



ST MARY MAGDALEN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

18th October 2024

This week has been jam packed with exciting activities. Year 2 had an amazing educational visit to the Florence Nightingale Museum. They learned a great deal about 'The Lady with the Lamp'. The children discovered that Florence was the founder of modern nursing, an important female icon and that she owned a pet owl! The children were extremely well behaved on their trip and had an amazing experience. Well done Year 2!

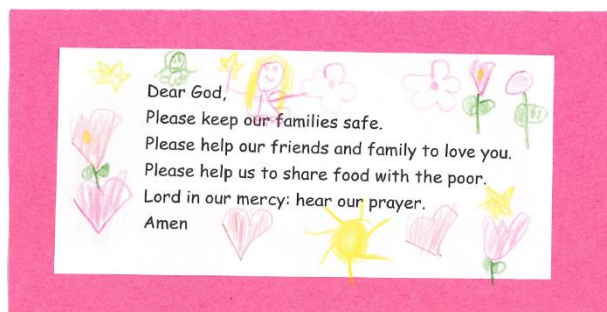
Father Adrian visited the school on a number of occasions this week. He spoke to Year 5 children about the importance of Mary and the Rosary. In Year 4, he spent time discussing the story of David and Samuel and the children wrote a diary entry. In Year 1 and 2, he talked to the children about Baptism and the role of Godparents. These two classes also visited the church on Thursday to look at the font in the church and to develop their understanding further. Thank you, Father Adrian.

The London Fire Brigade visited Reception on Wednesday. The children were really excited to see the fire engine and to learn how to stay safe. The firemen also spoke to the rest of the school in assembly about their jobs and safety. Many thanks to all our visitors this week and to the staff for arranging these experiences.

Have a good weekend.

Best wishes,
Mr M Brannigan

Prayer of the Week



Year 1 have been writing their own prayers inspired by our friends, families and those in need.

Pupil of the Week

Reception - Neave Ennis – For always listening to her teachers and friends and trying her best to complete activities

Year 1 - Layla te Brake – For being an exceptional role model to the rest of her class

Year 2 - Carl-Casimir Bernitz – For being an amazing role model to all your peers in and outside the classroom.

Year 3 – Lucas Wilkinson – For showing outstanding effort and excellence in class.

Year 4 – Felix Young – For dedication and focus in all lessons.

Year 5 – Mason Armitage – For fantastic effort in writing.

Year 6 – Amelia Wilkes – For taking feedback on board, using her opportunities to plan and draft and producing high-quality written pieces as a result.

School Diary Dates

Friday 18th October – Tag Rugby Festival, Chiswick Rugby Club – 5pm (all invited)

Tuesday 22nd October – Parents’ Evening 3.40-5.40pm

Wednesday 23rd October – Y6 Netball vs. Barnes (8 students)

Wednesday 23rd October – Y5 & Y6 Tag Rugby Tournament (10 students)

Thursday 24th October - Parents’ Evening 5.00-7.00pm

Friday 25th October – Year 6 Holly Lodge WW1 Trip

Half Term – 28th October – 1st November 2024

Monday 4th November – INSET Day – School Closed

Wednesday 6th November – Whole School Mass led by Y4 – 9.30a.m.

Friday 8th November – Year 6 Remembrance Assembly – 9.00a.m.

PTA Diary Dates

Friday 25th October - Mufti Day

Friday 25th October Autumn Silent Disco: KS1 5-6 PM, KS2 – 6.15-7.15 pm

Friday 8th November - Mufti Day

Friday 15th November - Mufti Day

Friday 22nd November - Mufti Day

Friday 29th November - Mufti Day

December 1st - Christmas Fair, from 11 pm to 3 pm.

December 8th - Carol Singing TBC

December 14th - Santa Run TBC

Thursday, December 19th - Christmas movie night

Friday 20th December - Mufti Day

Sports Update

Last Friday over 30 children from Year 3 and Year 4 took part in the Tag Rugby Festival. The festival was all about having fun and experiencing an event that only happens once a year. It was a lovely day and as always, our children did the school and community proud. Thank you to the parents for their support.



Open Morning/Days – School Admission 2025-2026

We are pleased to announce a series of open morning/days for parents and carers to visit the school. They will consist of a tour of the school, followed by a talk by the Headteacher and a member of the senior leadership team. Our scheduled open days are as follows. Please click [here](#) to book a place.

Friday 15th November 2024 – 9.30-10.30am

Tuesday 3rd December 2024 – 2.00-3.00pm

Tuesday 7th January 2025 – 9.30-10.30am

October: Black History Month

This year's theme is "Reclaiming Narratives," and marks a significant shift towards recognising and correcting the narratives of Black history and culture. This theme underscores a commitment to correcting historical inaccuracies and showcasing the untold success stories and the full complexity of Black heritage. It's about taking control of stories and honouring heroes while challenging the narratives that have often overlooked the contributions and achievements of Black individuals both in the UK and globally.

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

School and Community Defibrillator

We have recently received our new defibrillator. It is situated in the First Aid Office outside the lunch hall on the ground floor of the main school building. The school has signed up to The Circuit - the national defibrillator network which helps people identify their closest defibrillator in an emergency situation.

If you are interested in learning how to use a defibrillator or how to offer CPR in an emergency, visit this website: <https://www.bhf.org.uk/how-you-can-help/how-to-save-a-life/defibrillators>

School Immunisations

Help children get a healthy start to the new school year by ensuring they are up to date with all their routine vaccinations. Please check that your child is fully up to date with their routine immunisations. You can check if your child is up to date by checking their Red Book or contacting your GP surgery. For a full checklist of vaccines and when they should be given visit -

<https://www.nhs.uk/vaccinations/nhs-vaccinations-and-when-to-have-them/>

Message from NS Sport

We would like to say a big thank you to all the support shown to NSSPORT during this first half term. We have hit record numbers, which is a fantastic start to the year.

A gentle reminder, that we are always open on the last days of term until 6pm, if the school does finish early, we offer an extended session. Please keep a check on our website and make your booking online <https://nssport3.co.uk>

Unfortunately, we are not operating a holiday camp at St Mary's Magdalen this October Half Term but we are aiming to open for the February Half Term 2025. Keep an eye out for that. In the meantime, the closest holiday camps will be at St Osmund's Catholic School, St Elizabeth's Catholic School and Meadlands.

Thank you for your continued support.

Parent Information/Workshops

AfC Parenting Courses

Please see link below for a range of courses for parents -

<https://kr.afcinfo.org.uk/pages/community-information/information-and-advice/parenting-support/parenting-advice-and-courses>

Dyslexia Awareness

In recognition of Dyslexia Awareness Month, Nessy, an educational company that specialises in early literacy, are presenting an *Understanding Dyslexia* course for free, to any parent that would like to benefit from it.

The course is made up of short bite-sized videos, that can be accessed on any device. The course is usually priced at £22 - so having the chance to get it for free, I hope you'll agree, is a wonderful opportunity.

<https://shop.nessy.com/uk/product/understanding-dyslexia-free-for-dyslexia-awareness-month-2024/>

Community Information

Friends of Richmond Park

Discoverers –Richmond Park will be holding a whole day of activities on Friday 1st November to help children and their families discover all about trees, leaves and bark as well as fungi. Their events are drop-in (come whenever you can within specified times) and free of charge.

Friday 1st November – Meet at Two Storm Wood (very close to Sheen Gate) for a day of two halves:

Morning 10am-12noon to learn about trees, leaves and bark

Afternoon 2-4pm all about Fungi

Free parking inside the Park at Sheen Gate.



Half term at the Museum of Richmond

Family workshop: Spooky stained glass

Tuesday 29 October to Friday 1 November, 10am to 12noon

Discover the stories of the Ghosts that haunt the remains of Richmond Palace. Join us on a ghost walk around the Palace's remains, then head back to the Museum to create spooky stained glass, inspired by the Tudor stained glass we have from the Palace! £6 per child - adults are free. To book [click here](#).

Free crafts: Spooky Pumpkins

Need to get the kids out of the house for a few hours? Pop into the Museum for our FREE crafts and get creative as a family! Available from 1pm each weekday and Saturday the Museum is open. No need to book, just drop in. [Click here](#) to view the flyer.

Explore the Arts and Literature in Richmond Libraries

Throughout October and November, Richmond Libraries are hosting Richmond Reads 2024, an annual season of events celebrating the joys and benefits of reading.

Activities and events will take place across libraries in the borough, featuring a dance performance, author talks, interactive theatre, workshops and more.

You can view [the full Richmond Reads programme and book your tickets now](#)

Winter Coat Drive 21st October – 23rd November

Chestertons East Sheen are helping the charity Calling London with their winter coat drive and would appreciate your support. Every year, Calling London collects winter coats and jackets and then distributes them to over 30 charitable organisations - helping the homeless, victims of domestic abuse, those living in poverty, the elderly, refugees and children.

Between 21st October – 23rd November all the Chestertons London branches become donation points for the public to drop off warm coats and jackets. If you'd like to help, please contact Chestertons East Sheen directly 020 3861 1409 or call to 254a Upper Richmond Road West (entrance on Sheen Lane), East Sheen, London, SW14 8AG.

News from the PTA

Please join us for the silent disco on Friday, 25th October. This will be our very first silent disco, and it promises to be a fun experience for both children and adults. Tickets are now available on Scopay. Please remember that children must be accompanied by an adult.

The Christmas fair is fast approaching, we need some help. If you would be able to help the PTA with the most important job of prize collecting for our raffle and Wheel of Fortune or if you can offer a prize however big or small please email us at smmptacontact@gmail.com

Christmas Fair Poster Competition

If your child would like to participate in the competition, please have them design a poster advertising our fair, including the date and time, on A4 paper. Posters must be returned to their class teacher school by Monday, 4th November. A small prize will be awarded during assembly, and there will be an opportunity to see your poster on display.