



St. Mary's
Catholic Federation

Weekly Newsletter - Friday 24th January 2020

Email: office@stmarysinfschool.org.uk or office@stmarysjunior.org.uk or email the Governors at either school
governors@stmarysinfschool.org.uk or governors@stmarysjunior.org.uk

Executive Headteacher, Mrs S Hulme. Chair of Governors, Mr B Tomkins

Safeguarding Statement: This school takes notice of and adheres to all the national and local policies and guidance in regard to Safeguarding Children and Young People.

Lead Safeguarding Person Junior School: Mrs. S Hulme **Nursery & Infant School:** Mrs. M Quinn.

Safeguarding Deputy: Mrs. S Hulme **Safeguarding Governor:** Mr. T Richmond

To check if the school is open during bad weather, please use the link below to Open Check.

<https://opencheck.atomwide.com/default.aspx>

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thankfully, as we head into the end of January, we see the daylight hours extending. A promise of the anticipation of moving into springtime. Something that we will all welcome.

In the coming weeks, children may be telling you that additional adults are in the classrooms. We have a number of varying arrangements in place; student teachers, work experience students and visiting students from Europe too. This is a fantastic way of working in partnership with other schools and colleges.

It is with huge sadness that we announce the death of Mr Tony Neal, School Governor. He has been a trusted friend to the school for many, many years. He is also an ex parent. He has worked tirelessly over the decades as a member of the PTA and more recently as a school governor. He has always been one of the biggest fans of St. Mary's School community, having enormous faith in our ability to provide broad educational and spiritual provision of the highest quality. His wife Kitty was also loyal to the school and worked as a midday supervisor for many years. We have the fondest memories of Tony's positive outlook and ask you all to join with us to keep his family in your thoughts and prayers. May God bless Tony and his family.

Spirituality

Sunday 26th January - 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Morning reflection is issued every week by our Chaplain and is available on the school's website:
<https://www.smcsc.org.uk/spirituality.php>

This year the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales have designated this year as The Year of the Word: The God Who Speaks. Our Deanery has a Year of the Word candle which has been travelling around all the Catholic schools over the past few weeks. This week it has moved from the Infants' to the Junior School and it was shown in assembly and this week it was formally handed onto St. Philomena's High School for Girls. The message of the year is celebrating, living and sharing God's word. This links nicely with the topics we are studying in RE. Why not ask your child to share any Bible stories they have heard in school recently?



 Table Talk Topic for this week: - If you hit someone who is hitting you, have you made a bad choice? What should you do? Just a reminder, that we have a Prayer intention book in the Reception area of each school. Please feel free to write your intentions in as you wish. Thank you to those who have added to it. Please take the time to read it when visiting the school.

News for the week

Next week's upcoming dates

Juniors - Mon 27th Jan - Holocaust Memorial Service (Year 6 Parents welcome)
Juniors - Tues 28th Jan - Junior School PE Showcase
Juniors - Weds 29th Jan - Years 3 & 5 Learning Dome
Juniors - Weds 29th Jan - Learning Journal 'Note' Due Out
Infants - Thurs 30th Jan at 9am Giraffe Class Liturgy (Parents to enter via gate 4)
Juniors - Thurs 30th Jan at 9am - 5 Birch Assembly (Parents welcome)
Juniors - Fri 31st Jan - Year 6 Learning Dome

Sign of the Week

Please check the Parents and Carers room on Google Classroom for this week's 'Sign of the Week'.

Keeping you updated about the Governor's Fund

Thank you to the 276 families who have paid into the Governor's Fund, currently at £9660 for this year. We will continue to send out reminders.



The 'General Data Protection Regulation' (GDPR) brought about changes regarding how we can use your personal data and keep it safe, and also strengthens your rights over your own data. Please refer to our privacy notices on the website for details of how sensitive or private information about yourselves and your children stays safe.

Holiday Club

Sadly, due to staff availability there will be no holiday club this February half term. We apologise in advance for any inconvenience caused.

Holy Cross - Valentines Café Event

Holy Cross will be holding a Valentines Café event on **Saturday 15th February from 3pm - 5.30pm**. Tickets: £10. The money raised will go towards purchasing an Ambubag to help save the lives of new born babies, who are unable to take a breath at birth. Any donations are also welcome.

Labelling School Uniform

Reminder for all parents to ensure uniform is clearly marked with the child's name, which will help staff in returning to the classes thus reducing the amount of lost property.

Lost Property

Due to the large amounts of lost property currently in both schools, there will be lost property in the playgrounds for the next 2 x Friday afternoons. Please can you check for any of your child's lost belongings as anything left as we break for half term will be put to recycling in the Bertie bin.

Hands up Travel Survey

In each class this week, Miss Mayanja and the Junior Travel Ambassadors had the responsibility to run the survey in their class. All children and staff took part in the survey in order to find out about our actual and preferred methods of transport that we use to get to school. Everybody had a choice of a range of transport methods to choose from which included: walking, park and stride, riverboat or scooting to name a few! The data is being collected to see if the recent road closure has had any effect and methods of transport to school. Walking and park and stride remain popular methods of getting to the Junior School. Thank you for continuously choosing active methods of transport. Written by the Y6 Junior Travel Ambassadors

E-Safety

Safer Internet Day 2020 will be celebrated globally with the theme: Together for a better internet on Tuesday 11th February

Here are some conversation starters for you about safety -

Discuss digital lives and wellbeing

How does the internet make you feel? Do different apps/games makes you feel differently?

How does the internet/technology make your life better?

What could you do if being online is making you feel worse rather than better?

How does the internet make you feel? Do different apps/games makes you feel differently?

How might you know if you are using the internet/technology too much?

Here are some great E-Safety links -

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2020/i-am-parent-or-carer>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/>

<http://www.thinkyouknow.co.uk/>

<http://www.internetmatters.org/>

<http://www.kidsmart.org.uk/>

<http://www.childnet.com/>

<https://www.common sense media.org/>



Stars of the Week - Week ending 24th January 2020

Elephant Class - Ava L, Penguin Class - Jennifer R, Bee Class - Alicia V,
Reindeer Class - Nijiah S, Cheetah Class - Kaloyan M, Giraffe Class - Emily M,
Meerkat Class - Aleksander M, Horse Class - Scarlett W, Owl Class - Elliot C
Well done to all of the Stars of the week!