



JOINT NEWSLETTER
JULY 2020
SUNDAY 19th July - 16th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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 and **Nursery & Infant School:** Mrs. M Quinn.

Safeguarding Deputies: Mrs H Nicholls, Miss F Sullivan and Miss E Bryant **Safeguarding Governor:** Mr. T Richmond

Although the sharing of photographs with family and friends is a great thing to do, please be reminded of the schools safeguarding procedures and refrain from taking pictures at school events. Thank you for your support regarding this as we all need to work together to look after our pupils.

Dear Parents and Carers,

Please enjoy the last newsletter as this academic year comes to a close. We were delighted to have the opportunity to see so many pupils yesterday come to say goodbye whilst collecting their summer packs. Thank you to the PTA for adding little treats too. It has indeed been a most extraordinary year for children, their families and staff. As government guidance currently suggests, the school will be open for all pupils in September. Further information will be shared with you during the summer break. For the interest of cleaning and staffing arrangements we will be closing early on a Wednesday afternoon. Depending on the year group, dismissal times will be notified at a later date. Normal dismissal times will remain in place for the rest of the week including Friday.

We wish you all a wonderful holiday period, hoping that you get the opportunity to see friends and family. The summer learning packs are given for your convenience. Use them at your own discretion to support gaps in learning. Please remember to limit screen time and keep an eye on the electronic sites that your child is accessing.

On behalf of the staff, please accept our most grateful thanks for the good wishes and generous gifts received, it has been a difficult few months in school and these gestures really do brighten up our day, even a quick email sharing warm thoughts - Thank you.

On behalf of our families and school governors we also give the sincerest thanks to the staff in each school for tirelessly working to allow maximum pupils to attend school during this period. We are all very proud of their dedication and hard work. We wish those who are moving on to different experiences in their life - much luck and happiness and ask our Father in Heaven to keep watch over them and guide them through the next part of their journey.

With many best wishes from us all at St Mary's.

Take care, be safe, have lots of fun and many wonderful times together, whilst also remembering how lucky we are to have an amazing supporting community. Happy Holiday Everyone!

Spiritual

The school celebration of our Feast Day back in September now seems so long ago! The year continued with many opportunities to live and share our faith. The Catholic life of our school has been evident in the wonderful work of the Y6 Chaplaincy Team; through your generous contributions to the Mary's Meals Backpack Appeal; the Food Bank at St Philomena's School; our Lenten collection for the Catholic Children's Society (if you still have boxes, please donate via their website); and the CAFOD Summer of Hope Appeal. Despite lockdown, the CAFOD appeal was very generously supported and we had lots of fun in school, and at home, taking part in activities we have missed this summer. After Easter, our pupils prayed for vocations and took time to send messages to religious and clergy across the country and beyond. Bishop Paul thanked us in a video which you can see here: [A message from Bishop Paul](#)



Throughout the year, 22 Y6 students took part in the CYMFED Faith In Action Award. They attended four reflective sessions after school, contributed 20+ hours of service at school and in their community, kept a faith journal and created a final, reflective piece to represent their journey in faith. Last week they celebrated their achievements in a socially distanced award ceremony led by Mrs Norbury. Bishop Paul would have come, but instead sent another video message of congratulations. He really has embraced lockdown technology, and we are very grateful for his continued support of our school.

Mrs Norbury, School Chaplain, has led chaplaincy sessions for each class several times throughout the year. Unfortunately, this year's Y6 retreat to Aylesford Priory had to be cancelled (you can guess why!) but, undaunted, and supported by Meet, the year group had a day of reflection, in bubbles, based on Pope Francis' letter to young people *Christus Vivit*.

A new RSE (Relationships and Sex Education) scheme has been purchased, and the policy updated to reflect the new requirements of next year. This is fully supported by the Catholic Church and was shared with Y5 parents at a meeting earlier in the year.

We are saddened not to be able to end our school year with Leavers' Masses. Each parish priest has, however, recorded a message which was shared with the Y6 children during their retreat. We continue to celebrate with virtual assemblies and liturgies each week in school, and we know the reflections shared from the Ten Ten resources, as well as the videos from SSW, have been enjoyed by those at home.

We wish you a restful and healthy summer, and look forward to seeing you, and your Marian stained glass windows (from your learning pack) in September.

Mrs Norbury, Mrs Mason and Mrs Bignell

NURSERY & INFANT SCHOOL

News from Nursery

It is a wistful time for us, as we wish you all a happy summer. We have been blessed to teach your amazing children! We will miss them very much. We have prepared "Holiday Learning", on Google Classroom. This is to help you to revise our learning this term. There are lots of video links, for busy people!

The folder/pack that was sent home is to introduce the children to resources that they will see in Reception.

Please give our warmest regards to your children. Have a great adventure in Reception next term. We will come to see you, and please remember to wave at us, through the Nursery window.

With every good wish, and fondest memories.

Mrs Ring and Mrs Da Gama

News from Reception

Well this year has certainly been a very memorable and unusual one. I know that we will all have memories of lots of fun, laughter, learning, lockdown and home schooling to say the least from this school year! I would like to say how proud I am of all the children in Bee class for all their tenacity, hard work, creativity, singing and learning that they have done both in school and at home during lock down, you are all truly amazing 'Super Bees'!! Thank you parents for all your wonderful messages and Tapestry posts. It was wonderful to see the children's learning at home and their comments and videos. I have lots of fond memories of the children playing and learning together in school. I especially enjoyed seeing all the costumes on 'World Book Day'. Going on our adventurous 'Bear Hunt'; and our amazing 'Christmas Nativity Show' performance when the children sang and signed all of the actions to the Christmas songs. I am sure that the children's transition to Year One in September will be an exciting one as the children return to school as a class and see all of their peers again. I know that they will have lots of fun and learn lots of new things in their new class and I can't wait to hear how their learning journeys continue in Year One. I wish you all a wonderful Summer, have fun and remember to continue to share the love of Jesus with each other.

God Bless, Miss Penston.

I would like to thank all of the children in Elephant class for a fantastic year. Highlights for me have been our Fairytale topic, making our own puppet theatre and retelling amazing stories. I enjoyed listening to all your singing and although we did not get to carry out our class assembly due to lockdown. It was a pleasure to see you perform it in class. The children have been wonderful. Thank you for sending in all your home learning on tapestry. I

congratulate you all on your hard work and resilience this year. You have managed to adjust to many changes and it has been my pleasure to get to know every one of you. I am sad we didn't finish the year together with each other in Elephant Class but I am sure you will continue to shine in your new class. Have a wonderful summer and an adventurous new school year.

Best Wishes, Mrs Parveen.

A big thank you to all the children in Penguin Class for an amazing first year at St Mary's. I have enjoyed watching you all learn and grow, you have all made me a very proud teacher! I will cherish all the memories we made together throughout the year. I especially enjoyed going on our bear hunt at the beginning of the year, our amazing Nativity Play and our fun filled World Book Day. I am sad that we weren't able to finish the year together but I am sure that you will have a wonderful time in your new class. I hope you and your families have a lovely summer and I wish you the best in Year 1.

Miss Santos

News from Year 1

I remember our Superhero Day and World Book Day when you all came into school with some creative costumes. You continue to amaze me with all the hard work you are doing at home, I love seeing all your work and watching you make such good progress. There were lots of things that we missed doing as a class, however I know that you will go into Year 2 with good learning behaviour and continue to impress your new teacher. I will remember our fun filled PE lessons and our learning outdoors in science and RE.

Mrs Mason

Whether teaching you at school or remotely via Google Classroom it has been a pleasure to watch you all grow and develop throughout the year. Some of my fondest memories of the year include: Superhero Day and sharing a delicious Christmas dinner with you all. Thank you for all of your effort and hard work this year. Stay safe, be good and keep reading!

Mr Taylor

Bob Dylan once said: 'The times are changing,' and this year has been a very unusual year full of change. Although this has been a year of change and uncertainty for many of us, we have enjoyed teaching such amazing children in year one at St Mary's.

What a year it has been for us all. We have some very happy memories to take with us into the summer. You all worked so hard on the outdoor Carol Concert that had to move inside the hall at very short notice! You were all amazing; singing so beautifully and reading so clearly.

What a pleasure and honour it was for me being able to write reports for all the wonderful, resilient learners in Cheetah class. I so look forward to seeing you all again in Jay class with Miss Caussy in September.

Mrs Quinn

News from Year 2

A big thank you to everyone who has stayed in contact with me over the last couple of weeks. It has been wonderful to find out what you have been doing at home and I am very proud of all of you for your positivity and hard work. You have all worked really hard this year and matured since year 1. Thank you for all the memories we made this year such as your Christmas carol concert at Holy Cross Church and your amazing performance of "Oh Happy Days" in the year 2 got talent show. I hope you have had as much fun as I have learning about different things in class. A highlight for me was seeing your creative and detailed artwork where we drew a real life sketch of a ballerina. I wish we had more time to read more Roald Dahl books together but I really enjoyed reading Charlie and the Chocolate Factory with you all and it was wonderful to see so many of you dressed up as a character from the book for World Book Day! I know you will all continue to work hard next year and continue to bring happiness and laughter into your new classroom.

Miss Marlow



I am so glad and proud to have accompanied you through your journey. Thank you so much for all your hard work in school and at home. I have watched you all learn and grow and change from day to day and I hope that all the things we have done have helped you in some way. My favourite memory was our Bollywood dance in the "Year two's got talent show" So keep being fantastic and have a great summer!

Miss Caussy

This year has been like no other and has been shorter than I wanted it to be. I am very proud of the individuals you have all become and I know that you are ready for the next challenge which awaits you. We have been on a journey this year with lots of different memories that I will cherish. Some of the memories that have remained at the forefront of my mind are Medieval Day, World Book Day and the creative days at the start of every topic

that you all enjoyed lots. Continue to work hard in year 3 and don't be a stranger if you see me around school! All the best merry Meerkats children!

Mrs Pye

JUNIOR SCHOOL

News from Year 3

What a fun filled year we have had with our class assembly followed by an amazing Nativity as a whole year group which you all worked incredibly hard for. I have seen 3 Hawthorn children grow with confidence and into fantastic and hardworking learners. I have many memories and wish I could share them all but will remember our classroom environment with lots of laughter. I am incredibly proud of my class for all of their achievements this year I am sad we didn't finish the year together as 3 Hawthorn as it has been a fantastic year but I am sure you will have more great adventures together at St Mary's.

Miss Barreiro

I would like to thank all of the children in 3 Willow for a fantastic first year at St Mary's. Highlights for me have been our class assembly, all about the moon landings, and Volcano Week, which saw cross curricular learning across Science, Geography, History and Art. The children of Willow have been wonderful, whether in class or learning from home through the lockdown and I congratulate them on all their hard work this year. It has been my pleasure to get to know each of you and see you grow in confidence through the year. I wish you the very best for year 4 and look forward to seeing you when you are all back in school, come September.

Mr Johnston

Greetings my lovely 3 Mulberry,

I hope that you are all well and keeping yourself cool and drinking lots of water.

I have enjoyed our very brief time together in year 3, but in that short time we created some amazing memories. Thank you to all of you for trying very hard with all the learning that has been posted each week. It is a difficult and strange time and it must be very weird having to think of certain rooms of your home as a classroom. Thank you so much for sharing the work you have done. It cheers me up to see what you are up to and read some of the things you have written. Thank You!

Thank you to all the parents and carers for everything you are doing at home for your children's education. It is an immense challenge to undertake at such short notice and for a prolonged period of time. You are the real superheroes of education during this time! It

means so much to me that you take the time to support and guide your children with the home learning. I can imagine that there have been difficult periods during this time and may even be happening now. The main priority for me is that you can enjoy doing activities with your children. For the children, learning happens all the time no matter what activity they are doing. The learning grids are a guide to help you with learning opportunities at home that we would have covered in the normal school summer term. Apart from keeping up with regular spelling, writing, reading and maths work the other subjects are a choice that you can make to do based on the needs of your child. I am so proud of your children for what they have produced and this has been nurtured by your support and dedication.

Thank you again for everything that you do for children and words cannot do justice to say how proud I am of the 3 Mulberry family. Have a wonderful summer holidays; rest, recoup and have a fantastic time with your families. I wish you all the best and look forward to seeing you in September.

Keep safe and well

Mr Pratsis

News from Year 4



(digestive system science experiment)



(PSHE lesson on calling 999)

The year started off with such promise, jam packed with a Harvest Mass followed by an epic futuristic assembly. I have seen my class continue to grow into learners that have loved every moment of being in school and I am extremely proud of all of their achievements this year has brought for them. I have so many memories I could share but my top 3 would have to be creating and making our light-up Iron Man heads in DT, watching the children audition and display their wonderful talents at the St Mary's Got Talent Show and getting the opportunity to go to the Easter Reflection at Carshalton Methodist Church. I was devastated that we didn't get to reach the end as this has been my best year yet. I am looking forward to the adventures next year will bring.

Mr Riccio

What an incredible year! Now I know why the ancient saying 'may you live in interesting times' is an insult... although how wonderful that we are a part of living history. When I look

back on the past academic year I am reminded of so many wonderful lessons filled with inquisitive children and tricky questions, hopefully the picture above will remind you of some. My favourite memories of the year are our river boat cruise trip - even though it was bitterly cold and our class assembly, which was just superb. In addition, I hold so many memories of a wonderful class that grew in knowledge and personality every day. I am sad we missed some of our year together but am safe in the knowledge that you will have greater adventures every year.

Mrs Richardson

Wow! What a year this has been. My first year at St Mary's has been filled with so many happy memories. Getting to see my class grow throughout the year has been a real privilege and I am filled with such pride seeing all that you have managed to achieve. There have been so many positive moments that it is really difficult to choose but watching the whole class band together and really put their heart and soul into our class assembly is one of my favourite moments I have had in my teaching career. It's a shame that we couldn't spend the whole year together but I know that you will have a fantastic Year 5 with many fantastic adventures.

Mr Lawton

News from Year 5

My goodness me, Year 5 what a year we have had! Despite the school closure, we know that all of you have been working so hard and we know that you will be an amazing Year 6 cohort. There have been so many positive moments throughout the year and all of the team in Year 5 feel such pride about what you have achieved together. You are such a creative bunch: your poetry about the seasons and the four paintings you made each were beautiful; you have enjoyed the books we read together, particularly Alex Rider and Stormbreaker; you challenge yourselves to tackle mild, spicy and/or hot math's questions; and collaborated with real reverence as we prepared to share the Easter Passion story with our school community. It was such a pity we did not get to share it with everyone - but we saw the rehearsals and we know how well you performed in those. On our outing to the Science Museum you again worked well together to investigate and be amazed by everything that was happening in the Wonderlab. This curiosity about the world has served you well in lockdown - you have entertained yourselves and each other with stories about what you have been up to. Your families now have eager pancake makers, bakers and explorers. Keep yourselves busy and having fun over the summer holidays.

Mrs Nicholls, Mrs Bignell, Mrs Green, Mr Patrick.

News from Year 6

It has been a memorable year for all of us, with so many highlights and memories to reflect on. You have all grown in confidence and resilience, despite not being able to attend school for a period of time, you have all shown dedication and focus to your learning. You all have amazed me through the various challenges at 4th Dimension and the determination as we continued to learn throughout the year. You all have such a thirst for learning and this is evident in the progress you have made this year, although it has been a rather unusual one. We are proud of your achievements - both with regards to your work and your extra-curricular commitment. Many of you have been involved with Faith in Action, chaplaincy, liturgy, football, netball and many other activities. Many of you have also represented the school as exemplary role models. We thank you very much for the time you have given to this. I have very much enjoyed teaching you this year and journeying with you on your final year at St. Mary's.

Miss Sullivan

It really has been a spectacular year- one that none of us expected and will never forget. I hope that you all cherish it and you should all be proud of the resilience, determination and zest for learning you have all shown. Each of you have overcome challenges this year whether it be facing your fear of heights at 4th Dimension, completing the gigantic task of your Christmas stories for your buddies or adjusting to a life of online learning. Whilst the end of our year may not have been what we all originally planned, I hope that each of you will go to your new school with fond memories of your time at St Mary's. I am so proud of each of you and will cherish our time together: I am certain that you will all aim high and achieve amazing things. I hope you all have a lovely summer and wish you the best of luck in the next step of your learning.

Miss Framp

What a jam packed year it has been for Year 6 this year even with the school closure during the Spring term. You should look back on this school year positively and not one with an abrupt end.

My favourite memories have included watching many of you face and conquer challenges on Fourth Dimension as well as showcasing your cooking skills when we created Christmas puddings!

It is a shame that some of the usual events have not taken place however you will always be remembered as a special year group who showed great resilience, focus and adaptability in times of great change! I wish you all the best as you move onto new schools and new adventures as I will be moving onto new adventures too.

Miss Mayanja

Music



One of the highlights of 2019 - 2020 was the Year 6 Privilege Promise Assembly Friday 27th September 2019 with guest speaker Hannah Roberts who shared her musical journey from St. Mary's to present times having a scholarship studying at the Trinity College London.

Since June at school, Music lessons have been virtual. This has been an exciting new adventure and all pupils across both schools have enjoyed this new style seeing Mrs

Roberts on the big screen!



Years 3-5 have been learning songs from 'Create and sing Hansel and Gretel' by the Royal Opera House including 'Little brother dance with me' and 'The Riddle song' and learning about the inter-related dimensions of music.

If you wish to learn an instrument next year, please contact the teacher directly to arrange lessons. Your teacher will be in touch with you to liaise when lessons will commence in school.

Infants -
PIANO

Mr Z Mancuso zino_music@yahoo.co.uk

Juniors -
PIANO

Mr P Aslangul philaslangul@yahoo.co.uk

VIOLIN/VIOLA

Miss A McDade amcdviolin@me.com

CELLO

Mrs D McGregor debbiecelloteacher@gmail.com

GUITAR

Mr J Freedman jules.freedman@outlook.com

BRASS (trumpet, French horn, trombone, baritone) Mr P Martin
paulmartin37@hotmail.co.uk

Thank you to all the peripatetic staff who have worked with the children this year - Mr Martin, Mr Aslangul, Ms McDade, Mrs McGregor, Mr Freedman and Mr Mancuso. Thank you also to Mrs Nicholls and Mr Patrick their help with choir this year. We wish Mr Patrick good of luck in his new adventure teaching music in his new school. All of us from St. Mary's wish you a lovely summer and we look forward to welcoming you back in the new school year.

Mrs Roberts

E-Safety -



Connecting Safely Online

To help support parents, carers, and young people with additional learning needs, we have created this hub to offer tailored advice on how to connect safely online across a range of social platforms.

CEOP - new activity packs for parents

CEOP have released their new activity packs for all age ranges, this time focusing on the activity of online gaming. Links to the various packs are:

- 4-5 year olds [HERE](#)
- 5-7 year olds [HERE](#)
- 8-10 year olds [HERE](#)

There is also a new article and video to help parents and carers understand how in-game chat works, how it might be abused by others and what they can do to help keep their children safe whilst using in-game chat. The link for the article and video is [HERE](#).



ParentZone -

Has a new newsletter that you can sign up for - [ParentZone - Join the community](#)
Need some more support in keeping your child safe online? Have a look at ParentZone which is designed to help parents facing challenges in this digital age.

<https://parentzone.org.uk/parents>

Here are some other great E-Safety links -

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

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>

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

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

<https://www.commonsemmedia.org/>

PSHE

Since returning from school closure children in all bubbles have focused on PSHE lessons related to health and wellbeing in response to the COVID 19 pandemic. In different bubbles the children have explored different ways to improve their wellbeing through continuing to be active, connecting with those around us, learning at every opportunity, giving time and taking notice of what is around us. All of the children have had opportunities to use the outdoor spaces for play and reading as well as observing the wonderful creation around our school grounds linked to our RE final topic based on being stewards of God's creation. The children have had an opportunity to enrich their knowledge of faith practiced in our local and wider community learning about other faiths including Islam and Sikhism.

School Travel Plan



Unfortunately, the Junior Travel Ambassadors have not been able to meet during the Summer term however prior to school closure and during lockdown there was a great increase in children travelling into school by foot and park and ride. It has

been lovely to hear from children who have been on daily walks as part of their lockdown routine. In addition, the scooter/ bike park in the playground has had an increase in usage which all contribute to our school travel plan of increasing active travel to school.

Public transport can provide a sustainable alternative to car travel.

Thank you to Parents who have continuously chosen active methods of transport to transport children to and from school. Also I would like to thank all the Junior Travel advisors who have attended meetings this year and throughout the previous year's whilst I have led the School Travel Plan.

Miss Mayanja



Social distancing

Please support the health and wellbeing of all children and staff. Gathering together is not allowed in the school grounds and certainly not congregating at St Philomena's swimming pool. We have taken great steps (and expenditure) in keeping pupils separated and this must not be compromised by the infringement of these procedures. We need to work together if we are to keep the school open for the wellbeing and education of our community. Thank you for supporting these measures by being respectful to others.



Please note, cycling and scooting is not permitted in the school grounds for adults or children.



50/50 winners

April - Emily Averty

May - Freya Hall

June - Ronan Agnew