



## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL



In our whole school collective worship this week, the children have been learning about and reflecting on Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si'* (Praise be to you) which is the appeal from Pope Francis addressed to 'every person living on this planet' for an inclusive dialogue about how we are shaping the future of our planet – 'our common home'. Pope Francis calls the Church and the world to acknowledge the urgency of our environmental challenges and to join him in

embarking on a new path. This encyclical is written with both hope and resolve, looking to our common future with candour and humility. The children have linked these themes with our whole school writing week focusing on the book *Dear Greenpeace*. Over this week and next, the children have been participating in activities that explore the themes of *Laudato Si'* and *Dear Greenpeace* to ignite their spark for writing, culminating in a letter to Pope Francis sharing their ideas of how we can care for the earth and respond to God's and Pope Francis' call to be stewards of creation. The children have been learning about their responsibilities as stewards of God's creation in RE as well as focusing on social justice and the Common Good. Please ask your children about their ideas; we have seen some very powerful and persuasive writing across the school and this theme has certainly struck a chord with all classes. We will be sending Pope Francis a selection of letters from each class. We hope that the Pope enjoys reading them as much as we have and is impressed by the children's knowledge and passion for action to make our world a better place to live in for future generations.

## WEDNESDAY WORD

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

## PARENT GOVERNOR VACANCIES UPDATE



We received two applications for the two parent governor vacancies and therefore we do not need to hold an election. Thank you to the candidates for their interest in this vital role. These nominations have now been passed to the Trust for approval and disclosure and barring (DBS) clearance. I will update you on who the two parent governors are before the end of term, once I receive confirmation from the St Ralph Sherwin Trust.

## YEAR 1 PHONICS SCREENING CHECK

Over the course of this week, children in Year 1 have taken the national Phonics screening test, reading real and pseudo 'alien' words aloud using their phonics knowledge. This check was taken at the children's own pace with Mrs Bramhall. The check helps assess children's knowledge of phonics and reading levels and informs us at school for any additional help they might need as they move into Year 2.

The children have been preparing for the check in school and we thank you parents at for working with your child at home, supporting them with their reading and sound knowledge using the resources supplied. This check is nothing to be



concerned about [and this leaflet gives further information](#). Well done to the Year 1 children, they have been amazing and have taken the screening check in their stride. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate asking Mrs Bramhall or Miss Poole, our lead teacher for reading. Parents/carers will receive their child's screening check results as part of the end of year report in July.

#### YEAR 4 MULTIPLICATION TABLES CHECK (MTC)



This week has also seen children in Year 4, along with all Year 4 children in England, take the online Multiplication Tables Check (MTC). The MTC determines if Year 4 children can fluently recall their multiplication tables up to 12x12. The checks are designed to help schools identify which children require more support to learn their times tables. There is no 'pass' rate or threshold which means that, unlike the Phonics Screening Check, children will not be expected to re-sit the check.

The Department for Education (DfE) will create a report about the overall results across all schools in England, not individual schools. Again, the children were fantastic and I am very proud of their positive attitude and approach to the check. Further details about the [MTC can be found here](#). You can support your children with their times tables by using the Time Tables Rockstars programme that each St Mary's child has access to via their class Teams page.

#### 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.



#### CLASS PHOTOS

TEMPEST  
PHOTOGRAPHY

All classes had their photographs taken on Wednesday morning and the children looked so smart. With the glorious weather we were also able to take the photographs outside (in the shade). Next week you will receive an email from Tempest Photography with a personalised website link where you can view your child's class photograph and decide if you want to purchase it online.

#### MARPLE CARNIVAL

Some of the St. Mary's family will be walking in the parade tomorrow, Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> June. The theme is 'Around the World' and 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! Sláinte!



#### PTA NEWS



**New to you Book Fair** – all children are invited to our book swap on **Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> June** to choose a book for free, which will be theirs to keep. To make this possible, we are asking each child to bring in 1-2 books in good condition that they've read and loved. Your books will be given to the fair for another child to read and love. Please hand in donations to class teachers by Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July. Thank you.

**Summer Disco** – will be held in the school hall on **Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June** at either 5-6pm or 6-7pm. Further details and tickets are available to purchase via the PTA website and are priced at £3 per child. **Colour Run** – A fantastically fun mix of running, powder paint, water guns, music and sunshine to see out the year. This will take place on **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> July** from 3:30pm on the school field. Further details will shortly be available on the PTA website: [www.stmaryspta.co.uk](http://www.stmaryspta.co.uk).

## WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS



Many congratulations to Miss Poole who received the Sacrament of Marriage on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> June at St Mary's Church along with her husband. It was a day filled with love, hope for the future and a reminder that we at St Mary's are indeed one big extended family. You will see from the photograph that Mrs Burke looked radiant (even more so than she usually does) and Mr Burke scrubbed up well too! ☺ I hope the new Mr and Mrs Burke enjoy every blessing and happiness as they begin their married lives together. I am sure you will want to join with me in wishing them love for a lifetime! To make things easier for the children, Mrs Burke will retain her maiden name of Miss Poole for use in school.

## MRS MAJOR ON LEAVE



From Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> until Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June Mrs Major will be on leave as her son Cameron has been selected to play for the England lacrosse team at the World Championships in San Diego. As a very proud mum she is quite rightly accompanying her son on this magnificent sporting achievement and cheering on the England team. What a great accolade for a past pupil of St Mary's! During this time Mrs Major won't have access to her emails so if you

want to contact the office, please contact Mrs Towell on: [htowell@mmb.srscmat.co.uk](mailto:htowell@mmb.srscmat.co.uk). We wish Cameron and the England team every success and let's hope 'it's coming home' at the end of the month!

## 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>
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).
23 June	Wellbeing Garden Official Opening at 2pm.
23 June	Payment deadline for the Family Camp.
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	Y3 visit to the Roman Lakes and Mellor Mill.
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!
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 an enjoyable weekend – please don't forget it is the Marple Carnival tomorrow afternoon.**

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