



## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL



The school family celebrated a Going Forth in faith Mass with Fr Emmanuel today in church, along with the children and families of this year's First Communicants. Our Faith Friends from across the school gathered the children's ideas to plan the service, including the selection of hymns. The Y3 children looked wonderful in their Communion clothes and carried on the celebrations with a party in their classroom after Mass. (More photographs are on the Y3 Teams page).

Year 5 led our whole school worship on Monday and it was a true celebration of word, music, prayer and drama. Inès and Olivia write: 'On Monday, we prepared a liturgy for the whole school. We opened with the 15th

station of the Cross, Jesus rose from the dead, because we wanted to take the school on a journey back to the beginning of Christianity. To recreate the joy of this event, we planned and performed a celebratory dance. The theme of our liturgy was Missionary Discipleship and so we explored the lives of St Paul and St Peter, whose feast day was on Thursday. They died for their faith and that means they are martyrs. We enjoyed performing a drama of the gospel to the school (and we think everyone found it entertaining) and it helped them to understand the importance of St Peter. Jesus called Peter 'the rock' because he was the strong foundation on which our church is built. Our class loved the idea of using the song One Vision, by Queen which we sang for King Charles' coronation, to express the vision that the disciples had when creating our Church and the mission we all have as modern missionary disciples. We liked speaking in front of the school and parents. We hope everyone enjoyed the liturgy as much as we did and feels energised to go out and share Jesus with the world.' Amazing work Y5 – a wonderful liturgy.

## WEDNESDAY WORD

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

## THE WELLBEING GARDEN IS OFFICIALLY OPEN!

Last Friday afternoon, we were delighted to be joined by Father Emmanuel to open and bless our wellbeing garden. We invited Pam the 'digger lady' and Drew the landscape gardener who together made Mrs Bradbury's dream of an outdoor space for wellbeing come true. A real team effort has resulted in this beautiful space which is now open to all members of the school community to use during break and lunchtimes. Special thanks must go to the gardening team led by Mrs Buckley whose planting vision is now flourishing for all to enjoy. Well done to our gardening children for the enthusiasm shown throughout all gardening sessions. We also raised lots of money selling plants grown in our gardening sessions. Thank you to all parents/carers who came along to support this event.



## SPORTS DAY

Congratulations to all the children from Reception to Y6 for taking part in a brilliant sports day on Tuesday. Their conduct, attitude and engagement was first class and they can be rightly proud of all their efforts. Overall results, coupled with a ribboned trophy presentation, will take place during next Friday's assembly. It was wonderful witnessing how all of the children really got stuck in and encouraged each other throughout the afternoon. The children certainly demonstrated our SANCTA values in spades.



## NURSERY SPORTS DAY



A HUGE well done to Nursery who held their own super sports day on Wednesday. They enjoyed a celebration of sport beginning with amazing participation from all children in the races followed by a very exciting grown ups egg and spoon race which required a photo finish! Congratulations Lilly-Ivy's daddy. Parents and children then all enjoyed the continuous provision in Nursery and had a picnic together on the field. Thank you to all of our wonderful Nursery families for a very special sports day.

## 2023 PANATHLON CHALLENGE

On Monday, Mrs Norburn and Mrs Pickman took eight KS2 children to the Panathlon Olympic Games at St Thomas More in Buxton. The children competed against five other schools in a number of team events. These events tested the children's hand-eye coordination, concentration and precision skills plus many other skills. The children demonstrated excellent character education skills such as team work, resilience and perseverance. We are pleased to report that our children come 1<sup>st</sup> overall, were awarded gold medals and the winning trophy! Well done team St Mary's!



## TRANSITION/MOVE UP DAY



We will hold a 'Move Up' day on **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> July**, when the children will spend time in their next classroom and their new teacher/s; there will also be other activities to support our children as they start to prepare for the changes ahead and to make the process as smooth as possible. Our Y6 pupils will also be visiting their high schools on that day. It's an exciting time all round!

## RELATIONSHIPS AND HEALTH EDUCATION

Classes are completing their Relationships and Health Education lessons across the school over the remaining weeks of term. These very important and well-planned sessions form part of our RE and PSHE curriculum. Please see class homework sheets and newsletters for further details.



## STAFFING PLANS 2023-2024

As communicated earlier this week, our class teaching arrangements have been finalised and will be as follows from September 2023:

Nursery – Mrs Bradbury; Reception – Mrs Finney and Mrs Emery; Y1 – Mrs Bramhall; Y2 – Mrs Rourke and Miss Poole; Y3 – Miss Davies & Miss Burke; Y4 – Mrs Frost and Mrs Wilde; Y5 – Mrs Mitchell & Mrs Emery; Y6 – Mrs Thompson. Mrs Norburn will continue as our SENCo. Mrs Bradbury has been appointed as the EYFS leader from September as Mrs Finney is reducing her working hours. We are blessed to have a talented, dedicated and very hard working staff at St Mary's. I sincerely thank each one of them for the amazing work they do each and every day to provide a vibrant, inclusive, nurturing and high achieving learning environment for all of the children.





## 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 **Y4** and **Y5** who have both achieved **98%**. Our school target is 97%. Well done to **YR, Y2, Y4 and Y5** who have all met or exceeded our school target this week.

Weekly Attendance	
Rec	97.4%
Y1	96.6%
Y2	97.9%
Y3	93.9%
Y4	98.4%
Y5	98.3%
Y6	95.8%
<b>Overall</b>	<b>96.9%</b>

## PTA NEWS



**New to you Book Fair** – Last week we held our first book fair. We were blown away by the generosity of our St Mary's families who sent in such a range of good quality books for the children. Thank you so much! It was a real pleasure to see the children enjoying the book fair and walking away with new books and big smiles on their faces! Thank you again.

**Summer Disco** – A final reminder that we are holding one disco only **today** from 4:30-5:30pm as it's the summer and we know people have cricket etc. We also have less volunteers to help. We have 100 tickets available via the [PTA website](#) priced at £3 each. Please come and

support this event - raising money for new play equipment on the field. New volunteers welcome! Please send Claire Tognarelli a text: 07857940044.

**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 be available soon on the [PTA website](#).

## 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>
30 June	PTA Summer Disco (4:30pm – 5:30pm) in the hall. Tickets via the <a href="#">PTA website</a> .
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!
13 July	Music performance (9:15- 10:00am). All welcome!
14 July	PTA Colour Run (3:30pm) on the school field.
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 (3:45pm – 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 a relaxing weekend. Mr John Nish and Miss Alice Poole.**