



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 10: Friday 15 November 2024

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL



Well done and thank you to Dan, Mrs Emery and the Faith Friends who led us in our Remembrance Service on Monday morning. The children considered how during times of war and emergency, there have always been people trying to help and protect others. Remembrance is a time when we give thanks for the people who help and protect others now, and who have done so in the past. We listened to the poem 'In Flanders Fields' by John McCrae and the children respectfully reflected on those servicewoman and men who have paid the ultimate sacrifice for the freedoms we enjoy today.

Special thanks to Mrs Groarke-Booth who playing a moving Last Post and Reveille (The Rouse). This bugle call rouses the living back to duty, after having paid respects to the memory of those who gave their lives for peace. At this time, let us continue to give thanks for their service and we pray that Jesus' message of peace be realised throughout the world.

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

ANTI-BULLYING WEEK



This week, we have been focusing on the theme *Choose Respect*. As part of this year's Anti-Bullying Week campaign, we discussed how we can 'Choose Respect' instead of bullying, and how we can role model this behaviour. Through a variety of activities, our children explored what it means to show respect to others and to stand against all forms of bullying.

It was great to see so many children in their odd socks on Tuesday, celebrating what makes us all special and unique. In PSHE lessons, the children discussed the different types of bullying—physical, verbal, cyber, and social. They developed their understanding of how harmful these behaviors can be. In our whole school worship time today, we celebrated 'A Good Friend Award' across our classes, celebrating pupils who are kind to others and recognise the value of friendship. We recognise that as well as needing our friends, we also need to be a great friend to those around us. A great way to end Anti-bullying week. Congratulations to all certificate winners!

INDIVIDUAL AND SIBLING PHOTOGRAPHS

TEMPEST
PHOTOGRAPHY

Will be held on Thursday 21 November. Preschool siblings are more than welcome to join their sisters and/or brothers who attend St Mary's and can be brought into school via the office entrance from 8:30am.

OPEN EVENTS FOR PROSPECTIVE PARENTS/CARERS



There will now be an open afternoon from 1:30pm – 3:00pm on Tuesday 19 November 2024 for prospective parents/carers who are considering sending their children to St Mary's in September 2025. If you are in this position, or know of families who are, please spread the word. At this event prospective parents/carers will have the opportunity to visit our wonderful school, meet some of our amazing children and staff and see St Mary's in action. As a reminder, the closing date for Reception places 2025 is 15 January and applications are made via the [Stockport Council Admissions website](#).



**DIOCESE OF
NOTTINGHAM**

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**St Ralph
Sherwin**
Catholic Multi Academy Trust

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

The Scholastic Book Fair is visiting St Mary's until **Tuesday 19 November**. Attached is a flier with a small selection of the books that will be available to buy. If you can't attend in person with your child, feel free to visit <https://bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/bookcases>, once you have chosen your books complete the attached wish list and pay online via this link <https://bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/pay>. Please ensure that you return the wish list to the school office before the 19 November, so that we can place your order. Remember there are some great bargains to be had and lots of ideas for Christmas gifts. The bonus is that school receives free books as a reward for hosting the book fair.



CHRISTMAS DINNER



Save the date! On Thursday 12 December we will hold our Christmas dinner in school. This traditional festive lunch will comprise turkey with all the trimmings and a festive desert. There is also a vegetarian option. If your child does not normally have a school dinner, but they wish to have one on this occasion as a 'one off', please let Mrs Towell in the school office know by Friday 29 November. After this date it will not be possible to order an extra lunch. £3.33 can be paid on Parent Pay. Christmas jumpers may be worn on Christmas Dinner day. If your child does not have a Christmas jumper, do not fear - you are not expected to buy one; you can let your child wear a favourite jumper instead.

WINTER WONDERLAND

Our Y1 and Y2 pupils have been asked to sing at Winter Wonderland in Marple Bridge on Saturday 7 December. Please complete the below form to sign up to support us, as we celebrate Christmas in the community. Uniform will not be required and Christmas jumpers are encouraged. We will meet at the main stage and the children will sing for around 20 minutes. Parents are asked to remain at the stage whilst the children are singing. We are waiting to hear from the organisers regarding what time our slot on stage will be, but we believe it will be sometime after 2pm. We will contact parents again once this has been confirmed. <https://forms.office.com/e/65jpijVhiM>



CRUCIAL CREW

Year 6 had a fantastic afternoon at Crucial Crew and learned some valuable information about keeping safe. With Stockport Homes, we discussed what anti-social behaviour is, identified some examples and talked about possible consequences. The school nurses helped us to understand some of the dangers of vaping, whilst GMP explored ways that we can be safe when playing out or walking alone. TFGM showed us the differences between Anti-Social Behaviour and crime, and how both of these can have a big impact our public transport network. Finally, with MyBNK we developed an understanding of scam text messages: how to spot them and what to do if we receive one. It was an informative visit and all the children have taken away some 'crucial' life skills to help them on the next stage of their journey.

SPORTS AMBASSADORS



Our Y5 Sports Ambassadors have been doing a brilliant job of supporting classes in using the travel tracker and distributing the monthly badges. This week, they have undertaken a new responsibility out on the playground with KS2 at lunchtime. Each Tuesday and Wednesday, the children are running games and activities for those out on the playground to join in with. This requires our Sports Ambassadors to demonstrate the skills of good leadership, responsibility, fairness and respect – keep up the great work!

CHILDREN IN NEED

The children in Nursery have been baking and icing biscuits for their Pudsey Bear biscuit sale after school. They have all enjoyed measuring and mixing ingredients. They are looking forward to collecting money to give to Pudsey Bear to help children who need extra help in their lives to be happy. We look forward to letting you know how much we raise next week!



PTA NEWS



Thank you to our wonderful PTA for organising last week's sparkle disco, the children had a fantastic time dancing the night away.

The 2024 St Mary's School Christmas Fair will be Friday 6 December – 3:30pm-5:00pm.

Please can you send in the following items over the following Fridays in November and December to support the fair and make it an enjoyable and successful event...

Friday 22 November - chocolates for the Chocolate Tombola.

Friday 29 December - bottles for the Bottle Tombola. Alcoholic and non-alcoholic.

Friday 6 December - DAY OF THE FAIR any further donations of unwanted gifts for Elfridges, chocolates or bottles (*non-uniform day in exchange for donations on 6 December only.*)

We will once again also be having a Teddy Adoption stall so if you have any new/ great condition teddies that you would like to donate please send these in from 2 December.

Tickets for Father Christmas will go on sale online in pre bookable slots - details for this shortly on the [PTA website](https://www.stmaryspta.org.uk). If anyone has any raffle prizes they would like to donate please contact the PTA: pta@stmaryspta.org.uk.

We have the grotto, elfridges, toasting marshmallows, tombola room, tree of treats, games, tuck shop and the kitchen will be selling mulled wine, hot dogs and turkey sandwiches! We need volunteers though - please fill in the google sheet or message 07857940044 if you can help - no experience necessary! https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1g-hEMIVRjeMNPJisX_XPFsm9wRFyDvx756s85HwkKsA/htmlview

WREATH MAKING

Please join us for our first ever wreath making class - run by the wonderful Zoe from The Flower House Marple. The price is £30 and includes a drink, and all the materials you will need to make a gorgeous wreath. Sunday December 1st 6-8pm. <https://www.stmaryspta.org.uk/wreath-making/>

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 dates in bold.</i>
14-19 November	Scholastic Book Fair. 8:30 – 8:50am and 3:20 – 3:40pm.
18 November	Year 6 Collective Worship at 2:30pm in the hall. All welcome.
19 November	Open afternoon for prospective parents (1:30pm – 3:00pm).
21 November	Individual and sibling photographs.
29 November	INSET Day – school closed to children.
30 November	Cross Country at Woodbank Park. 10:00am.
1 December	PTA Wreath Making, further details: Wreath Making Workshop – St Mary's PTA .
2 December	Advent Service 2:30pm in the hall. All welcome.
4 December	Junior Festival of Carols – St George's Church, Heavily 7:30pm (led by Y3).
6 December	PTA Christmas Fair 3:30pm – 5:00pm.
10 December	Nursery and Reception Nativity 10:00am and 2:00pm. (Note date change.)
11 December	Pantomime at Romiley Forum (Nursery – Year 6).
12 December	Christmas Dinner day.
15 December	Advent carol service at Holy Spirit church, Marple. 4:00pm – 5:00pm.
17 December	Y4/Y5 Swimming Gala 9:30 – 11:30am at Grand Central.
18 December	Y1/Y2 Nativity 10:00am and 2:00pm.
20 December	Carol Service – 1:30pm in the hall. All Welcome.
20 December	School closes for the Christmas holidays.
6 January 2025	School reopens following the Christmas holidays.

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