



## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL



This week our school family have reflected on the theme of 'outreach'. Outreach is the act of reaching out to others with the message of God's love. It is about sharing the good news of Jesus Christ with those who do not know him. Outreach can take many forms, but it always involves going out to those who are most in need, or who feel left out and sharing God's love with them. This week our school

mission has been to find someone in our school family who may not always be included and to make an effort to tell them they are loved and important.

Class Captains, Faith friends and School Councillors have now been elected, appointed and celebrated in our Friday assembly. Congratulations to the following children:

### Faith Friends

Year 1 - Ada and Hattie

Year 2 - George M and Matilda

Year 4 - Lois and Oliver

Year 5 - Evie and Matilda

Year 6 - Jacob and Judy

### School Councillors

Year 1 – Elijah and Nora

Year 3 – Jack and Florence R

Year 4 – Evan and Rose

Year 5 – Amber and Idris

Year 6 – Thomas H and Olivia

### Class Captains

Year 1 - Freddie

Year 3 - Evelyn

Year 4 – Lucia T

Year 5 - Ophelia

Year 6 - Niall

## WEDNESDAY WORD

The latest version of the Wednesday Word can be accessed [here](#). Please enjoy spending some time sharing the Word with your children.

## CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY 2023

On **Friday 6 October** we are asking that children come dressed in green and donate £1 in aid of Family Fast Day. As you know, CAFOD is a fabulous charity that supports and reaches out to people who are affected by poverty. This year the theme is the 'world food crisis' and we think it is important that we get involved and show our support where we can. You can watch a short video about this year's campaign [here](#).



**Fast, pray and give**

## WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY 2023



The following Friday (**13 October 2022**) we will be celebrating World Mental Health Day at St Mary's and we are asking all children to wear an **item of yellow** with their uniform and to donate £1, which will form part of our contribution to the Healthy Young Minds organisation. This is a wonderful charity which does so much to support children and young adults. During that week, the children will have a special focus on mental health as part of their learning.



**DIOCESE OF  
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Catholic Multi Academy Trust

## OPERATION ENCOMPASS

This academic year, we will continue to be involved in the Operation Encompass project that runs jointly between schools and Greater Manchester police. Operation Encompass is a process where police officers who attend domestic abuse incidents will complete an email notification and send it to schools, prior to the start of the next school day, when a child or young person in our school has experienced, any domestic abuse.

Operation Encompass will ensure that a member of the school staff is trained to allow them to liaise with the police and to use the information that has been shared, in confidence, while ensuring that the school is able to make provision for possible difficulties experienced by children, or their families, who have been experienced a domestic abuse incident. We are keen to offer the best support possible to all our pupils and we believe this is extremely beneficial for all those involved.



## RETURNING READING BOOKS



At St Mary's we love to read, and we try to ensure we have lots of exciting books for the children to enjoy and engage with. Our PTA have kindly spent over £1,000 on new books for KS2 (years 3-6), despite the KS2 books being replenished only a couple of years ago. Unfortunately, as the books don't always make their way back to school, we have made the difficult decision that if a book is not returned to school, there will be a charge of £5. This will then go towards replacing the book. This will ensure that we can continue to provide quality books for all of our pupils. If we believe a book has not been returned, there will be a slip sent home in your child's bag with further

details of the missing book.

## HARRYTOWN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL OPEN EVENING

Following the information meeting held on Wednesday at St Mary's, Harrytown are now hosting an open evening for prospective pupils and parents from 4:00pm – 7:00pm on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September. The staff and students at Harrytown extend a warm invitation and hope to bring to life all that they discussed with you at the information meeting.



## ATTENDANCE



### Routine Appointments

We ask that all routine appointments for the dentist and opticians be taken outside of school time. Should a non-routine (e.g. hospital) appointment be needed in school time, please produce the appointment confirmation to the school office.

### Term Time Absence

Please note we do not authorise holidays in term time. As per Trust policy, we also do not permit children to leave school early to travel to a destination or attend tutoring sessions. We are obliged to record any absence of this kind as unauthorised.

Please see [this link](#) for our term dates so that holidays can be booked outside of term time, during our school holidays. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

## KEEPING HEALTHY

Schools have been issued with general guidance for parents on how to reduce the spread of infection with the people you live with if you have Covid-19. You can read the guidance in full [here](#).

As we approach the colder months, schools have also been issued with guidance for managing infectious diseases. If you are unsure whether to keep your child off school, please read the guidance below for help or contact the school office. <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-protection-in-schools-and-other-childcare-facilities/managing-specific-infectious-diseases-a-to-z>



## MACMILLAN COFFEE AFTERNOON



Next Friday afternoon, 29<sup>th</sup> September, from 2:00pm we will be supporting Macmillan Cancer Support by hosting a coffee and cake afternoon. We are asking that cake donations are brought into to school on the morning of 29<sup>th</sup> September. These will be sold by Year 6 pupils along with refreshments at the coffee afternoon. This is great opportunity to gather and support the amazing work of Macmillan and it's also a wonderful opportunity for a chat and catch-up with other parents before the end of the school day. We look forward to seeing you and thank you in advance for your support with the cake donations!

## PTA NEWS

Last week we held the first PTA meeting of the school year. Thank you to those who were able to attend. There are lots of exciting plans for the coming year, the first of which will be the sponsored bounce on the 18<sup>th</sup> October. Next week, the children will bring home information and a sponsor form with further information. Attached is a letter from the PTA, which can also be accessed [here](#). The PTA is always looking for new volunteers, so please contact Claire Tognarelli [pta@stmaryspta.org.uk](mailto:pta@stmaryspta.org.uk) if this is of interest to you. The next virtual meeting will be at 7:00pm on the 1<sup>st</sup> November.

## 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. (New events added in <b>bold</b>.)</i>
25 September	Year 5 Collective Worship at 2:30pm in the hall. All welcome.
28 September	Harrytown Catholic High School Open Evening (at Harrytown) 4-7pm.
29 September	Special Friends Assembly – Reception and Y6 children. 9:30am in the hall.
29 September	Macmillan Coffee Afternoon. 2pm in the hall. <i>Cake donations to be brought into school on the morning of the 29<sup>th</sup> September.</i>
1 October	Gardening Working Party. 10:00am – 1:00pm. All welcome.
<b>2 October</b>	<b>Start of Term Mass in school at 2:00pm. All welcome.</b>
6 October	CAFOD Family Fast Day – Wear something green - £1 donation.
9 October	Year 4 Collective Worship at 2:30pm in the hall. All welcome.
13 October	World Mental Health Day. (Wear an item of yellow with their uniform - £1 donation to Healthy Young Minds).
18 October	PTA Sponsored Bounce. (Details to follow.)
20 October	Coffee and Cake with Mrs Bradbury 2pm in the hall.
20 October	School closes for the October half term break.
30 October	School reopens following the October half term break.
<b>31 October</b>	<b>Closing date for Secondary School applications. <a href="#">Secondary school application process - Stockport Council</a></b>
<b>1 November</b>	<b>All Saints' Day Mass. 10:00am in school. All welcome.</b>
<b>1 November</b>	<b>PTA Meeting via Zoom at 7:00pm. All welcome.</b>
3 November	PTA Sparkle Disco.
15 and 22 November	Parents' Evenings. (Booking details to follow in October). 3:45pm - 6:45pm.

## PAUSE FOR THOUGHT AND PRAYER

Heavenly Father,  
May we reach out to you as our source of love and compassion so that we can reach out to those around us.  
Let us turn our sorrow into action so that we can create your Kingdom here on earth. Amen.



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