



ST MARY MAGDALEN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Newsletter – Spring 8 | 3rd March 2023

Today our school was filled with a wonderful array of colourful characters as we celebrated World Book Day. Reading is something we are incredibly proud of at our school not only because of our outstanding results that show our children are exceptional readers and make excellent progress but because of the amazing opportunities that being a fluent and enthusiastic reader gives our pupils. The money raised today will be put towards purchasing some new books for our school library so that the children can enjoy a an even broader range of fiction and non-fiction books.

Dates for your diaries

Wednesday 15th – 17th March – Year 5 to Sayers Croft	Friday 28th April – Catholic Schools' INSET – school closed
Friday 17th March – Movie Night	Monday 1st May – May Day Bank Holiday
Thursday 23rd March – Music Concert time tbc	Friday 5th May – King and Queen Disco after school
Friday 24th March – Movie Night	Monday 8th May – Bank Holiday for the Coronation
Thursday 30th March – Way of the Cross	Tuesday 9th – Friday 12th May – Key Stage 2 SATs
Friday 31st March – Last Day of Term – School Finishes at 1pm	Friday 12th May – Cake Sale
Friday 31st March – Mufti Day	Friday 19th May – Cake Sale
Monday 3rd – Friday 14th April – Easter Holidays	Saturday 20th May – Mexican Fiesta
Monday 17th April – Start of the summer term	Tuesday 23rd May -Pentecost Mass
Week Commencing 17th April – Year 6 Bikeability	Wednesday 24th May – Class and Team Photos
Friday 21st April - Cake Sale	Thursday 25th May – Mufti Day
Saturday 22nd April – Spring Clean & Family Bingo	Friday 26th May – INSET Day – school closed
Thursday 27th April – Summer Term Mass	Monday 29th May – Friday 2 nd June – Half Term
	Monday 5th June – INSET Day – school closed
	Tuesday 6th June – Start of the new half term

Inaugural Caritas Mass

Canon Victor Darlington, the Episcopal Vicar for Education has sent an open invitation to all those within Southwark school communities to attend the Inaugural Caritas Mass to be held on **Saturday 18th March at 12pm at St George's Cathedral**. After the Mass there will be a short reception in Amigo Hall. There will be a number of displays and representatives from social action agencies, parishes and schools showcasing the wonderful work being done in this area across the diocese.



Year 2 Science Workshop

Last week Year 2 participated in a workshop entitled- The Science Machine, Materials–The facilitator was in role as an eccentric scientist, and the children had to show their knowledge and enthusiasm about science, and pass tasks including outwitting a disgruntled monster to save the professor’s science machine from imploding! The children were so engaged and loved participating in the different activities. They had loads of fun and learned a lot about the different materials and their properties.

Internet Safety Talk – Thursday 2nd March 6.30pm

Achieving for Children advisor, Peter Cowley gave a talk on internet safety yesterday evening. Guidance on safeguards and age-specific advice can be found at the following link:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/mobile/folders/1iQMbWkAmEj5yUwKJ7WUitKIRL2RRP0nj?usp=sharing>

Financial Year-End 2023

Bookings for breakfast club, clubs, school lunches and trips on SCOPay will close on Friday 17th March 2023 at midday and will re-open on Thursday 6th April at 5p.m. This is because of the financial year-end. Please top up your child’s school lunch account, breakfast club or make payments for school trips, swimming Governors’ Fund before 17th March.

All P.T.A events and school uniform purchases will remain open.

PTA Announcements

We hope your children enjoyed coming to school dressed as their favourite characters today. It was lovely to see Zog, Bluey, Harry Potter, David Attenborough and many other famous characters attending St Mary Magdalen's school this morning. All the money raised today will go towards providing new books for the school library.

The popular PTA Movie Nights are back, the first on Friday 17th March showing Matilda, and the second Movie Night will be on Friday 24th March Lyle Lyle Crocodile. Ticket sales will be this coming week on Thursday 9th and Friday 10th March at school drop off. Ticket prices are £8 which includes a hotdog, drinks and snacks. If you are free to volunteer to help supervise the children on either of those nights please let your class rep know. All children of parents who volunteer to supervise are guaranteed tickets. We understand that in current climate that some families are not as affluent as others. If your child wishes to attend, but you are struggling with the ticket price please let the school office know, and a ticket will be provided for your child.

Some key dates for the diary Spring Clean and Family Bingo Saturday 22nd April, Kings and Queens Disco Friday 5 May and Mexican Event 20th July.

Finally, a big thanks to those who have signed up to monthly contribution. If you have signed up to make monthly contributions and are eligible for gift aid, please drop off your gift aid forms to the school office. If you would like to make monthly contribution, this can be via a standing order or a one-time payment to the PTA Account. Account details are on the PTA Spring Term Newsletter (school website under PTA).

Thanks, and hope you have a lovely weekend.

The PTA

Alison, Clare, Fran, Astrid, Gabi and Fran

Dogs on the School Site

Historically, dogs were not allowed on the school site. During the pandemic, we operated a one-way system through the school and allowed dogs to be walked through the school site. However, at the beginning of the month, there was the harrowing case of Alice Stones, who was attacked and killed by a dog. We know that normally dogs are our best friends and that the majority of dogs are well-behaved and kept under control by their owners. However, with so many dogs on the site and so many children there are a lot of unknowns that could result in a serious incident between a dog and a child the outcome of which could be devastating. Both dogs and children can be unpredictable and for young children exploring the world they may not know the signs of a dog who might be aggressive or who is frightened and reactive. Therefore, we have made the decision to not allow dogs onto our school site from next week and so we would ask you to leave your dogs at home at drop off and pick up.

First Reconciliation

This Saturday, many of our year three children will celebrate the blessed sacrament of reconciliation for the first time. Lent is such a good time for us to reflect on the power and importance of forgiveness of ourselves, of others and of the blessing of God's forgiveness. I hope you will hold all the children in your prayers as they take this important step on their faith journey.

Pupils of the Week

Reception Antarctica – Leo Coleman
Year 1 Australia – Rory Dowell
Year 2 Africa – Mithila Mendis
Year 3 North America – Dominik Blasko
Year 4 South America – Veronica Luzieto
Year 5 Europe – Zoe Mangion
Year 6 Asia – Angus Aitchison
and Chloe Grindal

Headteacher's Award for Exceptional Work

Rosie, Luke, Oliver and Leo
for excellent English
Harlow for marvellous maths

I hope you have a wonderful weekend with your children

Catherine Hughes,
Headteacher

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The Year of Global Citizens – “Be the change you wish to see in the world.” Mahatma Gandhi