



# 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 32: 26<sup>th</sup> May 2023**

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

This week the children have been thinking about missionary discipleship and linking this to the Feast of Pentecost which we celebrate this Sunday. The children's mission this week was to try and communicate with everyone they met in a positive, loving way and/or to try and spend some time quietly listening for God's voice in their hearts and minds just as the first disciples did before they began their great mission of spreading the Good News of Jesus around the world. I have had the privilege of observing RE lessons this week and I was extremely impressed by the ideas the children expressed from their research of missionary disciples such as St Oscar Romero or St (Mother) Teresa and Nelson Mandela and how their examples and ability to effectively communicate has had a positive impact on hundreds of thousands, if not millions of peoples' lives. The children could confidently express how using the Gifts of the Holy Spirit received by the disciples at Pentecost, and we receive through Baptism and Confirmation, helps us to learn to speak and listen with love. One of the classes I visited talked about how social media should be used to positively communicate and spread God's message of peace and justice. This Pentecost let us learn from the children and all try to turn the biblical message of love and justice into a lived reality. Well done St Mary's for being missionary disciples – trying to be like Jesus in the world and share our love with others through our positive communication.



## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CONGRATULATIONS



Congratulations to the children who made their First Holy Communion over the last two Saturdays. They participated so well in the Masses and looked amazing on their special day. They led the liturgy; singing so beautifully and reading and participating in the offertory with reverence and respect. Most of all, it was wonderful to see their beaming smiles, full of pride in themselves as they understood just how important the day was; fully receiving Jesus in

the form of Eucharist for the first time and showed how they were thoroughly enjoying being the VIPs for the day.

## WEDNESDAY WORD

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

## WELLBEING GARDEN OFFICIAL OPENING - 2.00PM FRIDAY 23 JUNE

Our gardening offer to children throughout St Mary's is only possible with the ongoing volunteers that we have had over the years. As children move on to secondary school we inevitably lose some volunteers along the way. We are therefore looking to strengthen our volunteer group from September. We are looking for any parents/grandparents who can offer a morning/afternoon per week to come and work with the children in planting, harvesting and maintaining our wonderful gardens around St Mary's school. There is no heavy lifting involved and you are welcome to do as much or little as you like. If you are not able to commit to every week this is fine too. We need to make it work for all possible volunteers so we are very flexible with days and plans. Please come along to our opening of the Wellbeing garden and let the office/Mrs Bradbury know if you would like to join our wonderful gardening group at St Marys. 😊😊😊



**DIOCESE OF  
NOTTINGHAM**

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**St Ralph  
Sherwin**  
Catholic Multi Academy Trust

## PSHE PARENT SURVEY

We are looking at the provision of PSHE (Personal, social health and economic education) next half term. Please can you take five minutes to [complete this short survey](#) over the half term holiday. Thank you for your valued input.

## PARENT GOVERNOR ELECTION

Mrs Helen Mulryan (Chair of Governors) has been appointed as a Foundation Governor at St Mary's by the Diocese of Nottingham and Mr Ian Mylrea's term of office as a parent governor is about to end, so we are therefore looking to appoint two parent governors to join our dedicated Local Governing Board. Please see the email and letter sent from Mrs Major on Tuesday for further details about this important voluntary role and how to apply. Mrs Mulryan and Mrs Chrippes (Chair and Vice Chair) are more than happy to informally discuss the role with any prospective candidates. They can be contacted via the school office. The closing date for nominations is **Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2023**.



## BEE SWARM



We had visitors of the winged and buzzing variety to our willow shelter on the school field this week. A bee swarm decided to make St Mary's their new home. We thought that they might move on by themselves but they loved us so much they didn't want to leave! We telephoned a local beekeeper, Matilda, and she very kindly came and safely rehomed them. The children in the Early Years have enjoyed learning lots about bees and about beekeeping! True leaning in the moment.

## MARPLE CARNIVAL

St. Mary's family will be walking in the parade on Saturday the 17th of June. The theme is 'Around the World'. Our chosen country is Ireland. We need all things green, white and orange! Decorate your scooter! Don your Irish dancing shoes and jig your way through Marple with us! Are there any Irish dancers or musicians in our family? We'd love to hear from you. If you'd like to join us please let me know at [emmamccubbin62@gmail.com](mailto:emmamccubbin62@gmail.com) or drop in to the school office. Sláinte!



## FREE PARENTING PROGRAMME



The Solihull Parenting Programme is free and open to all parents. The online programme offers tips and guidance for a range of scenarios parents may face. Understanding this can make it easier to work with your child's behaviour as well as supporting their development. More details about the programme and details on [how to join it are here](#). Please do have a look to see what it offers. Level 1 lays the foundation for understanding your child. Level 2 looks at some particular aspects of parenting: sleeping and anger management, together with more about how we interact with each other.

## ATTENDANCE

At St Mary's we feel that, if learners are to get the greatest benefit from their education in school, it is important that they have good attendance and arrive punctually. The attendance over this week is below. Congratulations to **Y1** who have achieved **100%** and **Y2** with **99.5%**. Our school target is **97%**. Well done to all classes who achieved or exceeded our school target.

| Weekly Attendance |                |
|-------------------|----------------|
| Rec               | 96.55%         |
| <b>Y1</b>         | <b>100%</b>    |
| Y2                | 99.58%         |
| Y3                | 94.35%         |
| Y4                | 97.66%         |
| Y5                | 98.33%         |
| Y6                | 95.83%         |
| Overall           | <b>97.46 %</b> |

## PTA Family Camp - Friday 7th and Saturday 8th July 2023

Rowter Farm, Castleton, Hope Valley S33 8WA

Please find information and book your place on our much-loved annual family camping trip by clicking this link <https://forms.gle/4uwr8fVihVHcwx3ZA>

Contact [kate.a.scott@googlemail.com](mailto:kate.a.scott@googlemail.com) with the subject line "Family Camp" if you have any questions.

The booking deadline is Sunday 11th June 2023 and the payment deadline is Friday 23rd June. Once you have completed the booking form, you will receive a payment request by email around 18th June. Please do not send any payments before receiving your payment request.

Contact [kate.a.scott@googlemail.com](mailto:kate.a.scott@googlemail.com) with the subject line "Family Camp" if you have any questions.

## THE MONTH (OR SO) 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>   |
| 26 May       | School closes for the half term break.   |
| 11 June      | Booking deadline for the PTA Family Camp.<br><a href="https://forms.gle/4uwr8fVihVHcwx3ZA">https://forms.gle/4uwr8fVihVHcwx3ZA</a>                 |
| 12 June      | School reopens following the half term break.  |
| 13 June      | Parent Governor nominations closing date.  |
| 12-16 June   | Y1 Phonics Screening Checks.   |
| 12-16 June   | Y4 Multiplication Checks.  |
| 14 June      | Class photos (please wear full school uniform including jumpers/cardigans).  |
| 15 June      | Y4 visit to the Museum of Science and Industry.  |
| 15 June      | Y5/6 mixed 7-a-side football tournament (Woodley Sports Village - 3:45 – 6pm).   |
| 17 June      | Marple Carnival – parade starts at 1pm.  |
| 19 June      | Y6 Collective Worship (2:30pm in the hall). All welcome!   |
| 19 – 23 June | Y6 Bikeability Week.   |
| 20 June      | Y2 visit to Bramhall Park – legacy walk.   |
| 21 June      | Reception visit to the Sea Life Centre.  |
| 23 June      | PTA Book Fair (lower playground outdoor classroom).  |
| 26 June      | Y5 Collective Worship (2:30pm in the hall). All welcome!   |
| 27 June      | Sports Day – parents are invited from 1pm – 3pm.   |
| 28 June      | Nursery Sports Day and picnic 9:30am – 1pm. Parents welcome!   |
| 28 June      | New EYFS parents intake meeting (6:00 – 7:00pm) in the hall.   |
| 30 June      | Y3 Going Forth Mass (First Holy Communicants) at 10:00am in St Mary's Church. Parents of Y3 are welcome to attend!                                 |
| 30 June      | PTA Summer Disco (5-6pm or 6-7pm). All children welcome!   |
| 3 July       | Y2 Collective Worship (2:30pm in the hall). All welcome!   |
| 5 July       | Y5 Performance with the Halle Orchestra (Bridgewater Hall).  |
| 6 July       | Transition and move up day.  |
| 7-8 July     | PTA Family Camp.   |
| 10 July      | Y1 Collective Worship (2:30pm in the hall). All welcome!   |
| 14 July      | PTA Colour Run (3:30pm).   |
| 17 July      | End of Year Reports to parents/carers.   |
| 19 July      | Open Evening to discuss reports and meet your child's new teacher (3:45 – 5:45pm).   |
| 20 July      | Y5/6 End of Year Production (1:30pm and 6pm). All welcome!   |
| 21 July      | School Council visit to Parliament in London.  |
| 24 July      | Y4 rescheduled Collective Worship (2:30pm in the hall). All welcome!   |
| 24 July      | Y6 Leavers' disco (6pm-8pm). Y6 parents welcome to stay for nibbles.   |
| 25 July      | Leavers' Assembly (10:00am in the hall). All welcome!  |
| 26 July      | End of Year Mass (10:00am in church). All welcome!   |
| 26 July      | School closes for the Summer break.  |
| 5 September  | School reopens following the summer break. (New Nursery and Reception parents, please see the new starter letters for details of dates and times.) |

**Wishing you all a safe and happy half term break. School reopens on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> June.**

**Mr John Nish and Miss Alice Poole.**