



ST MARY MAGDALEN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Newsletter - Autumn 7 | 20th October 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

As we begin half-term I would like to thank you for the support you have given to your children's learning over the opening weeks of the school year. I would also like to thank you for being so supportive of the school in general and the warm welcome you have given me since joining St Mary Magdalen's in September. This is a really lovely school community, brimming over with parents who actively want the best for the school. This is evident from the superb attendance to school events, such as *Parents' Evenings* and *Meet the Teacher* events, as well as the work of the PTA and the enthusiastic support for the many events they add to the wider school life; from Cake Sales to uniform re-cycling and school discos and much more.

I believe we are all very fortunate to be part of this wonderful school community and I feel very privileged and fortunate to now be part of it.

Thank you

Mr Conway

Today's Assembly



Today in our Assembly we discussed the meaning of and differences between All Saints Day (1st November) and All Souls Day (2nd November) and introduced the children to The Prayer for the Faithful departed:

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
And let perpetual light shine upon them.
May their souls
And the souls of all the faithful departed,
Through the mercy of God,
Rest in peace.
Amen*

Secondary Transfer

Parents of children in Year 6. Please see the link below regarding secondary transfer, if you have any questions please email Richmond admissions: richmond.admissions@achievingforchildren.org.uk
Or the admissions department of the authority where you live.

The deadline is Tuesday 31st October 2023.

https://www.richmond.gov.uk/secondary_school_admissions/

Dates for your diaries

Week Commencing 23rd October – Half Term

Wednesday 1st November - All Saints Mass at 9.30a.m. led by Year 4

Friday 3rd November - Y6 Holly Lodge – Richmond Park in World War I

Friday 3rd November – Cake Sale
INTERNATIONAL FOOD FAIR

Sunday 5th November - THE GREAT MARY MAGS INTERNATIONAL FOOD FAIR

Tuesday 7th November – Year 3 Fulham Palace Trip

Wednesday 8th November - Year 6 Museum of Richmond WWI workshop

Thursday 9th November - nasal flu vaccination in school (Rec to Y6)

Friday 10th November - Year 6 Remembrance Assembly - 9.15a.m.

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Monday 13th November - Year 5 and 6 Young Londoners Archive project by the Museum of London

Friday 17th November - New Parents' Open Day 9.30-10.30a.m.

Friday 17th November – Xmas Mufti Day and Year 4 Cake Sale

Monday 20th November – Year 1 Magical Toy Museum Freshwater Theatre Workshop

Tuesday 21st November – School Photographs - Individual & Siblings

Wednesday 22nd November - Year 1 Science Machine – Animals Freshwater Theatre Workshop

Friday 24th November – Xmas Mufti Day

Friday 1st December – Xmas Mufti Day

Saturday 2nd December – Christmas Fair – 11a.m. – 3p.m.

Monday 4th December – Year 1 Quest Weather and Seasons Freshwater Theatre Workshop

Tuesday 5th December - New Parents' Open Day 2-3p.m.

Monday 11th December - Nativity Dress Rehearsal 10.30a.m.

Wednesday 13th December – Nativity Play – 10.00a.m.

Friday 15th December – Year 3 Cake Sale

Thursday 21st December – Last day of term – School closes 1p.m.

Monday 8th January – First day of spring term

Year 6 Isle of Wight Trip

Year 6 have enjoyed their school journey to PGL Little Canada on the Isle of Wight. As well as visiting the beach at colourful Alum Bay and Woodside Beach, we took part in a number of activities on site at PGL, including vertical climbing, trapeze, zip wire, abseiling, shelter building, blindfold trail, archery, buggy building and a favourite for many - laser tag - as well as finishing with a disco.

Here are just a few of the wonderful images of our Year 6 pupils taken during the week:





The children were a credit to themselves, their families and the school. And, above all, they had a fantastic experience. Thank you again to Mrs Derby, Mrs Nugent and Mrs O'Boyle for keeping the boys and girls safe and happy!

Remembrance Day

In preparation for Remembrance Day, our Year 6 pupils have produced some wonderful art work.



Pupil of the Week Award

Reception – Alice – For always making the right choices and being kind and caring to everybody

Year 1 – Skye – She has been so enthusiastic to do number bonds to 10.

Year 2 – Boyun – For settling in so well to Year 2.

Year 3 – Charlie – For being such a good role model and producing work to such a high standard.

Year 4 – Cara – For being the most wonderful role model in all areas of school life.

Year 5 – Sofia - For not being afraid of a challenge, either in the classroom or the sports field.

Year 6 – Naya - For always setting a good example with her behaviour.

Year 6 – Whole Class - For a successful journey to PGL Canada in the Isle of Wight.

Dynamic Duo !!!



Zoey and Lucy Wallis-Jones decided they wanted to organise a fundraising cake sale for school last weekend.

With limited assistance they made iced biscuits, cornflake cakes, gingerbread and flapjacks and sold them outside the front of their house on Sunday. They made a sign with the Mary Mags crest and name on and made sure they had their school jumpers on so people knew what the sale was for!

After about nearly 4 hours they had made almost £70 for school!

Rugby

'On Wednesday, Mr. Davis took an eager group of Year 5 and 6 players to compete in a Tag Rugby Tournament at Richmond Rugby Club. Despite our inexperience, the team performed magnificently, running in a flurry of tries to top the group. We carried this form into the next stage, defeating several bigger schools before narrowly missing out on the semi-finals after a close encounter with St Stephen's, the eventual finalists'

Report by Tomas Whitmore – Year 6



Traffic Issues

We are all aware that St Mary Magdalen's is located in a tight cul-de-sac, in a residential road. It is of the utmost importance that our school enjoys a good relationship with its neighbours. However, this has come under strain recently due to some less than considerate behavior by road users coming to the school. We are regularly receiving complaints from residents of Worple Street about parents or carers dropping off or collecting children. Drivers reversing down the length of Worple Street, turning cars, engines being left running, and loud music from open car windows are the main sources of complaint. We would kindly ask parents to respect the local residents by parking at the railway end of the road and walking down the road to drop-off or collect their children. Please do not leave your engines running while you are waiting. If you do find that you need to reverse on Worple Street, please exercise the greatest of care. This is especially important with children crossing the road between parked cars at the beginning and end of the school day. Accidents are very possible when reversing and some parked cars have been damaged in recent days. Thank you for your consideration and helping to ensure the safety of our pupils and to protect the reputation of our school.

School Streets is in operation Monday to Friday - 8.15-9.15a.m. and 2.45-3.45p.m. Please do not drive down Worple Way during these times.

Staff News - Addendum

Further to the announcement in last week's newsletter, we are very happy to report that we don't need to say goodbye to Mrs Lally as she will be staying at school as a volunteer. We look forward to having Mrs Lally back in school soon

PTA



Once again, Christ's School PSA Richmond will be hosting their [spectacular Fireworks Festival on Friday 3rd November 18:00 - 21:00](https://www.pta-events.co.uk/christsschoolpsarichmond/index.cfm). Book via the link below for an early bird price until 24 October or full price thereafter. Select our school at checkout and we receive 5% commission.

<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/christsschoolpsarichmond/index.cfm>

Firstly, we would like to say a huge and heartfelt thank you to our outgoing PTA members who have worked so hard over the last year raising an incredible amount of money to enhance the school lives of our children and also organising all the fun events we all enjoy. A huge huge thank you to Alison, Astrid, Fran M, Gabi and Badral. I'm sure we will be calling on your wisdom and help over the next year!

Thank you!

PTA Treasurer

The PTA is still looking to recruit a new treasurer. Claire Lynch has been a wonderful treasurer for over 3 years now and is ready to take a well-deserved retirement from the role. She will be very happy to pass on all her knowledge to the next treasurer. If you are interested in taking on this role please do reach out to us at smmptacontact@gmail.com

Being on the PTA is very rewarding (and most of our meetings are in the pub!)

The School Discos are taking place this evening. This is the first time we have made the disco a family event out of school hours and we hope everyone enjoys themselves tonight!

Events Coming up Soon

Sunday 5th November - The Great Mary Mags International Food Fair. 12-3pm.

Saturday 2nd December - The Mary Mags Christmas Fair 🎄

Half term Holiday Fun Christmas Fair Poster Competition

Christmas is coming! If your child would like to enter please have them design a poster to advertise our fabulous Christmas Fair. These should be A4 portrait orientation. All entries must be in by Friday 4th November.

Christ's Fireworks Christ's have invited Mary Mags families to their annual fireworks. If you are going to go please book though this link as we receive a % of tickets sold! <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/christsschoolpsarichmond/index.cfm>

Lastly, we are your new PTA led by Fran S and we hope we will carry on the good work of all the previous PTAs before us! Looking forward to fundraising with you this year. Donghee, Fran S, Jemma, Louisa, Lucy, Sonica and Tara!