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 11: Friday 27 November 2026

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL



On Monday, our wonderful Year 6 pupils led a truly uplifting celebration of the word, inspired by their recent PGL residential and the Gospel message of 'Living Life to the Full' from St John's Gospel. As we marked the Church's celebration of Youth Sunday and Christ the King, the children reflected on the importance of embracing new challenges, finding courage in moments of uncertainty and placing our trust in Jesus the King through the highs and lows of life. Drawing on their own experiences at PGL, they made thoughtful connections between the challenges we face every day and the importance of having faith in Jesus, who walks alongside us at every step. Through their own beautifully written and heartfelt prayers, Year 6 invited our whole school community to reflect on how Jesus, our Servant King, guides and supports us – whether we are facing life's challenges or finding the courage to scale a climbing wall! A huge well done to Year 6 for leading such a joyful, prayerful and inspiring celebration. You reminded us all that, with faith, courage and trust in Jesus, we can embrace life to the full!

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

RECEPTION PLACES FOR SEPTEMBER 2027



If you are applying for a school (Reception) place for next September, applications should be made by the **15th January 2027** via the Stockport Admissions website. Please note: *if you child attends St Mary's Nursery, this does not guarantee your child a place in the school.* You will need to complete the application form using the link above by the closing date.

INDIVIDUAL AND SIBLING PHOTOGRAPHS

It was wonderful seeing all the children and their siblings beaming for their school photographs on Tuesday – the children looked so smart. You should have received a proof of your child's photograph which has a web link and QR code to order copies. You have until **7 December** to place your orders.

TEMPEST
PHOTOGRAPHY

DOODLE WINTER (ADVENT) CALENDAR



The *Winter Calendar* will soon be arriving in Doodle, a seasonal event where your child can earn festive in-app rewards by Doodling 'little and often'! Between the 1st and 24th December, your child can open the calendar doors by completing at least one exercise a day in Doodle Maths and/or Doodle English. They'll find festive goodies hiding behind each one, and if they open them all, they'll receive a virtual Winter Calendar badge!



CHRISTMAS POSTBOX

The St Mary's Christmas post box will open on **Tuesday 1st December**, and we kindly ask that all cards are posted **Tuesday 15th December**. Please make sure each card is clearly labelled with the child's name and year group so we can deliver them smoothly.

TRAVELLING CRIBS ARE ON THEIR WAY…



Our Travelling Cribs started their journey this week. Each pack contains a set of beautiful wooden figures, and additional items, to enable every family in our school to have an overnight visit from the Holy Family. Please make time to enjoy this experience, whichever day you receive the Travelling Crib, and send the pack back to school the *next day*, so that everyone has a turn and can be included before we break up for Christmas.

STOCKPORT MUSIC SERVICE CONCERT



Some of the children who have received individual/group music tuition from Stockport Music Service will be performing for parents on **Thursday 17 December at 9:00am**. If you are free, you are more than welcome to join us for a few festive renditions and to celebrate the children's hard work in music. The concert will last approximately 45 minutes. Children who have been working with Mrs Tennant will have the opportunity to perform in January. Details to follow.

IT'S PANTO SEASON… OH NO IT'S NOT! OH YES IT IS!



Our Y1-Y6 trip to see the pantomime *Beauty and the Beast* at the Romiley Forum on **Thursday 10th December** is fast approaching, and excitement is building! This much-loved outing is always a highlight of our Christmas celebrations, offering the children a wonderful chance to enjoy live theatre filled with fun, magic and festive cheer. It's a special moment in the year when we can experience the joy of the season together as a school family. However, at the moment we have only received permission and payments from around half of our pupils. For the visit to go ahead as planned, we do need further payments to be made. Thank you for your support in helping us bring this memorable experience to all our children. Please follow the link to give permission for your child to attend. The payment is active on Parent Pay at a cost of £16.00 per child.

CRUCIAL CREW VISIT



Our Year 6 pupils took part in the annual *Crucial Crew* programme on Wednesday, engaging in a series of practical, scenario-based workshops designed to help them understand how to keep themselves and others safe. The children learned about personal safety, emergency procedures, and responsible decision-making through interactive activities led by local emergency services and community professionals. Their behaviour and participation were exemplary, and they returned to school with increased confidence and a deeper awareness of how to stay safe as they prepare for secondary school.

ONE STOCKPORT FAMILY HUB APP



For an absolutely HUGE range of family support we can't recommend highly enough the One Stockport Family Hubs app which can be downloaded here. The app includes more than 2,000 expert-written videos and articles to support you from pregnancy through to your child's teenage years. ….and it's all free!!!!

MATHS HOME LEARNING ACTIVITIES

For this final November maths learning at home activity, we would like to challenge pupils to use their maths skills to get involved in cooking! See below for the recipe and give it a try!



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 29 November at 4:00pm** 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 and further details are now available on the PTA website.

THE MONTH (OR SO) AHEAD…KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Date	Event *Please note the dates and times detailed below are provisional and may be changed if necessary. New dates in **bold**.*
27 November	PTA School Christmas Fair. 3:30-5:30pm. All welcome.
30 November	Advent Service 2:40pm. All welcome.
9 December	Nursery and Reception Nativity 10:00am and 2:00pm.
10 December	Beauty and the Beast Pantomime at Romiley Forum. Y1-Y6.
13 December	Carol Service at Holy Spirit Church, Marple at 4:00pm. All welcome.
16 December	Year 1 and Year 2 Nativity 10:00am and 2:00pm
17 December	**Stockport Music Service pupils' concert 9:00-9:45am.**
17 December	Christmas Dinner.
18 December	**EYFS Christmas Marple Cinema Visit. 12:15pm.**
21 December	Carol Service 1:30pm-2:15pm in the school hall. All welcome.
21 December	School closes for the Christmas holidays.
4 January	School reopens following the Christmas holidays.
18 January	**Year 2 celebration of the word 2:40-3:10pm.**

Please come along and support our fabulous Christmas Fair today from 3:30-5:00pm.
Wishing you all a wonderful weekend. Mr John Nish.