



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL



Everyone is special
Human Dignity

This week at St Mary's, we launched this half term's Catholic Social Teaching (CST) theme: Human Dignity. Rooted in the belief that every person is made in the image and likeness of God, this theme invites our children to recognise and respect the inherent worth of all people. Across the curriculum, not just in RE, pupils will be exploring what it means to uphold dignity in everyday life – in the classroom, on the playground, and in the wider world. Through subjects such as English, History, and PSHE, and with the support of our SANCTA values, children will deepen their understanding of this important principle. To bring our learning to life, we will look closely at the inspiring work of Catholic charities such as Caritas and Mission Together, seeing how their mission to serve and stand up for the most vulnerable puts faith into action and shows the power of treating every human being with love, compassion, and respect.

WEDNESDAY WORD

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

CURRICULUM SPOTLIGHT – TRANSITION

As we approach the end of the school year at St Mary's, transitions are already well underway for our children. Whether moving up a year group or preparing to begin their journey at secondary school, we understand how important it is to help our pupils feel safe, supported and ready for change. At St Mary's, we know that thoughtful, well-planned transitions help children to grow in confidence, build positive relationships and settle smoothly into new routines. This not only supports their emotional wellbeing but also lays the groundwork for future academic success.



One of the most significant transitions is for our wonderful Year 6 pupils, who are getting ready to move on to secondary school. During the Pentecost (summer) term, we liaise closely with our local secondary schools to share important information and to plan visits. These visits are a great opportunity for children to familiarise themselves with their new environment, meet future classmates and ask questions. Across Stockport this occurs on Thursday 3 July.

For pupils moving up within St Mary's, we have planned a transition afternoon where children will spend time with their new Class Teacher and explore their new classroom. This session will take place on the afternoon of **Thursday 3 July**, which coincides with the secondary school transition day for Year 6 pupils.

To support parents and carers, we are holding a drop-in session from 3:30pm – 4:30pm on **Tuesday 15 July** where you can ask questions with your child's current teacher(s) regarding end of year reports and also to meet your child's teacher(s) for next year. We are also offering additional support for children with SEND or those who would benefit from more personalised transition arrangements. These pupils will have extra opportunities to meet their new teacher, visit the classroom and ask questions, ensuring they feel confident and ready for September.

Transitions mark an exciting time of growth and change, and at St Mary's we are committed to making these moments as smooth, reassuring and positive as possible for every child.



FREE SCHOOL MEALS



Are you entitled?

further information, please contact Mr Nish in confidence.

If your child is eligible for Free School Meals (FSM) it is important you register with Stockport Council [by clicking here](#). Even if your child gets a free meal (as they are in the infants) or they don't take a meal each day (in the juniors) we would strongly encourage you to register if eligible as this gives you discounts to clubs, instrumental tuition and trips. This is in addition to childcare vouchers issued by the Council. Don't forget the importance of registering for FSM if your child is moving from Y2 – Y3 as meals are no longer automatically free for them next year. If you require

RECEPTION'S AIRPORT ADVENTURE

Our Reception children had a fantastic time on their visit to the Manchester Airport Visitor Centre last week! As part of their learning about travel and the wider world, they explored the exciting world of aviation—watching planes take off and land, learning about how airports work, and even getting a close-up look at the iconic Concorde. This experience brought to life many aspects of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) curriculum, particularly in Understanding the World, as the children explored transport, people and communities in a real-life setting. The children were an absolute credit to St Mary's—curious, polite, and wonderfully well-behaved throughout the trip. A big thank you to all the staff and volunteers who helped make the day so special!



YEAR 2 VISIT THE HATWORKS



Year 2 had a wonderful visit to the Hat Works Museum in Stockport, bringing their history and design technology learning to life in a fun and engaging way. The trip linked closely to their curriculum work on local history and the development of industry in Stockport, giving the children the chance to explore real artefacts, try on traditional hats, and learn how hats were made in the past. The children were full of curiosity, asking thoughtful questions and showing great enthusiasm throughout the visit. Their behaviour was

outstanding - they represented St Mary's brilliantly and were a real credit to our school.

YEAR 3 AND YEAR 4 OLYMPICS AT WOODBANK PARK

On Wednesday morning, 20 of our fantastic Year 3 and 4 pupils represented St Mary's at the Stockport Schools Olympics at Woodbank Park. Competing in events such as long jump, hurdles and the howler throw, our children demonstrated brilliant teamwork, determination and sportsmanship throughout. Despite the heat, they gave their all and were rewarded with a fantastic 5th place out of over 20 teams! Special certificates for self-belief were awarded to Phoebe, Niamh, James and Sophia (Year 3), and Margot and Rain (Year 4). We are incredibly proud of all the children - true ambassadors for our school. Well done, everyone, and thank you to the staff who supported them!



YEAR 6 SHINE AT STOCKPORT CRICKET FINALS



On Wednesday morning, twelve of our Year 6 pupils represented St Mary's at the Stockport Primary School Cricket Finals held at Stockport Cricket Club in Cale Green. Competing against other top-performing schools from across the borough, our team showed fantastic teamwork, skill and determination throughout the morning. Their sportsmanship and positive attitude were praised by organisers and spectators alike, and they truly embodied the spirit of fair play. We are incredibly proud of how they represented our school - congratulations to all involved and thank you to the staff who accompanied the children!

YEAR 5 PLAY WITH THE HALLÉ ORCHESTRA

On Wednesday, our talented Year 5 pupils had the incredible opportunity to perform at the Bridgewater Hall alongside the world-renowned Hallé Orchestra. As part of our school's First Access to Music programme, the children have been learning to play the ukulele and recorder, and this special event gave them the chance to showcase their skills in a truly inspiring setting. Accompanying the orchestra in a live performance was a memorable experience that brought their music learning to life. The children were fantastic - focused, enthusiastic, and a credit to St Mary's throughout the visit. A huge well done to Year 5 for such an outstanding performance!



KEEPING ST MARY'S CHURCH OPEN



St Mary's parish are holding a meeting after the 11:30am Mass this Sunday (22nd June) in church or in the schoolroom. This is to give feedback to parishioners about the petitions sent to Rome and to discuss ways forward for the parish. All are invited.

WHOLE SCHOOL PHOTO – A MOMENT TO REMEMBER

Today we had the wonderful opportunity to take a whole school photograph - a truly special moment capturing our St Mary's family in one shot! It was a sight to behold, with our pupils and staff gathered, smiling proudly in the summer sunshine. The last whole school photo was taken in 2017, so this new image will be a cherished keepsake marking your child's journey through St Mary's. Next week, parents and carers will receive a link via email with a proof of the photograph, along with details of how to purchase a copy. We can't wait to share this lovely memory with you!



PTA NEW TO YOU BOOK FAIR

This will be held next Friday, 27 June during school time. Please see the attached poster for details. Please bring age-appropriate book donations by Wednesday 25 June. Thank you.

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>
21 June	First Holy Communion Mass for Holy Spirit Parish children. 11:00am.
22 June	Parish meeting regarding the future of St Mary's Church. After 11:30am Mass.
23 June	Year 1 celebration of the word at 2:30pm. All welcome.
27 June	PTA 'New To You' Book Fair during school time. Book donations by 25 June please.
1 July	Reception to Year 6 Sports Day 1:15pm – 3:00pm (weather permitting).
2 July	Nursery Sports Morning 9:30am – 11:30am (weather permitting).
3 July	Transition day – Current Y6 children spend the day at their new secondary school.
4 July	Going Forth Mass (for children who have made their First Holy Communion this year) at 10:00am in St Mary's Church. Parents of Year 3 and 4 children welcome.
7 July	Year 3 celebration of the word at 2:30pm. All welcome.
11-13 July	Family Camp.
15 July	Open Evening/Reports drop in 3:30pm – 4:30pm.
16 July	Y5 & Y6 Production 1:30pm and 6:00pm.
18 July	PTA Colour Run 3:30pm – 4:30pm.
23 July	Leavers' Assembly 10:00am – 11:00am.
23 July	Bubbles and Confetti 2:50pm – 3:10pm.
23 July	Leavers' Disco 5:30pm – 7:00pm.
24 July	Leavers' Mass 10:00 – 11:00am.
24 July	School closes for children for the Summer Break at 3:20pm.
3 September	School reopens for children following the summer break. (Y1-Y6). Nursery and Reception children, please see induction information.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend. Prayers for and congratulations to the First Holy Communicants of Holy Spirit Parish. Mr John Nish.