



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 19: 3rd February 2023

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

The theme of our collective worship this week has been 'care'. Year 4 introduced the theme on Monday with a wonderful liturgical prayer centred on caring for others who don't speak English and how we can make them feel welcome into our communities. Launching this month, we will have a language of the month, where the children will learn words and phrases to widen their language repertoire. In February we are focusing on Polish. Why not ask your child what phrases they have been learning and try joining in with them. Our mission this week was to care for those around us and for the planet. Year 4 reminded us we don't have to do anything big, just something that will have a positive impact on the people around you and the world you live in. Next Monday a representative from CAFOD will speak to the children about how we can show care for our wider world and sisters and brothers in developing countries through the work of the charity.

WEDNESDAY WORD

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

HOUSE POINTS

Please see the totals for the month of January. Blue team are currently in the lead but the scores on the doors are very close and I am sure it will be a close call by the end of the term...

Red	Yellow	Blue	Green
994	1,016	1,067	997

ROMANS EXPERIENCE



Year 4 had a super day bringing to life all that they have been learning about the Romans. Luca reports... *'We learnt lots about the Romans. We got to try on some Roman armour and see what they ate for dinner – roast door mouse! The most exciting part was when we did a role play as gladiators – it was the best! We had a great time and I would definitely recommend the experience because you learn so much from it.'*

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. On Tuesday we will also celebrate **Online Safety Day** and there are clear links to the 'let's connect theme'.

The children will participate in activities related to online safety linking to our positive mental health.



THURSDAY 2ND MARCH 2023 IS WORLD BOOK DAY



We are really looking forward to celebrating World Book Day at St Mary's. On the day we are inviting children to dress in their pyjamas/onesies and to bring in their favourite bedtime story to share (teddy bears are optional!) We have lots of exciting events planned throughout the day and also the week, including our PTA disco and a special peg competition – please see details below. Book vouchers will also be sent home in the near future.



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St Ralph
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Catholic Multi Academy Trust

PEG CHARACTER COMPETITION

In celebration of World Book Day, we would like you to get creative and decorate a peg to look like your favourite book character. How you do this is your choice! You can paint your peg, make clothes from paper, card or fabric and use any other props to bring your peg to life. Once your peg character is complete, please bring your entry to school on **Wednesday 1st March 2023**. The winners will be announced during assembly on **Friday 3rd March 2023**. We are really looking forward to another great day of celebrating all that is wonderful and magical about books with you.



WOW BADGE DESIGN COMPETITION



Today, your child has brought home a badge design template sheet. This year's theme, *The British Nature Walk*, aims to bring pupils closer to the nature found across Britain! Children's designs could show the nature in our local area. Think animals or insects found in urban or rural areas, vibrant flowers or mighty trees, lakes, rivers, canals or coastlines. Children could draw a special memory of nature from a recent holiday around Britain or from a different season. Entries to be handed to your child's class teacher, who will pass them on to Mr Nish. These designs will then be sent to the company and they'll turn each winning entry into

more than 300,000 badges, to be awarded to WOW pupils who walk, scoot or cycle to school across the UK next academic year. Deadline for entries – **Monday 27th February**. Top Tips: • Be big, bold and colourful! • Diversity and originality are key to standing out from the crowd! • WOW badges are only 3cm, so simple designs without small details in them work best! • Trademarks or logos will not qualify for the competition. Further details can be found on the badge design information sheet.

NSPCC NUMBER DAY



We have had a fantastic NSPCC number day today with many fun maths activities and challenges enjoyed by the children. It was wonderful to see all the children dressed in numbers, patterns and stripes, all in aid of such a wonderful charity. It certainly created a positive buzz around the school and it was great to see a sea of colour during assembly time this morning. Thank you for your support. The total amount raised will be shared next week.

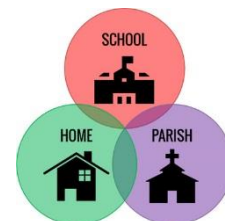
PTA NEWS

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 with further details from the PTA has been sent home with the children today. Thank you for your support!

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. Please see the attached PTA newsletter for more details. For information: The Family Camp has now been booked and will take place from 7-9 July at Rowter Farm in Castleton. Further details to follow.

FINAL CALL FOR 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 **Monday 6th February**.



INSET DAY – FRIDAY 17TH FEBRUARY 2023

A reminder that we have an INSET day on **Friday 17th February**, where we will link with schools across the Trust for a Teaching and Learning conference. School will be closed to all pupils. Children will therefore finish for the February half term break on Thursday 16th February.

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.

MUSIC CELEBRATION CONCERT

Mrs Tennant, our music teacher, will be hosting a concert on **Tuesday 14th February at 2:20pm** to celebrate some of the fantastic work the children have been working on in music this term. There will be instrumental pieces from Year 4 and Year 5 as well as performances from the newly formed school choir. You are warmly invited to join us and celebrate with our wonderful children.

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>
6 February	Closing date for Parish Ambassador roles.
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 Celebration Concert (2:20pm in the hall). All welcome!
15 February	PTA Sponsored Bounce! (Please see letter and sponsor form.)
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.
18 February	Cross country at Woodbank Park (10:15am for a 10:30am start)
21-23 February	Half Term Holiday Club (please see booking form) if of interest.
27 February	School reopens after the half term break. Closing date for WOW badge design competition.
3 March	World Book Day and PTA Disco (5:00 – 6:00pm or 6:00 – 7:00pm).
6 March	Y1 Collective Worship (2:30pm in the hall). All welcome!
8 March	World Maths Day. Parents' Evening (3:45 – 7:00pm) Booking details to follow.
13 March	Y6 Collective Worship (2:30pm in the hall). All welcome!
14 March	Parents' Evening (3:45 – 7:00pm) Booking details to follow.
17 March	Mothers' Day Assembly led by Reception (10:00am in the hall). All welcome!
22 March	Holy Week & Easter Production (10:00am and 2:00pm). All welcome!
26 March	Celebration Assembly (2:30pm in the hall). All welcome!
27 -31 March	Stations of the Cross led by Year 5 (9:05am each day.)
31 March	School closes for the Easter break.
17 April	School reopens following the Easter break.

A PAUSE FOR THOUGHT AND PRAYER



When we **care** for those around us, and God's creation, we help people to **encounter** Jesus Christ. We are his body, his hands, his feet, his ears and mouth, so when we **care** for others, we are being Jesus for them.

Some questions you might want to and discuss with your children:
*How can the care you give help people Encounter Jesus Christ?
What can you learn about care from the disciples? How can you take care into the world as missionary disciples?*

Heavenly Father, we give thanks for the week we've just had and for the people that have cared for us. Amen.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend.

Mr John Nish and Miss Alice Poole.