



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 23: 10th March 2023

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL



Year 1 led our worship on Monday and reminded us of what Lent is and what we focus on to prepare us for Easter. They made some fantastic Lenten promises. I think there are going to be some very tidy bedrooms in Year 1. The children also reminded us of our Lenten words: **GIVE, ACT** and **PRAY** as ways we can focus our attention on God and renew our commitment to the way God wants us to live. Well done to Year 1 for a wonderful worship time and for speaking, reading and singing so beautifully.

Year 6 will lead our worship on Monday 13th March at 2:30pm on the theme of St Patrick, whose Feast day is celebrated next week. All are very welcome.

YEAR 2 CAFOD MOSAIC

This week, the children in Year 2 made a beautiful coin mosaic on the playground of the logo of their class charity. They used coins that they had been collecting at home and raised £53.06 which will go towards the money raised for their charity this year which is CAFOD.



WEDNESDAY WORD

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

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)

On Wednesday 15th and 22nd March, Father Emmanuel will be visiting school and giving children in Years 4, 5 and 6 the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession). This of course is optional but we hope as many children as possible will take the opportunity to receive God's love and forgiveness in this beautiful Sacrament and help them to prepare for the great Feast of Easter. During the Sacrament the children are invited to pray an Act of Contrition. It would be helpful if they could rehearse the following prayer at home in preparation (they will have a printed copy available to use during Confession if they need it): *O my God, because you are so good, I am very sorry that I have sinned against you, and by the help of your grace, I will not sin again. Amen.* Here is a [link to a video](#) produced by the Diocese of Nottingham that the children will be watching in class to remind them of how we receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. You might want to watch this with your child if they are in Year 4, 5 or 6.

YEAR 3 AND YEAR 4 EASTER PRODUCTION

We are delighted to announce the dates for the Year 3 and 4 Easter performances. They will be taking place on **Wednesday 29th March 2023 at 10.00am and 2.00pm**. Further details to follow soon.

MY FAMILY COACH

Whilst being a parent is a joy and a great privilege, there are times when we all (myself included) need help with parenting. My Family Coach is a free online service with a wealth of videos and advice on how to support children at each stage of their development. If you think this would be of use to you, please take some time to view the excellent resources available to support with the many challenges parenting can throw at us. You can access the resources [here](#).

PTA NEWS

The sponsored bounce was an incredible success this year raising a grand total of £3,275. Thank you for your amazing support. Below are the class totals and the money raised will purchase items from their class wish lists.

Nursery £199	Year 3 264.50
Reception £567	Year 4 £426
Year 1 £749.50	Year 5 £292.50
Year 2 £592.50	Year 6 £184

The next exciting event will be the Easter Raffle. We'll be launching our Online Raffle soon, with some incredible chocolate hampers to be won! Please watch this space for further details.

SCHOOL MEALS SURVEY

In January the Trust introduced a new catering service across the 25 schools in the MAT. The School Council have compiled a survey and are asking all children at St Mary's, regardless if they have a school lunch or not, to spend a few minutes giving their views on the new provider. The survey can be accessed [here](#). I will be taking the results of the survey to my next meeting with the CEO and the Central Team later.

PARENTS EVENING CONTINUED

The Lent term parents meetings will continue on **Tuesday 14th March** from 3:50pm with the last appointment at 6:50pm. Appointments are ten minute slots and give you the opportunity to meet with your child's class teacher discuss their progress, look at their books and celebrate their many achievements. As last term, appointments are to be booked online and can be booked by following [this link](#). Please can you ensure you select the correct teacher for your child. Any questions, please contact the school office.

WOW – THE WALK TO SCHOOL CHALLENGE



St Mary's has chosen to be part of an exciting behaviour-change initiative to encourage more children and their families to walk to school. **WOW – the walk to school challenge** is delivered by Living Streets, the UK charity for everyday walking, to help as many children as possible experience the benefits of walking to school.

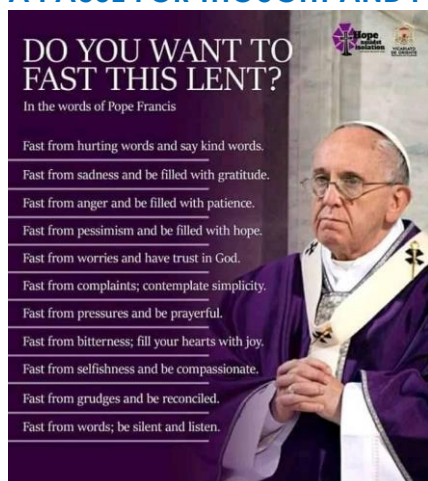
The pupil-led challenge enables children to self-report how they get to school every day. If they travel actively (walk/wheel, cycle, scoot or Park and Stride)

at least once a week for a month, they get rewarded with a badge. It's that simple!

CLIMATE ACTION MARPLE EVENT

On Monday 13th March Mrs Thompson will be inviting children from across all the key stages to the Y6 classroom at 12.45 to talk about an exciting climate change art competition. Should your child wish to take part, entries can be brought into school during the last week of this term and by Thursday 30th March. There is also a climate action event at Marple Hall School at 12:00 on Sunday 23rd April. Please see the attached flyer on page 3 for further details and how to obtain free tickets.

A PAUSE FOR THOUGHT AND PRAYER



This year, the month of March is taken up wholly with the Liturgical Season of Lent. In the Church, Lent is represented by the colour purple, worn by priests and seen on the altar. Purple, like the season of Lent, symbolises a time of prayer, penance and preparation for Jesus' death on the cross and Resurrection at Easter. It offers a chance for us to reflect on our relationship with God and make a fresh start as the Church focuses on the three pillars of Lent, almsgiving, fasting and prayer – or as children in school will know them, **GIVE, ACT, PRAY:**

Jesus, Be the centre. As I continue my journey through Lent, I welcome you into my heart. Be my guide as I GIVE to others. Be my strength as I ACT by making good choices. Be my friend as I PRAY and get to know you more. Amen

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>
13 March	Y6 Collective Worship (2:30pm in the hall). All welcome!
14 March	Parents' Evening (3:45 – 7:00pm) See booking link above.
15 March	Y3 and Y4 attend the Lenten parish Mass in church at 10:00am. All welcome!
17 March	Mothers' Day Assembly led by Reception (10:00am in the hall). All welcome!
17 March	Afternoon Tea for Year 1 Mums (2:00pm in the hall). Year 1 mums welcome!
18 March	Cross Country Presentation 10:30am at Woodbank Park.
21-24 March	Y6 residential visit to PGL Boreatton Park, Shropshire.
22 March	Y1 and Y2 attend the Lenten parish Mass in church at 10:00am. All welcome!
27 -31 March	Stations of the Cross led by Year 5 (9:05am each day in the hall.)
29 March	Holy Week & Easter Production (10:00am and 2:00pm). All welcome!
31 March	Celebration Assembly (2:30pm in the hall). All welcome!
31 March	School closes for the Easter break.
17 April	School reopens following the Easter break.

**Wishing you all a wonderful weekend.
Mr John Nish and Miss Alice Poole.**

CLIMATE ACTION MARPLE

(formerly MESS)

The climate crisis event

We are all aware of the effects of climate change on our environment and the need to act now to preserve our world for future generations.

Everyone is welcome to attend this event. The speakers include Dr Amanda Maycock, Associate Professor of Climate Dynamics at Leeds University, Nick Leslie from Stockport Council's climate action group and Jonathan Atkinson from The Carbon COOP on retrofitting homes. There will be lots of stalls to offer advice on renewable items and services. Local schoolchildren have been invited to give a presentation to the audience as well as taking part in an art completion and a journalism competition, the results of which will be announced at the event. The childrens' artwork from all the schools taking part will be on display at the event.

Please come

Date: Sunday 23rd April 2023

Time: Doors open at 12 noon with talks from 1.00pm

Venue: Bradshaw Hall, Marple Hall School, Hilltop Drive, Marple, Stockport, SK6 6LB

This is an opportunity to face the challenges that climate change will bring and plan together as a community.

To help us plan for the event, please book your free place on Eventbrite although it's not essential.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-crisis-event-tickets-537545492037?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>