

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



Dear parents and carers,

I hope that you all had a restful and relaxing Easter holiday. It has been a delight to welcome back all of the children after the two-week break and see their typical enthusiasm for learning.

I would like to take the opportunity to remind you all that parents and carers are now able to attend our Friday celebration assembly (years 1-6) at 10am. It has been lovely to see so many of you this week and last. In the first celebration assembly, our Sports Leaders were announced. They are already leading warm-ups in PE lessons, and assisting our specialist sports coaches at lunch time.

I would like to thank all of the children who participated in the "20 Acts of Kindness" - we've had such positive feedback from the children who have taken part and I hope some of you were the recipients of said acts of kindness; we are truly blessed with a caring group of children at St Mary's. In conversations with the children, I have been struck by their understanding that small daily acts of kindness transform others and our community.

As you know, we have had a number of guest speakers at Saint Mary's this academic year, and this term is no exception. Indeed, we had the great honour of being visited by the esteemed theologian and former Archbishop of Canterbury, Rowan Williams, on Thursday 27th April. He spoke to the children about making a difference to the lives of others and what we should aspire to be. The Worship Council met with him and had a Q&A session. The council members made the most of the opportunity and made these comments:

*Phoebe, Year 3: "I like that he shared his experiences about Christianity."*

*Lorayah, Year 6: "I found it really interesting that he met lots of world leaders and the Royal Family. He even married a prince and princess!"*

*Ebony, Year 5: "I like that he didn't ask for his job as Archbishop of Canterbury; he was offered it and took it because he likes meeting people."*

All children have worked incredibly hard; however, a special mention must be made to our year 2s and year 6s, who will shortly sit their SATs. I am sure you will join me in wishing them the best of luck in their assessments; they have worked diligently, not just this year but throughout their time at St Mary's.

I hope you all have a wonderful bank holiday weekend. I would like to close with this bible verse from Matthew 25: 35

'For I was hungry, and you gave Me something to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me something to drink; I was a stranger, and you invited Me in'

Kind Regards  
Mr Pitchford  
Head of School

# Attendance



**Our whole school attendance for Week 1 was 95.95 %.**

**Our whole school attendance for Week 2 was 95.92%.**

Well done St Mary's!

Our whole school attendance for this academic year is: 95.23%

## **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

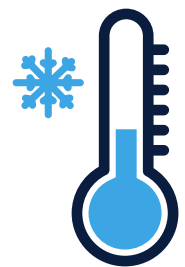
## Medication

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.



## 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.



# Year 5's trip to the Synagogue



Our Year 5's visit a local synagogue as part of their RE studies.

## Walthamstow Cafe

### **WALTHAMSTOW WELCOMES**

#### **DROP IN COMMUNITY CAFÉ & PAPERWORK SUPPORT**

**To book available appointments  
send an email to:**

**[E17welcomecafe@stmaryswalthamstow.org](mailto:E17welcomecafe@stmaryswalthamstow.org)**



**ST MARY'S WELCOME CENTRE  
8 CHURCH END, E17 9RJ | 10:00–12:00**

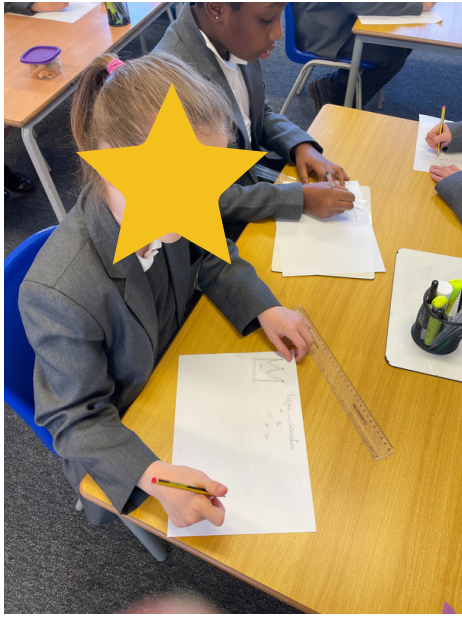


**Saturday: 18/03 | 01/04 | 15/04 | 29/04 | 13/05 | 27/05**

**Wednesday: 22/03 | 05/04 | 19/04 | 03/05 | 17/05 | 31/05**

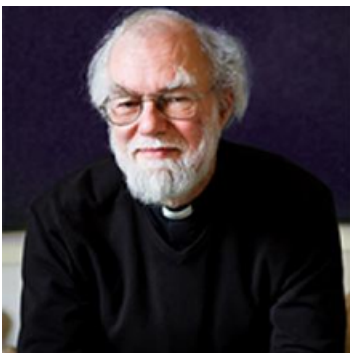


# School Council



This week the School Council held a meeting to discuss the Kings Coronation. We made posters and ensured our class was aware of the date. We also thought about how we can celebrate the Kings coronation in school. One of our ideas was special lessons about the King, which many of us enjoyed on Thursday.

# Visit from Rowan Williams



We had the great honour of being visited by the esteemed theologian and former Archbishop of Canterbury, Rowan Williams, on Thursday 27th April. He spoke to the children about making a difference to the lives of others and what we should aspire to be. The Worship Council met with him and had a Q&A session.

# 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.

# 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.



# Young Transformers

## Our Summer Curriculum



### EYFS - Curiosity

As far as important species go, bees are on top of the list. Summer is the time for bees, flowers and honey. EYFS classes will learn how bees live and how they are fundamental to existence. We will meet a real beekeeper who will tell us about the different types of bees out there and we even get to taste different types of honey. *By looking after our wildlife, we create a harmonious world.*

### Year 1 - Curiosity

Have you ever wondered how food ends up in the supermarket? This term, pupils and parents will grow and harvest their own vegetables in gardens or allotments. Ingredients are used to make and sell healthy dishes in our pop up kitchen. Not only will children learn how to grow their own produce, they will share it as well. *By growing, harvesting and sharing our produce, we aim to change the way we appreciate food.*

### Year 2- Community

Immigration has helped us to become the prosperous society we are today. Year 2 children will learn about immigration, ancestry and London's diverse communities. They will also learn that many people are less fortunate and seek to make out a future here.

We will work closely with our church to support refugees who have recently entered the UK. *By looking after the most vulnerable people in society, we reveal our true community spirit.*

### Year 3 - Curiosity

Some say that robots will take over the world. We are not so sure. This term, children in Year 3 will learn what robots are and where they are used in industries to help production. They will become familiar with the notion of automation. We will invite students from Imperial College to show how robots work and children will have the chance to operate them. *By mastering robotics, we can achieve the unthinkable for the best of humankind.*

### Year 4 - Confidence

In the summer, year 4 will hold a travel survey to see how pupils travel to school. To promote scooting, cycling, walking and skipping to school, the children will work with professionals scooter experts to improve their road safety and scooting skills. *By getting on your scooter or bike, you help to eradicate pollution.*

### Year 5 - Curiosity

This summer, Year 5 pupils will ask the question: 'What is truth? Pupils will become critical readers of history and current news to interrogate concepts such as bias, prejudice and power. The truth according to whom? Who is to gain and who misses out? *By challenging accepted theories and structures, we reveal uncomfortable truths.*

### Year 6 - Community

Now we have reached the end of our primary school years, we celebrate our time with a school sleepover party. Bring pyjamas and a sleeping bag; the rest is all taken care of. *By remembering our time together, we step with confidence into the future.*

### Home- Mandatory Confidence

Breaking records is all about improving yourself. We want every pupil to set themselves a challenge to break a sporting record. This could be push ups in a minute, skipping without stopping, or swimming lanes in the pool. Use this term to become an expert at a particular sporting feat by breaking records: don't give up. *By breaking personal best records, we set ourselves no limits to what can be achieved.*

# 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).