



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 9: Friday 14 November 2025

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

This week our theme has been Remembrance. On Monday, Year 3 led a beautiful celebration of the word, helping us to understand that in our faith, remembrance is more than simply recalling the past - it's about keeping our connection with God and with our loved ones alive. They reminded us that we remember the saints who came before us, whose examples guide us on our own journey of faith. We remember the sacrifice of Jesus, who gave His life for love of us all. And we remember those who have died, whose love and influence continue to shape who we are today. Year 3 set us a mission for the week: to spend time in prayer remembering those who are important to us and who are no longer with us. They encouraged us to express this remembrance through artwork, and the children have done so beautifully - our school entrance is now filled with moving, heartfelt pieces of art celebrating love, memory and hope. Remembrance at St Mary's has truly been a way for us to honour our past, cherish our present, and hope for our future.



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

REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE



On Tuesday 11 November, our school gathered for a moving Remembrance Day service led by our fantastic Faith Friends from each year group. The children led us beautifully in prayer as we paused to honour those who have lost their lives in service to others. We are especially grateful to Mrs Groarke Booth, who played The Last Post and the Rouse with such reverence, and to the parents and grandparents who joined us, especially Mrs Tadikonda who represented the Armed Services. It was a powerful reminder of the values of peace, unity, and hope that guide our faith and school family.

BIKEABILITY



Our Year 6 children have taken part in Bikeability training this week, and what a success it has been! The children have shown fantastic enthusiasm, maturity, and resilience as they developed their cycling skills and learned how to ride safely on the roads in the local area. The instructors were full of praise for the pupils' positive attitude and excellent behaviour throughout. This important training not only helps them gain confidence and independence but also supports our wider curriculum focus on wellbeing, safety, and healthy lifestyles. Well done, Year 6 - you have done St Mary's proud!



**DIOCESE OF
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**St Ralph
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Catholic Multi Academy Trust

ST MARY'S PARISH CHRISTMAS FAIR THANK YOU!

A huge thank you to everyone who attended last weekend's Parish Christmas Fair at The Annunciation, New Mills. It was a joyful celebration of parish life, filled with laughter, friendship and festive spirit. The children loved the pocket money stalls, lucky dip, and children's raffle, and our St Mary's school stall was a great success. Pupils from both Marple Bridge and New Mills joined together to sing Christmas carols, spreading warmth and joy throughout the hall. Thank you to everyone who donated items, helped on the day, or came along to support—our parish family spirit was truly alive.



ANTI-BULLYING WEEK 2025



This week, pupils across the school have embraced Anti-Bullying Week, exploring the theme 'Power for Good'. From class discussions and creative posters to reflection activities, children have considered how their words and actions can lift others up and build a more caring community. Monday's Odd Socks Day set a joyful tone, reminding us that our differences make us special and that kindness is one of the greatest powers we have. Thank you for helping to reinforce

this message at home - together we are building a school family rooted in respect, responsibility and compassion.

CYBERBULLYING ADVICE FOR PARENTS

Children being bullied online, particularly in games and via messaging apps, remains one of the top concerns of many parents and their children. Internet Matters have a range of guides and articles to support parents and carers which I have listed below:

- Talking to children and conversation tips for ages 6-10, 11-13, 14-17 and vulnerable children - [HERE](#)
- What is cyberbullying and what are the signs - [HERE](#)
- Helpful ways to prevent cyberbullying - [HERE](#)
- How to deal with cyberbullying - [HERE](#)
- Parents experiences of cyberbullying - [HERE](#)
- Useful parent resources - [HERE](#)



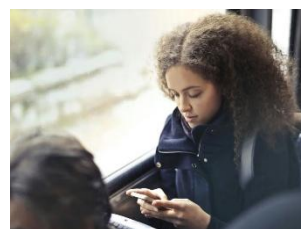
SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR



We are delighted to announce that the Scholastic Book Fair will now run from **Monday after school until Thursday morning**. The fair will be open **before and after school in the school hall**, from 8:15am – 8:40am and 3:20pm – 3:45pm offering a wonderful opportunity to explore a wide range of books for all ages. Every purchase helps to earn free books for our school library, so your support makes a real difference in helping us foster a lifelong love of reading among our pupils.

STOCKPORT SEND TRAVEL CONSULTATION

Stockport Council are reviewing their travel policy for young people with SEND and want to hear from parents and carers. Proposed changes include more flexible personal travel budgets, independent travel training, and continued support for those with complex needs. Your feedback is vital - please take a few minutes to share your views in their 42-day consultation and help shape the future of SEND travel support in Stockport. [Take part now.](#) **Q&A Session Dates** Come along to an online session to find out more about what's proposed and how to give your feedback: 17th November 1:30pm-2:30pm, 1st December 1:30pm – 2:30pm or 11th December 6.00pm – 7.00pm. You can [book on a session via this link](#).



The 2025 St Mary's School Christmas Fair will be Friday 28 November – 3:30pm-5:00pm.



Thank you for donating bottles for the tombola and gifts for Elfridges and wrapping paper over the past two weeks. Please can you send in the following items over the following dates in November to support the fair and make it an enjoyable and successful event...

Friday 21 November - Chocolates for the Chocolate Tombola.

Monday 24 November – Teddies (any new/great condition teddies for our teddy adoption stall).

Friday 28 November - DAY OF THE FAIR any further donations of unwanted gifts for Elfridges, chocolates, bottles or teddies (*non-uniform day in exchange for donations on 28 November 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](http://pta@stmaryspta.org.uk). If anyone has any raffle prizes they would like to donate, please contact the PTA: pta@stmaryspta.org.uk. The Christmas fair is one of our biggest fundraisers of the year and it is a very special afternoon. If anyone would like to help at the fair, please get in touch with the PTA. pta@stmaryspta.org.uk. We particularly need people to help clear and tidy up at the end of the fair. Thank you for your support.

WREATH MAKING - We are running our Festive Wreath making class - this will be run by the fabulous Zoe-of the Marple Flower House on **Sunday 30 November from 3:00pm-5:00pm** at Marple Scout Hut. The cost is £25, and this includes all materials and a glass of fizz/mulled wine/soft drink/ tea/coffee etc. All welcome. Tickets now available on the [PTA website](http://pta@stmaryspta.org.uk).

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>	
17-20 November	Scholastic Book Fair (see above for details).
24 November	Year 6 celebration of the word at 2:30pm. All welcome.
25 November	School photographs.
26 November	Nursery and Y5 Gardening Club 9:00-11:45. Parents/grandparents welcome.
28 November	School Christmas Fair. 3:30pm – 5:00pm. All welcome.
30 November	PTA Wreath Making Workshop 3:00pm – 5:00pm. Marple Scout Hut.
1 December	Advent Service 2:30pm – 3:00pm. All welcome.
2 December	Junior Festival of Carols led by Y3. St George's Church, Heaviley at 7:30pm.
3 December	Reception and Y6 Gardening Club 9:00-11:45. Parents/grandparents welcome.
5 December	INSET Day. School closed to children.
8 December	Pantomime at Romiley Forum.
10 December	General gardening maintenance. 9:00-11:45. All parents/grandparents welcome.
11 December	Nursery and Reception Nativity 10:00am and 2:00pm
14 December	Carol Service at Holy Spirit Church, Marple at 4:00pm. All welcome.
17 December	Year 1 and Year 2 Nativity 10:00am and 2:00pm
18 December	Christmas Dinner.
19 December	Carol Service 1:30pm-2:15pm in the school hall. All welcome.
19 December	School closes for the Christmas holidays.
5 January	School reopens following the Christmas holidays.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend. We'd love to see you at the Book Fair next week. Mr John Nish.