



St Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy

<http://www.st-marys-marplebridge.stockport.sch.uk/>

St Mary's Parish: <http://stmarysmarplebridge.org.uk/>

Holy Spirit Parish: <https://www.holyspiritmarple.com/>

Bulletin Number 8: Friday 22nd October 2021

A QUICK UPDATE AND THANK YOU

As we come to the end of a very eventful first half term we just wanted to say a BIG thank you to you all and your children. They have been nothing short of magnificent. After an unprecedented start, we are pleased to say that school life is returning back to 'normality' slowly but surely and each week we are introducing new events and opportunities. Thank you also for the support you have shown to school and all the staff; we really do appreciate it. St Mary's is a very special community and it is a privilege to be part of it.

With regard to the information we shared last week concerning Holy Communion we just wanted to clarify a few things. Firstly, apologies for any upset or confusion caused. That was the last thing we wanted to happen. We merely wanted to say that as a school we actively support children in making this very special sacrament and we were just looking for potential candidate numbers before taking things further. We certainly are not showing favour to either St Mary's or Holy Spirit parish. We value the support and connections we have with both and are committed to ensuring that all pupils are supported with the sacrament, regardless of which church they attend. We will keep the link and information on once again and it is our intention to speak with both Father Daniel and Father Bill once we return after the half term break. We aim to keep you fully up to date with happenings and please do get in touch if we can help in anyway.

<https://forms.office.com/r/nWwzJVwMUx>

Fr Bill Fitzgerald - 07929446490 fitzgerald123@btinternet.com

Please see Mass timings below for the parishes.

Saturday - St Mary's, Marple Bridge, 6.30pm, Holy Spirit, 6.00pm

Sunday - St Mary's, New Mills, 9.00am, St Mary's, Marple Bridge, 12.00, Holy Spirit, 9.00am

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

This week, Year 3 led the whole school in a beautiful Harvest Collective Worship. We came together in prayer to listen to how we can all make a positive difference in helping to look after our world and how we with God's help, can take one small action and make it great.

It was lovely to see so many of us resplendent in RED today. Equality and respect are central to that we do at St Mary's and we are proud to stand against any injustice.

Survey Number 3 and the final week to respond. Please can you spare a couple of minutes to complete the interactive survey form which can be accessed via the link below. Many thanks for all your help over the past weeks.

<https://forms.office.com/r/VM92LqD8XQ>

HELLO YELLOW

We managed to raise a superb **£172.50** courtesy of generosity for 'Hello Yellow Day'. What a great effort! Thank you.



**DIOCESE OF
NOTTINGHAM**

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Company No 7937154



**St Ralph
Sherwin**

Catholic Multi Academy Trust

WEDNESDAY WORD

Here is the link to this week's Wednesday Word:

<https://www.paperturn-view.com/uk/wednesday-word/openness?pid=MTA101634&v=39.20>

CROSS COUNTRY

We had 15 brilliant runners at Marple Hall on Wednesday evening, representing St Mary's Cross-Country Team. They missed the torrential rain, but enjoyed the mud! A fantastic time was had by all and we had a number of top ten winners - well done! Many thanks for Mrs Ashton and Mrs Coupes for all their coaching and support.

PTA UPDATE

Many thanks to Mr Mulryan!

Stephen Mulryan's company, MJM Contract Services Ltd, has installed a power supply to the outdoor classroom on the bottom playground this week (at no charge!). This is absolutely wonderful of him, and we are all feeling very grateful for his kindness and generosity. THANK YOU!

The power supply meant we were able to run the outdoor disco much more easily today, and it will be of great benefit for future events.

Don't Stop Moving Playground Disco

Thank you so much to DJ Matt Kayes for again using a day of holiday to run Playground Discos for us today. To see the children's faces when they heard the music on entering the school was just brilliant and that was before the disco's had begun! We had a fantastic time and we are so grateful for all your efforts and generosity. Can't wait for the next one!!

We have raised nearly **£350** (as at 1pm on Friday).

Our 2020 PTA events provided a lot of the funds needed to make the improvements to the top playground (installation currently in progress). Your donations make a direct difference to our children's lives at school.

Donations are still being accepted <https://gofund.me/5d485ebf> (minimum £5, we will also receive gift aid) or [paypal.me/ptastmarys](https://www.paypal.com/ptastmarys) (no minimum, no gift aid)

Thanks. Have a wonderful half term xxxx

STRICTLY ST RALPH

Wishing Mrs Ashton and Miss Barnie the very best of luck for tomorrow's 'Strictly St Ralph' competition. They have been practising relentlessly and we are ever so proud of them. We hope you enjoyed their performance at the end of the day. Name on the trophy ladies!!

AND THE WINNER IS...

Congratulations to **Isaac J** and **Ed Scare-an** which was the winning in entry in this year's Scarecrow competition. All entries were fabulous and it was a really tough decision to decide the overall winner. If you would like your scarecrow to be displayed in a local shop please contact Helen Middleton via helenmiddleton77@gmail.com and she will help to arrange this

INTERHOUSE SPORTS

Thank you Miss Evans for running this week's inter-house sports competition. Please see the results below.

Red house 18 points, Green house 13 points, Blue house 19 points, Yellow house 16 points

Congratulations Blue house!

PARENTS EVENING

This time around we are using 'Parentcloud' to facilitate Parents Evening. Individual time slots will be released the first week back after half term. Face to face appointments will resume for the March meetings.

JUST A QUICK REMINDER

Please ensure that children **only** have water with them in school and that includes in their lunchboxes too.

HOLIDAYS IN TERM TIME

Over the past week we have noticed a marked increase with families taking children out of school for a holiday. Some instances have been totally unavoidable (flight time change) and we accept this. We do not want to come across as showing a lack of understanding, particularly, after the tricky period we have been through, but holidays in term time, unless for an exceptional circumstance will not be authorised. You will also need to request any potential time off. When we return after the half term break, we will be implementing a 'Holiday Request' form which will be available from the office. This will need to be completed and handed back to school. Many thanks for your support and understanding in this matter.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION – 'SQUID GAME'

We have been hearing from a number of children that they have been watching a programme called 'Squid Game' on Netflix which is currently one of the most popular shows on Netflix and has a rating of age 15 and above. The programme centres round a series of children's games that have deadly consequences, and is very violent in nature. We understand that there is other adult content and despite its initial appearance it is not suitable for younger children. The BBFC have awarded Squid Game a 15 rating in the UK for "sexual violence references, injury detail, crude humour, sex, suicide, sexual images, violence. This is very different from the 12a rating which allows younger viewers if they are supported by a parent or other guardian. The 15 rating states that the material is, "suitable only for 15 years and over with no concession for accompanying adults.". Some of you may not have realised the age certification of the programme so I wanted to draw your attention to this. You can also apply parental controls to Netflix (if you so wish) by setting up a Netflix children's profile which limits viewing to TV shows and movies which have been carefully selected for children. To do this: 1. Go to [Netflix.com/account](https://www.netflix.com/account). 2. Scroll to 'Profile & Parental Controls' and click on the profile you want to manage. 3. Click 'Change' next to the Viewing Restrictions setting. 4. Enter your Netflix password. 5. Set the maturity rating for the programmes and films you want to allow in that profile

INSET DAY

Just a quick reminder that the first day back after the half term break, **Monday 1st November 2021**, is an Inset day and school will be closed for the children.

A FINAL THOUGHT

Have a lovely and well deserved half term. Take care everyone!

Mr Paul Ackers and Miss Alice Poole