



**NEWSLETTER**  
**18<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2019**  
**SUNDAY 20<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 29<sup>th</sup> 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 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,

The first half term is complete. Thank you to the staff for working hard in getting the pupils off to a good start, this has been really evident this term. We are delighted too with the work of the PTA being in the early days of a joint committee, this looks to be very promising with a greater number of parents being involved. Excitement is mounting as we plan for the next half term with Christmas already on the horizon.

We wish you all a wonderful break next week and look forward to seeing you for parent consultations which are for parents only - no children on this occasion, thank you.

### Spiritual

### Infants

Thank you for the generous donations to our Harvest Appeal. We were overwhelmed with the amount of food donated in support of the food bank at St Philomena's High School. On Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October we welcomed Father Patrick Udotai who celebrated with a Harvest Festival Mass. Well done to the children who sang so beautifully and read so clearly. The food bank is confidential and any family who wishes to benefit from it, should contact Deacon Errol at St Philomena's.



## Juniors

RE topics this half term have had a focus on the domestic church: topics included homes and families, ourselves and loving. Evidence of what this means to families in our school is very clear in the harvest donations given this week.

The next unit of work allowed different year groups to explore different Sacraments. Some children will have found out about Baptism, Confirmation, Marriage and Vocation. Listening to children in Y5, wisely discussing the difference between a wedding and a marriage, and what is important for each, was wonderful. The focus of our work has been on what it means to make a promise. If you have any photographs of these Sacraments at home that your children have not seen in a while, they may like to see pictures of their Baptism .... or yours... or their grandparents?

Our Southwark Diocese has a focus on 'The God who speaks' this year. We thank you for your contributions, through family homework, to our display. It really does look lovely, and the range of words chosen and decorated by the children is huge. It is evidence indeed that we can come to know and love God through His word: The Bible. We thank you for looking at the Wednesday Word (lower school) and the Homework Diary Gospel page (upper school) as these help to bring the Bible messages alive for our children.



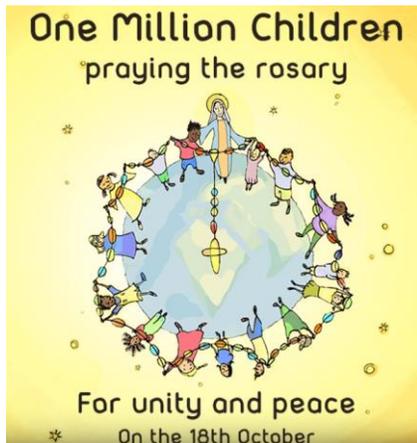
Last Sunday saw the canonisation in Rome of St. John Henry Newman. During his lifetime he wrote prolifically and some think that, in the future, he may be declared a Doctor of

the Church. At the Junior School we have been reflecting on "Some Definite Service", an excerpt of which is below.

God has created me to do Him some definite service. He has committed some work to me which He has not committed to another. I have my mission. I may never know it in this life, but I shall be told it in the next. I am a link in a chain, a bond of connection between persons.



Our prayers linked together in one very long chain!



On Friday 18th October both schools took time to join together as a school and in fellowship with children all around the world to pray the Rosary for unity and peace. This is an initiative of Aid to the Church in Need, a charity which has its headquarters in Sutton.

Throughout the month of October children have been praying the Rosary with Mrs Norbury, both in school and in our lovely grounds. Our prayers were for our families, friends and our communities but also, in answer to Pope Francis' call for an Extraordinary Month of Mission, for the Church around the world, that we will all be missionary disciples for Christ.

## NURSERY & INFANT SCHOOL

### News from Nursery

Ladybirds have had a great time meeting new friends and teachers as they have settled into the Nursery. We are so proud of how well the children are now separating from their parents and many are enjoying the experience of lunch club, well done! We have had lots of fun learning through play, it has been such fun watching the children create bands, policemen, builders and princess parties. We have enjoyed watching the seasons change and began to see the beautiful colours of Autumn all around us. The children enjoyed learning Autumn songs and listening to the story 'The Leaf Man' and then looking for or making their own leaf man! The children take part in our prayers and candle blessing daily and have enjoyed learning that God loves us and knows us all by our name. We discussed that a prayer is our way of talking to God. The children have shown great interest in a range of animals when playing with the small world in the classroom so our new topic will be called 'Amazing Animals'.



### News from Reception

Well done to all the reception children for a great start to the year. The children have settled in well and adjusted to new school routines. Thank you to the parents who attended the picnic towards the start of the term, it was lovely to see you and get a chance to meet you all. We began the term by reading our first two key texts; 'Polar Bear Polar Bear, What Do You Hear?' The children enjoyed creating their own listening ears and going on a listening walking, listening for sounds in the environment. 'Brown Bear Brown Bear, What Do You See?' linked into our topic of 'How many colours in a rainbow.' We have enjoyed our RE topic of 'Myself.' Throughout the topic we discussed that prayer is a way of talking to God and that he knows us all by our name. We finished the topic by having a year group service to reflect upon our learning throughout the topic. This led to our 'Messy Day' where the children dressed up in bright colours and enjoyed getting VERY messy! We finished off the term by creating our own Elmer masks after reading another key text; 'Elmer' which led to us re-creating our own Elmer parade on the last day of term where the children performed two songs in front of Year 1 and 2.



### **News from Year 1**

We have had a great start to the new school year. We welcomed back the children into their new classes, they are beginning to settle in and rising to the challenge of the work ahead. We began with a Fairy Tale dress up day where the children enjoyed a variety of activities centred around our topic, Enchanted Woodland. We celebrated the Feast of the Nativity of our Blessed Virgin Mary on the 8<sup>th</sup> September with a picnic, thank you to all the parents who joined us.

### **News from Year 2**

In year 2 we have enjoyed being "messy" in our topic "Muck, Mess and Mixtures". We enjoyed our topic day where we made salt art, messy cake mixture outside and animal hand painting. It has been a busy first term back and the children have learnt many new skills in English, focusing on writing a narrative from the book "The Rascally Cake" which was great fun to read! Linking to our topic, the children have learnt about different materials and their properties within our science lessons, thinking about the purpose of objects. In Geography we have been using an atlas and maps to locate where we live, the seas and the seven continents which will be continued in the next term. In Math's we have learnt about place value and began to introduce addition and subtraction. We look forward to developing this skill further after the half term. Thank you to the parents for all the donations this term, it is greatly appreciated.

**Congratulations to these pupils:**

**Star of the week - week ending 18th October - Reindeer Class - Daisy D, Giraffe Class - Joshua M, Cheetah Class - Lucas G, Meerkat Class - Francesco M, Horse Class - Jack C, Owl Class - Cayden K. Well done!**

## JUNIOR SCHOOL

### News from Year 3

This term has been an immense success with all children settling in well to the rules and routines of junior school life. The children have all taken part in their class assemblies sharing knowledge and ideas about the Rugby World Cup, the Moon landing and Black History Month. This half term we have learnt about light in science and understanding its importance to how we see. We have also dived into a time machine and transported ourselves to Ancient Egypt to discover amazing facts about the land and how it is used as well as discovering the treasures of Tutankhamun's tomb with Howard Carter.

We have begun our journey to become Times Tables Rockstars and we look forward to more battles next term. Don't forget to train hard over the holiday to see what improvements we can make. In computing we have started to use Scratch and will transfer our knowledge of our English text about the Three Little Pigs into creating and programming a scene from the story.

In English we have looked at using persuasive language amongst other pieces of grammar culminating in a courtroom role play where we decided that after all the evidence seen and written down that the wolf was in fact not as innocent as he made out in the book.

We are looking forward to next half term and beginning our journey to writing and producing our Nativity.

### News from Year 4

Slurp. Glug. Belch! Our Autumn 1 half term has been full of food and eating! We have been researching and writing our own information leaflets about the digestive system and making an artificial digestive system in science. We tested it out too, so if you aren't quite sure where your food goes once you've taken a bite, ask year four - they know exactly what happens!

We took ourselves away in a marvelous adventure story; 'fortunately the milk' and then wrote our own fantasy adventure stories, we hope you get a chance to read them at parents evening - they are really quite amazing!

Our math's learning started where we finished history last year - with the Romans! We investigated their rather letter filled numerical system and applied it to our own. We decided we much prefer using digits, so continued our learning using our usual number system to add and subtract in various ways leading up to the dreaded 'columnar method' which actually turned out to be fairly easy when we got down to it - so if your calculator needs a rest we are ready to go!

We finished off the half term designing and making pasta or couscous salads, and writing a class recipe book including all our designs. We hope you got a taste at home they looked delicious!



### News from Year 5

Well done Year 5 on your move into the upper school. We started the year by agreeing our own class rules, and in RE have been learning about ourselves, our emotions and what it means to make a promise: huge ideas! We have also acted as advisors to Dr Who- the time-traveller. Following research on life in the ancient Greek city states of Athens and Sparta, we made a suggestion about which one we thought Dr Who should visit as we now know that life in each place was quite different.

The children collaborated beautifully in science this half term, as we worked together to find out about forces. There may be a few more parachutes made over half term as many of the children now have even more questions to investigate! On DT day too, forces were important as we made moving toys using wooden cams.

If you are lucky enough to win the lottery soon, year 5 children will be happy to help you read, write and spend numbers up to a million. In our reading of *The Firework Maker's Daughter* (Philip Pullman) and the work of Anthony Browne, we have met characters, explored settings, and discovered that a lottery win is not actually what makes people happy or what is important in life. Using inference and picture reading skills, we have extended our vocabularies, particularly of words to describe emotions, and have loved exploring the worlds created by these authors. Why not find a few more to read to each other over the holiday?

### News from Year 6

A well done to all of the year 6 children for a smooth start to the academic year. Each member of year 6 accepted and embraced the new responsibilities that their privilege ties represent. We also congratulate all children who were made house captains in school and thank all children for their applications for these roles. All the year 6 children are leaders

in the school community and we are proud of the example of role model behaviour they demonstrate.

Over the course of this half term, the children have engaged in discussions using our driver text of 'Amazon Diary' and have immersed themselves in the life of the rainforest. Our geography learning supported our understanding of the location of the Amazon Rainforest, the climate and the Amazon River. We have been working hard on to write convincingly from another person's perspective on deforestation to argue and persuade points of view.



In R.E. we have been learning about the process of ordination within our topic of 'Vocation and Commitment' and we have been exploring what it may be like to be called to serve God. The children were also lucky to have a session with Deacon Errol who answered some of their questions about serving God in our community.



We went on our 4th Dimension trip full of challenges including: climbing, balancing and all experienced a water activity on the reservoir. All children had a fantastic time pushing themselves to achieve challenges and worked well to encourage each other in their groups.



### Awards & Achievements

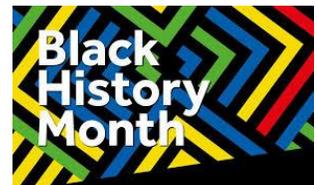
#### St Mary's Awards - Autumn 1

**3 Mulberry - Eliza N 3 Willow - Ava-May M 3 Hawthorn - Flynn W**  
**4 Ash - Louis C 4 Poplar - Aaron N 4 Rowan - Finley Q**  
**5 Birch - Sean M 5 Elm - Charlie J 5 Sycamore - Theodore L**  
**6 Chestnut - Tyra G 6 Copper Beech - Roma S 6 Oak - Anthony B**  
**Congratulations and well done to all!**

## PSHE

Playground pals have begun at the infant school, which is a great honour for children to be chosen to help children during play times by being a kind friend and initiating/leading games. Playground Pals are volunteers and selected by showing excellent learning behaviour, and attitude to be a role model to others. At the start of the term children in Year 2 volunteered to be a playtime pal and due to the high amount of numbers, each week six children are chosen to take on this role for the week. Every Friday new playground pals are chosen for the following week. The playground pals are taught games and strategies to help playtimes to be even more fun and safe! On the PSHE board in the corridor, the playground pal's photo is displayed for all children to know who to look out for. The playground pals are taught games and strategies to help playtimes to be even more fun and safe!

In PSHE at the juniors this term, the children have begun the year looking at the themes of 'Feelings and 'Emotions' and 'Healthy Relationships'. Each year groups have explored the aspects of healthy relationships including boundaries, working together; resolving conflict; recognising and responding to others' feelings; understanding. The British Values board display's some key questions on our focus for this term which has been 'Mutual Respect'. The children have been thinking about how to show this on the playground and in class.



The month of October began with Black History month and 3 Hawthorn Class treated the whole school to an informative assembly that even included a whole school quiz. As a class they presented their new learning on key black icons and figures as well as trailblazers who have influenced History, entertainment and politics.

All the children in the school have learnt about Sutton's quest to bid and become a Borough of Culture in 2023 and the borough is calling on everyone in Sutton to help make this happen. The children have thought about what they like about where they live and voted as it will affect their local area in the future. If you are interested in backing the campaign find out more at



[https://www.sutton.gov.uk/news/article/427/our\\_bid\\_to\\_become\\_london\\_borough\\_of\\_culture\\_2023](https://www.sutton.gov.uk/news/article/427/our_bid_to_become_london_borough_of_culture_2023)

There will be a number of themed weeks/ events taking place next term including :

<b>Remembrance Day</b>	Monday 11th November
<b>'Anti Bullying Week'</b>	Monday 11th November - Friday 15th November 2019.
Theme starts with us: Change starts with us	
<b>'Road Safety Week'</b>	Monday 18 November - Friday 24 November
Theme for 2019: Step up for Safe Streets	



The key theme of lessons next term will be Health and Wellbeing whereby children will look at the impact of making informed choices with their lifestyle and the importance of a balanced diet and hygiene. Look out for events next term in each year group!

### **School Travel Plan**

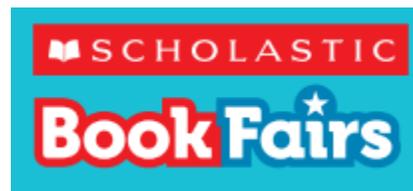
Junior Travel Advisors from last academic year will begin meeting after half term on a fortnightly basis with Ms Mayanja on Thursday Lunchtimes.

*Thank you to Parents and Carers who continue to choose methods of active travel to come to school including walking, scooting, cycling, park and stride and public transport.*

## English

### Junior School

'Scholastic Book Fair', will be visiting the school at St. Mary's Junior School during the **week beginning 28th October 2019**. It is a fantastic opportunity for the children to purchase some of the most popular titles to read for their age. The book fair will be open in the dining area of the junior school and there will be an opportunity to buy books at the following times:



**Tuesday 29th October 2019** between **5pm - 7.50pm** (during parent's evening consultations)

**Wednesday 30th October 2019** between **3.15pm - 3.40pm**

**Thursday 31st November 2019** between **2.15pm - 4.50pm** (during parent's evening consultations)

**Friday 1st November 2019** between **3.15pm - 3.40pm**

It is an excellent opportunity to introduce the children to a wider and varied range of good quality books. The school earn 'rewards' on the books purchased through the book fair and this can then be used towards the purchase of new reading books in school. Purchases can be made by card or cash at the book fair on the day.

## Year 6 Parents and Carers

Please ensure you complete your on-line application form for transfer to secondary school before midnight on 31 October 2019. We do not want any of our Year 6 pupils to miss out on a secondary school place.

### NEPAL UNIFORM & WINTER CLOTHING APPEAL

Please could we request any old school uniform to be brought in from the last week in October and all winter clothing to be brought in for the middle of November.

The children attending school in the village range from age 3 to 11 - years old. These ages are similar to the ages of the children attending St Mary's Infants and Junior schools.

For the winter clothing, any general warm winter clothing would be wonderful to receive. The village is situated over 3000 meters high in the Himalayan Mountains and therefore very cold. So clothing such as jumpers, fleeces, hats, gloves, scarves, jackets, trouser and even shoes and socks would be very gratefully received. This is a very poor community, so whatever the parents were happy to donate would make a huge difference.

**Full PE Kit for all children needs to be brought in to school each day, along with a spare pair of socks for girls**

**Please can we remind all parent's that no children should be left in the school Junior School playground before 8.35am**

School uniform and lunchboxes to be clearly named. The amount of lost property at the minute is unmanageable.

Parent's Evening booking has now gone live! Please remember it is only one appointment per child. Please remember to try different variations of names, such as small and capital letters.

### Get Set to Eat Fresh – Aldi campaign

We are taking part in Aldi's 'Get Set Eat Fresh' campaign this year. To support **Get Set to Eat Fresh** and its aims, **Aldi's** Kit for Schools scheme is giving every primary school in the country the chance to win £20,000 to spark a health legacy. If you shop at Aldi please collect the team GB sticker and bring it in for us to complete our poster and give us a chance to win!