



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 17: 20th January 2023

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL



This week in collective worship the children have been thinking about the word inspire. The word inspire means 'filled with the spirit' and there are times when all of us take inspiration from the events and people around us. Year 5 led a reverent and inspirational collective worship on Monday when they reminded us how memories can inspire us and help us to change our lives for the better. At every Mass the priest recites the words of Jesus at the Last Supper, 'do this in memory of me.' Year 5 reminded us how this is a challenge to us all to help our memories shape our future and how we can use our Christian faith to be an inspiration to others. Year 5's collective worship was also linked to their class charity, Dementia UK. They have already raised £135 as

a result of their inspirational collective worship. If you would like to make a donation to this worthy charity, please scan the QR code above.

WEDNESDAY WORD

[Here is the link](#) to this week's Wednesday Word.

LIVING OUT OUR SANCTA VALUES

Our children strive to live by St Mary's SANCTA values: Support, Aspire, Nurture, Challenge, Trust and Achieve every day. This week we had a wonderful message from a member of the Marple Community Hub Facebook group who praised four of our Year 6 boys who stopped to offer help to a gentleman who had fallen over outside of Brabyns House Care Home. It's fantastic to read about our children living out our values. A huge congratulations to Ethan, Isaac, Tate and William for living out our value of 'support'.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AND CONFESSION 2023 (Holy Spirit Parish)

Father Bill will deal individually with all candidates and their families who apply to be registered for this coming year 2023 'First Sacraments'. Father Bill hopes to begin preparation for First Forgiveness (confession) in early February and registration forms will be available for parishioners of Holy Spirit parish from church on the last weekend of January. Father Bill reminds us that the start of 2023 is a great opportunity for parents and families to make a fresh commitment to attend Sunday Mass, especially for those families who have a potential candidate for 'First Sacraments'.



LENT TERM CLASS CAPTAINS

Congratulations to: Rory (YR), Charles (Y1), Harry (Y2), Jack (Y3), Annabelle (Y4), Sadie (Y5) and Alyssa (Y6) who have been elected class captains by their peers for the Lent Term. It was fantastic presenting them with their certificates and badges at last week's assembly and to hear all the wonderful comments coming from their peers. We are certain they will be superb representatives for St Mary's.

JEWELLERY IN SCHOOL

No jewellery should be worn in school, including earrings, in line with the school's uniform policy. If your child has newly pierced ears, please let us know; ears should be covered with tape each day and, after the six week period, earrings removed for school in the usual pattern. The uniform policy can be found [here](#).



DIOCESE OF
NOTTINGHAM

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St Ralph
Sherwin
Catholic Multi Academy Trust

PTA NEWS

The St Mary's PTA have exciting events planned for the children this term. The first event will be the *Sponsored Bounce* taking place on Wednesday 15th February, during the school day. Each class has produced a wish list and will be fundraising to try and reach their target to purchase items from the list to further enrich the curriculum or playtimes in school. A letter and sponsor form from the PTA with further details will be sent to parents next week.

The PTA AGM will be held on **Wednesday 8th February from 6:45pm – 8:00pm** in the school hall. We look forward to welcoming as many parents as possible to this important meeting where reports from the PTA committee will be shared and plans for future events explored.

The Family Camp has now been booked and will take place from 7-9 July at Rowter Farm in Castleton. Further details to follow.

YEAR 6 PGL AND SATs PARENTS MEETING



There will be a meeting for parents of children in Year 6 on **Wednesday 8th February from 5:30-6:30pm** regarding the forthcoming residential visit to PGL in Shropshire in March. The meeting will also double as a SATs information session allowing parents to understand more about the tests children will take in May of Year 6 and how you can support your child in preparing for them.

CROSS COUNTRY – 21.01.2023

There is a cross country race at Woodbank Park on Saturday. This event is open to all pupils. Children must be accompanied by an adult. The races start at 10.30am. We would advise arriving 15 minutes beforehand. Please find and check in with Mrs Ashton on arrival who will be overseeing the event this weekend.

Congratulations to Isaac in Year 5 who has been selected to represent Stockport in the Greater Manchester Cross Country Championships to be held at Heaton Park next month. Isaac has been selected for his achievements in the Stockport Schools' Cross Country League. We wish him every success at this event and congratulations again on being selected.

PARISH AMBASSADORS

We are looking to appoint two parish ambassadors at St Mary's, Marple Bridge and two parish ambassadors at Holy Spirit, Marple. The selected pupils will represent the school for our parish communities. The role will involve attending Mass and making announcements to the parishioners regarding school events and achievements, as well as attending parish events such as carol concerts, First Holy Communion celebrations etc. The appointment will run until July 2024. Pupils of any age are welcome to apply for the role. Pupils should apply by writing no more than 200 words explaining why they would like to take on the role of parish ambassador, stating which parish they would like to represent. Applications should be sent into the school office by **Friday 3rd February**.

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK 6TH – 12TH FEBRUARY

The theme of this year's week is 'let's connect'. St Mary's will be participating through a range of different learning opportunities and activities. If you would like to know more about the theme for the week please click [here](#) for information.



NEU (NATIONAL EDUCATION UNION) INDUSTRIAL ACTION

As reported in the news, the National Education Union (NEU), which is the largest Union in England for teaching staff, has balloted for industrial action and has met the government's threshold for turnout and the required percentage of votes in favour of strike action. The first date for action is Wednesday 1st February followed by the 28th February with further action planned for March. *At present we are working on plans and any implications for our school. As soon as we are in a position to report any strike implications for St Mary's we will do so. We are working hard to listen to colleagues and understand the guidance from all unions. I will update you next week with further information.*

PARKING ON LOWRY DRIVE

Thank you for respecting our previous requests not to park on Lowry Drive. We have noticed that this has eased, which we really appreciate and ask you to continue to keep this area clear. We know how busy pick up and drop off times are and once again ask that you remain respectful of

our neighbours. Please do not park over driveways or idle unnecessarily. One concern that does remain is the parking on pavements 'on the top roads.' This is now becoming a hazard and is impacting on our families walking safely to and from school. There is not enough accessible space on the pavements which is worrying. Please can we ask that vehicles are not parked on the pavements at any times. Many thanks for your co-operation and support.

CONTACTING THE SCHOOL OFFICE

If you are contacting the school office to notify us of an absence or you have a school lunch enquiry, please can you send your email to both Mrs Towell (htowell@mmb.srscmat.co.uk) and Mrs Major (vmajor@mmb.srscmat.co.uk). Thank you for your co-operation.

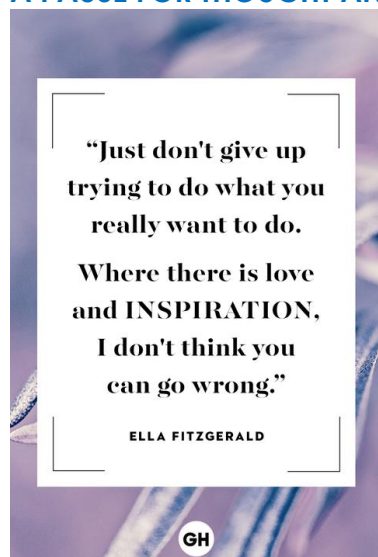
FEBRUARY HALF TERM HOLIDAY CLUB

There are places available for the St Mary's Holiday Club which will run on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday during the February half term break at school. Please complete the attached booking form and return it to the school office if you would like to reserve a place for your child/ren. For further information please contact Mrs Major.

THE MONTH AHEAD...KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Date	Event
	<i>Please note the dates and times detailed below are provisional and may be changed if necessary.</i>
21 January	Cross country at Woodbank Park (10:15am for a 10:30am start)
23 January	Y3 Collective Worship (2:30pm in the hall). All welcome!
26 January	Y4 Romans Experience Day.
30 January	Y4 Collective Worship (2:30pm in the hall). All welcome!
1 st February	Y1 Phonics Screening Check and Y2 SATs meeting for parents (5.30-6.00pm).
3 February	NSPCC Number Day. £1 donation to NSPCC for children dressed as a number or wearing clothing with a number on it.
3 February	Closing date for Parish Ambassador roles.
6 February	Y6 Collective Worship (2:30pm in the hall). All welcome!
6-12 February	Children's Mental Health Week. (Please click here for information.)
7 February	Online safety day.
8 February	Y6 PGL and SATs meeting for parents (5:30pm – 6:30pm)
8 February	PTA AGM (6:45pm – 8:00pm) in the hall. All welcome!
13 February	Y2 Collective Worship (2:30pm in the hall). All welcome!
14 February	Music concert (2:15pm in the hall). All welcome!
16 February	Coffee and Cake with Mrs Bradbury. All welcome (1:30pm – 2:45pm)
16 February	School closes to children for the half term break.
17 February	INSET Day for staff – school closed for children.
21-23 February	Half Term Holiday Club (please see booking form) if of interest.
27 February	School reopens after the half term break.

A PAUSE FOR THOUGHT AND PRAYER



Encounter is about how we experience God in our lives. We can encounter (or experience) God the Father through nature and the love of others, Jesus through scripture and the Holy Spirit in the way we can be **INSPIRED** to share God's love with others by being like Jesus.

Missionary Discipleship is about how the **INSPIRATION** of the Holy Spirit can lead us into the world, as missionaries, with courage to help create God's Kingdom of love and compassion for all things.

Discipleship is about how we can be followers of Jesus, using the examples of the disciples to guide us. We can be **INSPIRED** by them to help create a world of love and fairness.

Heavenly Father,

We give thanks for the week we've just had, for the people, the animals and the wonder of nature that have inspired us. Amen.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend.

Mr John Nish and Miss Alice Poole.