



ST MARY MAGDALEN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

25th October 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

What an incredible first half term! The children have worked really hard over the last 8 weeks and settled in well to their new classes. I'm immensely proud to be the Headteacher of such a wonderful school. Thanks also to all the staff for working so hard this half term.

I hope everyone has a fantastic break, thanks for your continued support.

Best wishes,
Mr M Brannigan

Pupil of the Week

Reception – Oscar Steele – For trying his best in all lessons.

Year 1 – Fergus Brewster – For excellent effort in his independent writing.

Year 2 – Amber Edgar – For her excellent attitude to learning

Year 3 – Veronica Blonski-Garcia - for showing outstanding effort and determination in making fantastic progress in Maths

Year 4 – Henryk Lukasik – For being an outstanding role model to Year 4 pupils.

Year 5 – Andrea Lam – For all her hard work and great progress during her time at St Mary Magdalen's

Year 6 – Vitto Estacio – For working conscientiously across the curriculum.

School Diary Dates

Half Term – 28th October – 1st November 2024

Monday 4th November – INSET Day – School Closed

Tuesday 5th November – Year 3 Girls Football at Rocks Lane

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

Wednesday 6th November – Year 5 & 6 Cross Country practice – Jubilee Gardens

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

Friday 8th November – Year 5 & 6 Girls Tag Rugby Tournament at Rosslyn Park

Wednesday 13th November – Year 5 & 6 Girls Football

Thursday 14th November – Year 5 & 6 Basketball at Christs School

Friday 15th November – Parents' Open Day Reception 9.30am

Friday 15th November – Year 3 & 4 Girls Tag Rugby Tournament at Rosslyn Park

PTA Diary Dates

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

School News

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

Year 2's Trip to Florence Nightingale Museum.

On Wednesday 16th October 2024, Year 2 had the chance to visit the museum of Florence Nightingale. The session began with an interactive performance by the museum's own 'Florence Nightingale' describing her life and work. The children were then divided into groups to complete the different self-directed activities in the museum, such as finding different items in the museum and placing them in the right place, sorting items in the past and present, trying on costumes and role playing, playing with the toys Florence Nightingale used to play with along other activities. The children even had the chance to learn about Mary Seacole and find what was common between both nurses. The children displayed impeccable behaviour, had a great time and learned a lot about 'The Lady with the Lamp', why she went to the Crimea, how she improved conditions for the soldiers and nurses and what happened as a result of her work. Thank you to all the parents who accompanied us on this trip



Sports Update

Well done to some of the Year 5 & 6 students took part in a Tag Rugby event this week. The event hosted over 30 teams with a lot of experienced and talented players on show. We certainly gained a lot from the experience.

Well done to our netball team who played brilliantly in their friendly match against Barnes Primary School during the week. You should all be very proud of your performance!



We would like to thank the outgoing PTA committee for all their hard work over the past few years and everything they have put into supporting the school and pupils. The new PTA committee have lots planned for this year, building on the fantastic work of their predecessor's, we are looking forward to lots of fun and would appreciate your support when you can.

New Lunch Menu

Caterlink will be providing a new lunch menu after half term. The new menu can be found on the school website in the Parents section.

Caterlink Autumn Winter Menu 24/25		MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
WEEK ONE 04/11/2024 25/11/2024 16/12/2024 20/01/25 10/02/25 10/03/25 31/03/2025	Option 1	NEW Tomato & Vegetable Pasta	Cottage Pie with Gravy	Peri Peri or BBQ Chicken with Diced Seasoned Potatoes & Sweetcorn Salza CHICKEN SHACK	Meatballs in Tomato Sauce with Rice	Salmon Fishfingers/ Fishfingers with Chips & Tomato Sauce
	Option 2	Mexican Fajitas with Rice	NEW Creamy Vegetable and Coconut Curry with Rice	Peri Peri or BBQ Quorn with Diced Seasoned Potatoes & Sweetcorn Salza	NEW Cheese and Broccoli Pasta with Garlic Bread	Cheese and Tomato Quiche with Chips & Tomato Sauce
	Option 3	Jacket Potato with selection of Toppings Melting Moment Biscuit	Jacket Potato with selection of Toppings Blackberry and Apple Crumble with Custard	Jacket Potato with selection of Toppings Fruit Platter	Jacket Potato with selection of Toppings Carrot Cake	Jacket Potato with selection of Toppings Chocolate Orange Cookie
WEEK TWO 11/11/2024 02/12/2024 06/01/2025 27/01/2025 24/02/2025 17/03/2025	Option 1	Classic Cheese and Tomato Pizza with Potato Wedges	NEW Chicken Pasta Bake with Garlic Bread	Sausage and Mash with Gravy	Chicken Tikka Masala with Rice	NEW Tuna Pasta Bake or Fishfingers with Chips & Tomato Sauce
	Option 2	Rainbow Pizza with Potato Wedges	Chinese Vegetable Curry with Rice	Vegan Sausage and Mash with Gravy	NEW Mild Mexican Chili with Rice	Mexican Bean Roll with Chips & Tomato Sauce
	Option 3	Jacket Potato with selection of Toppings Peach Cake	Jacket Potato with selection of Toppings Jelly with Mandarins	Jacket Potato with selection of Toppings Fruit Medley	Jacket Potato with selection of Toppings Marble Sponge Cake with Chocolate Sauce	Jacket Potato with selection of Toppings Apple Flapjack
WEEK THREE 18/11/2024 09/12/2024 13/01/2025 03/02/2025 03/03/2025 24/03/2025	Option 1	Macaroni Cheese	NEW Mild Caribbean Chicken with Rice and Peas caribbean	Roast Chicken with Stuffing, Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Spaghetti Bolognaise	Breaded Fish with Chips & Tomato Sauce
	Option 2	Vegan Plant Balls in Tomato Sauce with Rice	NEW Caribbean Butterbean Stew with Rice and Peas	Vegetable Pasty with Stuffing, Roast Potatoes and Gravy	NEW Hot Pot Baked Bean Casserole with Rice	Cheese and Pepper Omelette with Chips & Tomato Sauce
	Option 3	Jacket Potato with selection of Toppings Chocolate Brownie	Jacket Potato with selection of Toppings Sticky Toffee Apple Crumble with Custard	Jacket Potato with selection of Toppings Fruit Salad	Jacket Potato with selection of Toppings NEW Savoury Cheese Scone	Jacket Potato with selection of Toppings Vanilla Shortbread

MENU KEY

Added Plant Power
 Wholemeal
 Vegan

ALLERGY INFORMATION:

If you would like to know about particular allergens in foods please ask a member of the catering team for information. If your child has a

Calling all writers! Exciting borough competition opens with prizes to be won!

To support the school's focus on writing this year, we are promoting Arts Richmond's Young Writers' Festival 2024-25. Their competition is open to all who live or go to school in the borough. They are offering a fantastic chance to showcase your writing skills in any form: stories, poems, plays, song lyrics etc.

The theme for this year's competition is 'changes' and this can be interpreted in any way you choose!

Shortlisted entrants will be special guests at an evening celebration in March 2025 and there are prizes for all winning entries.

The rules are:

- Maximum of 500 words or 25 lines for a poem
- Deadline is Friday 6th December 2024
- All entries must be typed (handwritten entries will be disqualified)
- Strictly one entry per writer
- Do not write your name on your piece (or it will be disqualified)
- Age categories are: 'Year 4 and under' and 'Years 5 and 6'



Contact Details

Are your contact details up-to-date? If you have changed your address, telephone or email address please let us know as soon as possible. You can contact the School Office directly or email admin@st-marymagdalens.richmond.sch.uk

Winter Uniform

At St Mary Magdalen's Primary we believe that wearing our school uniform reflects the pride and sense of belonging we share as a school community. Children should wear the correct uniform every day. **P.E. kit can only be worn to school on P.E. days and that these days should involve wearing correct P.E. kit.** After half term, we will be transferring to winter uniform only from Tuesday 5th November.

Parent Information/Workshops

Mental health and parenting | NSPCC

If you're struggling, it's OK to reach out for support from friends, families and organisations that are here to help. Changes in a parent's mental health can sometimes affect children. They may pick up on your anxiety, low mood or stress. This doesn't mean you should hide or minimise your feelings. You can try to explain what you're experiencing using phrases like, "It's OK to get big feelings, everyone gets big feelings but it's still the grown-up's job to look after the children" or "If grown-ups get big feelings, it's not your fault – we can ask other grown-ups for help with our feelings." It's important to give children reassurance and support. Looking after your own mental health is vital to their well-being so don't be afraid to try new things together. Reach out if you need help. Our Helpline team are here, whatever your worry. You can call them on 0808 800 5000 or email help@nspcc.org.uk

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

Parish News – Autumn Craft Event

A craft fair is being held at St Mary Magdalen RC Church, 61 North Walpole Way on Saturday 2nd November, 10am – 12pm. All proceeds are for Church funds so your generosity is appreciated.

Visitors are encouraged to book in advance directly with the Church, however, you can also book on the day.



FREE ENGLISH CLASSES
Starting 6th November
Every Wednesday 10-12pm
Mortlake Hall, Mullins Path, SW14 8EZ

COME to Mortlake Hall on 23rd Oct to find out more

Ücretsiz İngilizce kursu. Her çarşamba saat 10-12 arasında, Mortlake Hall'da
Parating na. Libreng Ingles na klase kada Miyerkules 10-12ng tanghali sa Mortlake Hall

即將開始! 免費英語課, 每週三上午, 10-12pm Mortlake Hall

For more information please see our website www.richmondeal.org.uk

Free Adult English Language Classes

Richmond EAL Friendship Group, a local charity has secured funding to provide free informal English classes to adults. An informal 'open morning' will take place in Mortlake Hall on the 23rd November, between 10am and 12pm and classes will start on 6th November. For more information on their charity please visit their website: <https://richmondeal.org.uk/>

Message from the Police

Dear Parents

I have been made aware by some of our local Sutton schools that a large WhatsApp group has been circulating amongst our young people. I would appreciate it if you could check your children's phones and advise them to only be in WhatsApp groups with friends and family who they 'know in real life'.

Please see below some online safety messages regarding social media apps that could be helpful to you. If you have any concerns, please contact your Designated Safeguarding Leads at your school or contact 101.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

<https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/online-mobile-safety/staying-safe-online/>

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/>

<https://www.internetmatters.org/>

PC Amanda Stonehouse 3274SW

Youth Engagement Diversion Officer

Twickenham Police Station - More information can be found [here](#).

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

Christmas Fair - Sunday 1st December 11 am -3 pm

Thank you to those who have signed up to help. However, we are still looking for one or two people to assist with prizes and prize collection. Please see the form [here](#) if you would like to sign up.

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.