



St Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy

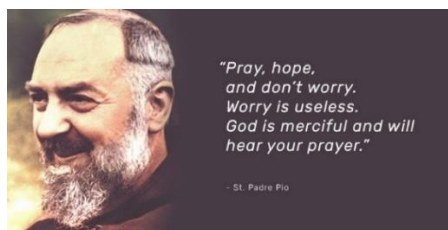
<http://www.st-marys-marplebridge.stockport.sch.uk/>

St Mary's Parish: <http://stmarysmarplebridge.org.uk/>

Holy Spirit Parish: <https://www.holyspiritmarple.com/>

Bulletin Number 4: Friday 27 September 2024

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL



Congratulations to Year 5 who, despite issues with the internet and technology, displayed great resilience and led our first class worship of the school year on Monday. They celebrated the Feast of St Padre Pio and reflected on what it means to be holy and strive to be a saint. They helped us to reflect on St Padre Pio's motto of 'pray, hope and don't worry' through prayer, song and word with fantastic ukulele

playing! The 'do not worry donuts' helped secure this message to our long-term memories! Year 5 set us the mission of taking part in a 'Sitting like a Saint' mindfulness session led by Padre Pio. The children have thoroughly enjoyed this mission.

BACK TO SCHOOL MASS A reminder that next Monday, **30 September**, at **2:00pm** Fr Bill will be celebrating Mass in school to mark the start of the school year. You are all warmly invited to attend, and we look forward to celebrating Mass as a whole school family. This will be one of Fr Bill's last liturgies he performs as Parish Priest before his retirement on that day. On Sunday, 29th September, there will be a parish retirement party for Father Bill starting at 12 noon at Holy Spirit Catholic church, Marple. Thank you to all those attended the coffee morning last Sunday at Holy Spirit in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. The event raised £125. Also thank you to those who attended Songs of Praise at St Mary's, New Mills. This event raised over £100. Thank you for your generosity and time.

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

SPECIAL FRIENDS ASSEMBLY

It is one of the great traditions at St Mary's that we match our Reception and Year 6 children together as 'Special Friends'. Through Special Friends, Reception children are encouraged to feel confident around other and older children, helping them to feel settled and happy in their new environment. Their Year 6 friend becomes another friendly face at school, someone to look out for, someone whom they feel is precious to them. Year 6 children see having a Special Friend as a privilege - and one they take very seriously. They have been looking forward to this throughout the previous year, or even longer! This morning, we celebrated this wonderful assembly where the children were paired together. Opportunities arise throughout the year for Reception and Year 6 pupils to play together, learn together and get together for special events (such as a picnic in the summer). Congratulations to our new Special Friends! It was lovely to enjoy a coffee and cake with the Reception and Year 6 parents afterwards and we raised £42 for MacMillan. Thank you.



CROSS COUNTRY NEWS



There is a KS2 cross-country competition taking place at Marple Hall High School, **3:45pm - 5:15pm on Tuesday 15 October**. We are inviting all our cross-country club and Woodbank park pupils to attend this competition. On arrival, Mrs Ashton and Mrs Wilde will meet the children and support the pupils at the competition. We ask that parents remain at the competition and stay with their child. Please complete this online form if your child can attend: <https://forms.office.com/e/JW8CD49723>. St Mary's had a great turnout last Saturday morning at the first schools' cross country event, supported by Mrs McCubbin. The teams performed superbly across all ages, and three children received certificates for finishing in the top 10 in their races. Amazing! Well done to Henry W (Y1) who ran in the Year 3-4 race and came 18th. A champion in the making!



DIocese OF
NOTTINGHAM

St Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy
Lowry Drive, Marple Bridge SK6 5BR
headteacher@mmb.srscmat.co.uk
Company No 7937154



**St Ralph
Sherwin**
Catholic Multi Academy Trust

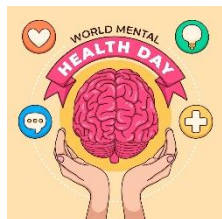
CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY 2024

Next **Friday, 4 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 'carving a better future for the world' and we think it is important that we get involved and show our support where we can. You can [read more about this year's campaign here](#).



Fast, pray and give

WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY 2024



The following Friday, **11 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. This 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.

WELLSPRING – HARVEST COLLECTION 2024

One of our SANCTA values is 'support'. As a school family we feel it is important that we give thanks and support our local community. Therefore, during Harvesttime we again are asking our families to bring in donations for The Wellspring, Stockport, so that we can share what we have with homeless or less fortunate people in our town. This year, The Wellspring's Harvest Festival has again been created with an eco-theme and so we can help our children understand that we should all be looking to make changes where possible to protect their future and the future of the planet. This theme also links with our Catholic Social Teaching theme for this half term: care of creation. Wellspring's 'Wish List' includes products with the eco idea in mind and contains: sugar, coffee, cordial, biscuits, crisps, tinned meat, cereal, butter, pasta sauces and tinned tomatoes. Each class will have a large bag to collect in donations from **Tuesday 1 October until Tuesday 15 October**, so if you are able to, please send your child/children into school with items from this 'Wish List' link.



HARRYTOWN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL OPEN EVENING



Mrs Pickles, the new headteacher of Harrytown visited St Mary's on Monday and met with Y5 and Y6 children. During the meeting she invited parents and children to their open evening on **Thursday, 3 October**, from **4:30pm until 7:30pm**. This is a fantastic opportunity to explore the school, meet the dedicated staff, and learn more about the excellent educational experience Harrytown offers. You and your children will have the chance to see the facilities, hear about the curriculum, and ask any questions you may have about the transition to high school. We encourage you, particularly parents of children in Years 5 and 6, to take advantage of this event to help make an informed decision about your child's future education. The Harrytown community look forward to seeing you there!

ONLINE SAFETY WORKSHOP

Thank you to those parents who attended on Wednesday evening. Tanya Cross provided insightful information and tips regarding keeping children safe online. For those who couldn't attend there is a wealth of information on the E-Safety page of our school website, offering advice on popular apps children use. [The advice can be found here](#). E safety information is also provided in our monthly safeguarding newsletter.



EARLY YEARS PHONICS EVENING



On **Wednesday 2 October** from 5:30-6:30pm there will be a phonics information evening for parents/carers of children in our Nursery and Reception classes. At St Mary's we use a Department for Education validated phonics scheme called 'Twinkl Phonics'. At the meeting Miss Poole (our phonics Leader), Mrs Bradbury (EYFS Leader) and Mrs Frost (Reception Teacher) we will share with you what phonics is, how it helps your child with their early reading and writing and provide a range of ideas for activities and resources you can use to support your child at home. There will be an information meeting for Year 1 parents later in the year (please see the Key Dates letter).

THE SAINT MARY'S WAY



At St Mary's, we have the highest expectations of behaviour for our children. We don't take it for granted that children automatically know how to behave and get along with others so we actively and explicitly teach our children this through our behaviour curriculum: [The St Mary's Way](#). This curriculum outlines key behaviours and routines which help us ensure that the children at St Mary's are ready to learn, are respectful to all and are safe. As parents/carers are a child's first educators, it would be fantastic if you could take a look through this document in order to support our work at home, e.g. by promoting children say please/thank you, showing manners etc. Just like other areas of the curriculum, we know that children won't just behave in the way that we expect because we teach it in the same way

that they don't understand maths following input in a single lesson. We constantly reinforce expectations through our behaviour systems, assemblies and interactions around our school. Information about our approach to promoting positive behaviour is available [on our website](#). Remember, you can monitor your child's behaviour by keeping an eye on their daily Dojo points.

PTA NEWS - THE GREAT ST MARY'S BAKE OFF!

The children are invited to bring their Bake Off entry to the school office on **Monday 7 October**. There are 6 different categories to enter: bread, biscuits/cookies, small cakes, brownies/blondies, free from and showstoppers. The entries will be judged by Dean, owner of All Things Nice and winners will be announced in the afternoon at 3.20pm. These delicious treats will then be on sale from the outside classroom on the bottom playground after school. *Please be respectful and remember that we are a strict nut free school, this is a NUT FREE ZONE.* ONE entry per child, which needs to be labelled with a description and your child's name. Happy Baking! Love the PTA.



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 September	Back to school Mass with Fr Bill. 2:00pm – 3:00pm in the school hall. All welcome!
2 October	EYFS (Nursery and Reception) Phonics workshop for parents 5:30pm – 6:30pm.
3 October	Harrytown Catholic High School Open Evening. 4:30pm – 7:30pm.
4 October	CAFOD Family Fast Day – Wear something green - £1 donation.
5 October	Cross Country at Woodbank Park. 10:00am.
7 October	Year 4 Collective Worship at 2:30pm in the hall. All welcome.
7 October	PTA Great St Mary's Bake Off! 3:20pm.
11 October	World Mental Health Day. (Wear an item of yellow with their uniform - £1)
15 October	KS2 Cross Country Competition at Marple Hall 3:45pm-5:15pm. https://forms.office.com/e/JW8CD49723
16 October	PTA Sponsored Bounce.
18 October	Coffee and Cake with Mrs Bradbury and Mrs Norburn 1:15pm in the hall.
18 October	Celebration Assembly 2:30pm in the hall. All welcome.
18 October	School closes for the October half term break.
28 October	School reopens following the October half term break.
30 October & 6 November	Parents Evenings 3:30pm – 6:40pm.
31 October	Closing date for Year 6 parents to apply for a secondary school place via Stockport Council Secondary school application process - Stockport Council.
4 November	Year 3 Collective Worship at 2:30pm in the hall. All welcome.
11 November	Act of Remembrance 10:50 – 11:05am in the bottom playground. All welcome.

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