

Newsletter - Spring 7 | 25th February 2022

Welcome back, I hope that you all managed to have a restful half term break although I am aware that for a number of our families it is a particularly difficult time. I am sure everyone will join me in sending our support and prayers to all the families affected by the conflict in the Ukraine. If your child is asking questions about the conflict and you want to help them understand this difficult situation the Newsround website has a range of child friendly resources that may be of use. Importantly, it also has advice about what to do if you are understandably worried about the news https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/13865002 . As we enter Lent next week, we will, as the Pope suggests, continue to pray for peace. We will also be talking to our Prayer Monitors about choosing a charity to support during this special period of reflection. I am sure they will be keen for us to think about how we can support those who find themselves in these terrible circumstances.

Dates for your diary

Week Commencing Monday 28th February – Online Safety Week Tuesday 1st March - Tuesday 1st, Friday 18th and Thursday 31st March – Year 5 Turner's House Project Tuesday 1st March - Boys and Girls Football V Thomson House at Watneys Wednesday 2nd March - Boys and Girls Football V Queens' School at Queen's Wednesday 2nd March – Ash Wednesday – Distribution of the Ashes – Years 4-6 Wednesday 2nd March – Lent Liturgy – Year R-3 Friday 4th March – Campion House – Winning House Mufti Friday 11th March – World Book Day – Costumes or own clothes Thursday 17th March – Lent Reconciliation Services in school Thursday 23rd March - PTA Event Saturday 26th March – PTA Event – School Spring Clean Thursday 24th March - Cyber Use and Cyber Crime Talk for Parents 5-6.30pm Thursday 31st March – Way of the Cross led by Year 6 Friday 1st April – School Closes for Easter Holidays at 1pm Monday 3rd – Monday 18th April - Easter Holidays Tuesday 19th April – Start of Summer Term

Sayers Croft

It was wonderful to welcome our Year 5 pupils back from Sayers Croft this afternoon. They did a fantastic job scaling the immense Pitch Hill despite facing truly epic amounts of mud involved. We are so proud of how the children participated in all the activities and above all the teamwork and friendship they demonstrated to one another. They were true ambassadors for our school – Well done Year 5! A huge thank you to the staff who made this possible particularly Mrs Derby, Miss Nugent, Mrs Dubocq and Mrs Barrett. It is so wonderful to be able to offer our children these enriching activities again.

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Netball Success!



We all thought the netball tournament was very enjoyable and gave us a lot of learning experiences. Everyone at the tournament was determined to do well and they all put 100% into every match that they played.

We played 7 matches and got through to the semi-finals. In one match we won 7-2 and, in another Nuala scored 6 goals. We were very proud. There were lots of laughs with many ups and downs but in the end we had a great time. We may not have won but we represented the school well.

A huge well done to Erin Georgina, Max C and Max M, Nuala, Oliver, Tallulah and Zoe who came third out of 47 local schools. They were wonderful ambassadors for our school and once again proved that although St Mary Magdalen's is a small school our children's talents and achievements are truly mighty.

Thank you to Mrs Barrett, Miss Everingham and Hassan for all their hard work organising and preparing for the tournament and to Mrs Grech for her help on the day. As a small school without parental support to and from tournaments future games could have to forfeited and our pupils will miss out on these invaluable experiences.

PTA Events

It is great to have some dates for our diaries. We are excited to announce a number of upcoming events with the PTA:

School Spring Clean Up Day

We are organising a School Spring Clean Up Day for **Saturday 26 March** and we need your help. Mrs Hughes has asked if any parents can help with cleaning, light gardening, painting and removing rubbish at the school. It will be a lovely event for us to come together ahead of the Easter holidays and help the school create more space for special projects they have planned for the future. Entertainment will be provided for children in the school hall to help with childcare and to help them feel involved.

Please hold the date and further details including how to sign up will follow.

Paint and Wine Evening

We will be holding a Painting and Wine evening on **Wednesday 23rd March** in the school hall open for all parents. We are so excited that we will be able to hold events again to raise funds for the school and a chance to create your own masterpiece while meeting up with other parents. Please hold the date and we'd love to see as many people there as possible. Details to follow soon.

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Mortlake Summer Fair – we need your help!

The Summer Fair is one of the highlights for the year, bringing us together, having fun and raising money for the school. We will be setting up a committee to give energy and focus. If you would like to attend the virtual meeting it will take place on **Monday 28 February at 8pm** via zoom (Meeting ID: 982 6062 8892 and password: 270320)

Please get in touch with the PTA or your year group rep with any questions or ideas for future events.

House Competitions - Mufti day – Friday 4th March

Following our House competitions last term the winning House was Campion. This means that they will enjoy their own mufti (non-uniform) day on Friday 4th March. You will receive a SCOPay message regarding this if your child is in Campion.

Our House Captains are hard at work on an assembly for the school and are excited to launch another interhouse competition in a few weeks time.

World Book Day

At St Mary Magdalen's we love a good book. We are looking forward to celebrating World Book Day on Friday 11th March. Children can come dressed as their favourite character from a book or can wear their own clothes if they prefer. More exciting details to follow.

Calling Creative Writers

Sadly, the deadline for this competition is on Monday. However, if you have a budding author at home you may be interested in the Screen your Story competition which offers children the chance to have their work published and possibly made into a film! More information can be found on their website: http://www.screenyourstory.org/r-y6

Pupils of the Week

Reception – Paddling Class – Ava Thistleton Year 1 – Circus Class – Roberto Grimaldi Year 2 – Tribe Class – Isobel Hart Year 3D – Leap Class – The Whole Class Year 3FC – Zeal Class – The Whole Class Year 4 – Journey Class – Luca Braga Year 5 – Aurora Class – The Whole Class And an additional certificate for Freida Amechi Year 6 – Parade Class – Ben Wiggins

Headteacher's Award for Exceptional Work

Saoirse Freeman, Abraham De La Camara, Evie Beglane, Chloe Te Brake, Riley Monk, James Dolan and Benjamin De Serra for incredible black out poems

Sienna Campbell, Nyah Christopher, Magda Woods and Evie Couch for excellent Maths work on money

I hope that you have a peaceful weekend with your children, Catherine Hughes Headteacher

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