
252a Chingford Mount Road
E4 8JL
0208 529 1587

Church Hill Dental Practice
18 Church Hill,
E17 3AG
0208 520 3872

Park Vue Dental Surgery
330 Cann Hall Road
E11 3NW
02085192990

Abbey Dental Practice
25 St James Street,
E17 7JP
02085212816

Woodgrange Dental Practice
80 Woodgrange Road
E7 OEW
02085553336

Lea Bridge Dental Practice
433 Lea Bridge Road
E10 7EA
0208 539 6152

Smile In London
399 High Rd. Leyton
E10 5NA
0208 539 1653

☎ 020 8496 5223

✉ wfsupport@henry.org.uk

Please note that we do not endorse or recommend any particular practice.

This list is up-to-date as of the 01 February 2023.



Opportunities in Little Learners' Nursery

LITTLE LEARNERS
NURSERY GROUP
ST MARY'S
BROOKE RD
WALTHAMSTOW
LONDON
E17 9HJ



Little Learners
NURSERY GROUP

LITTLE LEARNERS
NURSERY GROUP
ST SAVIOUR'S
33 VERULAM
AVENUE
WALTHAMSTOW
LONDON
E17 8ER

WE ARE HIRING!

OPEN POSITIONS

BANK STAFF

(WORK WHEN IT'S SUITS YOU!)

APPRENTICESHIPS AVAILABLE

MUST BE 17 YEARS OLD PLUS

APPLY NOW

SEND YOUR CV TO

alison.brown@genesistrust.net

020 8521 1066 Extension 2

[HTTPS://STMARYSNURSERY.NET/NURSERY-GROUP/](https://stmarysnursery.net/nursery-group/)



Come in!
For tasty food
and good company



Free meals
Thursdays
6.30pm

FoodCycle
Walthamstow
St Mary's
Welcome Centre
Church End
E17 9RH



Sit and eat with us

Come inside for a warm, tasty meal.

Please do not attend if you are unwell or have COVID symptoms.

Website: www.foodcycle.org.uk
Email: walthamstow@foodcycle.org.uk
Phone: 02077 292 775
Registered Charity Number 1134423



Young Transformers

Our Spring Curriculum



EYFS - Creative

Mindful Movement origins can be found 5000 years ago in Northern India. Yoga is more popular than ever before. It is not only brilliant for your physical health but also for your mental health. Reception children will learn what yoga is and see that yoga can be performed by people of all ages (yes, even babies). They will work with a yoga teacher on simple yoga techniques. By nurturing our bodies, we look after the mind as well.

Year 1 - Caring

We are lucky enough to have three alpacas at St Saviours: Captain, Marshall and Marvin. In year 1, the children will learn about these amazing creatures and have the opportunity to visit them. They might even want to be taken for a walk (only if you give them a snack). Afterwards, children will get to visit the Forest school to build fires, shelters and bug houses. By being gentle and showing care to animals, we show true love to God's Creation. .

Year 2 – Creative

Dancing is not only a way to keep fit, but also a form of art. In Year 2. Children will learn why people enjoy dancing and how dance is expressed in different parts of the world. They will work with a professional dancer to devise a dance for performance. With their peers they will learn to keep to the beat, execute dance moves and find joy in dancing. By dancing together, we celebrate our bodies just the way they are.

Year 3 - Caring

Bake to educate: education changes lives but many girls around the world do not have the same opportunities. Children will learn how young girls in some parts of the world miss out on education and how this affects their life chances. Pupils will plan, prepare, bake and sell cakes to support girls around the world in less fortunate circumstances. By educating all children, we offer them the opportunity to make a positive change.

Year 4 - Creative

The drum is the oldest musical instrument. Year 4 children will learn where the drum originated and how it is played in different parts of the world. They will work with professional drummers in a workshop to create their own drumming piece which will be performed to the school. By beating the drum, we get into the rhythm

Year 5 - Community

Children will learn where the idea of an English afternoon tea came from and what afternoon tea includes. This knowledge will be used for pupils to prepare their own class afternoon tea including cups and saucers. Of course Year 5 will need to dress up in their best clothing. By studying our traditions, we strengthen our own identity.

Year 6 - Caring

In computing, Year 6 will use the Tinkercad programme to design and print key rings for our new autumn term pupils in EYFS. A welcome gift from our oldest pupils. By reaching out your hand with a gift for someone new, you show true friendship.

Home- Mandatory Confidence

At the start of a new year, it is important to take another step into independence. Pupils are encouraged to learn how to change their bedding at home, including pillowcases and duvet covers. There is no harm in working together on this. By taking charge of day to day routines, we learn how to step with confidence into the world

ST MARY'S TERM DATES 2022-23

Spring Term 2023

First Half (29 Days)

Start – Tuesday 3rd January 2023

End - Friday 10th February 2023

Half Term: Monday 13th February 2023 – Friday 17th February 2023

Second Half (30 Days)

Start - Monday 20th February 2023

End – Friday 31st March 2023

Holidays: Monday 3rd April to Friday 14th April 2023

Summer Term 2023

First Half (29 Days)

Start – Monday 17th April 2023

End -Friday 26th May 2023

Half Term: Monday 29th May 2023 - Friday 2nd June 2023

Holidays May Day Bank Holiday: Monday 1st May 2023

Spring Bank Holiday: Monday 29th May 2023 (during Half Term)

Second Half (37 Days)

Start - Monday 5th June 2023

End – Tuesday 25th July 2023

This calendar gives a total of 195 (189 pupil days 1 building closure day, 1 resource and environment day and 3 inset days – Staff to work twilight sessions to make up 1 inset day).

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).