

St Mary's Catholic Primary School



Newsletter No 11

July 2022

'Serving with Love; Striving for Excellence'

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are extremely proud of how hardworking our children have been this year, their amazing achievements and for embracing school life to the full. Our children continue to make us so proud and it is very special to see how they are growing into caring, creative and polite young people, who try their best in all aspects of school life.

I would like to thank all our staff throughout the school and all our governors, who work tirelessly to ensure St Mary's is a happy and safe place for all our children to learn and grow. I thank all our parents for your continued support and positive partnership, to ensure the very best for our children.

I would like to wish all our families a wonderful summer break and I look forward to seeing you in September.

Mrs MJ Grabski

Headteacher

Written in Heaven

"Do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you; rejoice rather that your names are written in heaven." Luke 10: 20
These are the words that Jesus spoke to the seventy-two after they returned, rejoicing because their mission had been successful. But Jesus told them to rejoice not because of what they could do, but because their identity was secured in heaven. Sharing in the mission of Jesus can be difficult, but everyone is called to do it - not just adults and priests but children too. Some actions might seem insignificant, but God can take what we offer Him and make it extraordinary.

Andrew van der Bijl – Brother Andrew was given the nickname 'God's Smuggler' because he repeatedly risked his life to smuggle Bibles into communist countries during the Cold War. He is known for praying "Lord, make seeing eyes blind," before stopping at the border of a communist country for his car to be inspected.

Rosa Parks – In 1955 in Montgomery, Alabama, Rosa Parks refused to give up her bus seat in the 'coloured section' to a white passenger, after the whites-only section was filled. She was arrested for civil disobedience and her simple action led to her being called the 'mother of the civil rights movement'. She said, "God has always given me the strength to say what is right."

Saint Genevieve – Born in France around 400 years after the time of Jesus, Genevieve was so determined to 'live her life only for God' that she became a nun at the age of just 15. In 451 when Paris was under threat from Attila the Hun, Genevieve persuaded the panicking people not to flee but to stay and pray. Attila the Hun didn't attack Paris and people gave thanks for Genevieve's 'prayer marathon'! Years later the city was under siege and Genevieve risked her own safety by smuggling food and supplies into the city. She was named Patron Saint of Paris for her unswerving devotion to the city and to God.

These brief stories of faith and sacrifice inspire us to know that with Jesus, we too can do incredible things, and whilst we may find reward on earth, our real reward waits for us in heaven.

Help us to do good not for the glory it might bring us, but because you call us to.

Thank you for helping us each day to make good and loving choices.

Thank you that our names are written in heaven.





A **HUGE WELL DONE** to our children for all their achievements and for participating with such great enthusiasm on their Sports Day!

The children are a credit to the school and we are very proud of everyone who

took part.

Many thanks to Miss Moore and Mr Francis who organised and planned the events and to all staff who helped to ensure it was a huge success!

**CONGRATULATIONS ORANGE TEAM
ST MARY'S SPORTS DAY WINNERS 2022**



YEAR 6 LEAVERS

We thank Year 6 children for their wonderful contributions to school life at St. Mary's as they now transition to Secondary School. We are very proud of their achievements over the years; it has been a pleasure to have them as a pupil at St Mary's and we wish them all the best as they settle into their new schools.



SCHOOL RESULTS 2022

KS2	SCHOOL	NATIONAL
READING	87%	74%
WRITING	65%	69%
MATHEMATICS	85%	71%
GRAMMAR, PUNCTUATION & SPELLING	87%	72%
RWM	63%	59%

LIBRARY COMPETITION

Please enter this competition for the chance to win St Mary's £1000 for our school library. You could also win a £100 Book Token for yourself!

Winners will be drawn after 29th July so please enter before then.

Thank you!



CODING COMPETITION

Seven children across KS2 recently took part in a national Coding Competition. The children worked in teams to plan and build a coded game using Scratch. All the groups worked well and created some interesting games. Unfortunately we were unsuccessful on this occasion but the children will receive a certificate of participation. Well done to Jack C and Semilore O, Jackson R and Stanley R, Elizabeth R, Vively S and Ted V for all their hard work and enthusiasm.

YEAR 4

Year 4 had a wonderful DT day making bread and learnt lots in the process! They now know how to product test to create a design criteria and what job each ingredient does. They are also able to use some tricky kneading techniques! At the end of the day, they were very pleased with their creations and wrote thorough evaluations.

Miss Johnson and Miss Brown



INTERNET & ONLINE SAFETY

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>

Thinkuknow is an education programme from NCA-CEOP, a UK organisation which protects children both online and offline.

On the website there is information for 4-7yr olds, 8-10yr olds, 11-13yr olds and 14yr olds + as well as for parents. There are animations and ideas about how to talk about and teach your child about how to stay safe online.

OFFICE EMAIL

Should you need to contact the school, please ensure that you address any queries to:

office@stmarysrcp.medway.sch.uk

NEWS FLASH

Can you please save all your plastic bottle lids for a Science/Art display over the next coming months. This could be from milk, juice, water or sport bottles of any shape and colour. We want to highlight the plastic that is being placed in the oceans and seas.



Have fun collecting over the summer and a big thank you!

Mrs Pollard
Science Leader



Collect FREE donations for our school with all your online shopping!

A BIG THANK YOU to our School Supporters and our NEW Supporters, who have helped to raise school funds through www.easyfundraising.org.uk and I am pleased to inform you that so far we have raised an amazing **£736.46!**

Please spread the word so that we can continue to raise much needed funds, to support our curriculum and events for the children, throughout the year.

All you need to do is register with www.easyfundraising.org.uk and then visit any of the 3,000 retailers to start shopping. After you have made your purchase, the retailer will make a donation to our school at no extra cost to you. Thank you!

Join, shop and raise here:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stmaryscatholicprimaryschool1/>

BIG PLASTIC COUNT RESULTS

If you want to find out more about the results of the Big Plastic Count and next steps please see this article from the BBC:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-62126757>

ECO-SCHOOLS GREEN FLAG AWARD



The Eco council and the whole of St. Mary's have been awarded the Eco-schools Green flag award which is a special award to celebrate all the wonderful things we do as a school and school community to help and celebrate the environment and the world around. Some of the things that helped us win the Green flag award were the wonderful actions of our Eco councillors such as litter picking and being in charge of Walk on Wednesday, families taking part in the Big Plastic Count, the development of the school garden and gardening club, our brilliant pastoral care in school, our forest school sessions and our wonderful outdoor areas including the rich outdoor learning environment in Nursery and Reception.

The Eco- Schools charity sent us a very complimentary email and said at the end:

'Congratulations to everyone for the great work you have managed to do, earning your Green Flag with Merit. You should all be very proud of your work and the application you have submitted!'

Well done everyone.

Mrs Reddin-Tasker
Outdoor learning and Eco Council Leader



CONGRATULATIONS to Miss Staunton who has successfully been appointed as Assistant Headteacher from September!

END OF TERM

School closes at **2pm** on **FRIDAY 22nd JULY 2022**

NEW SCHOOL TERM

The new school term will begin on

TUESDAY 6TH SEPTEMBER 2022

We look forward to welcoming the children into their new classes.

HAVE A WONDERFUL SUMMER BREAK!