

# St Mary's Catholic Primary School



Newsletter No 9

May 2023

*'Serving with Love; Striving for Excellence'*

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been a positive and productive term and I have been impressed with how hard our pupils have been working.

It's been lovely to see the children in Key Stage 2 leading the Rosary in the Prayer Garden each lunchtime. We will also be celebrating Our Lady's Day on Friday 26th May, beginning with a special whole school liturgy and crowning Our Lady with flowers, followed by St Mary's Has Got Talent in the afternoon.

We look forward to a rewarding final Summer term and thank you for your continued support.

**Mrs MJ Grabski**

**Headteacher**



A treasure map does not become worthless because it is old. Nobody finds a treasure map and throws it away simply because it is old. The value of a treasure map is not determined by how new or old it is but whether it leads to treasure and how great the treasure is. The Rosary is like an ancient treasure map. It has led countless men and women from all walks of life to the treasures of peace, joy, clarity and contentment.

Each time we say a Hail Mary we are giving Our Lady a beautiful rose and that each complete Rosary makes her a crown of roses. The rose is the queen of flowers, and so the Rosary is the rose of all devotions and it is therefore the most important one. The Holy Rosary is considered a perfect prayer because within it lies the story of our salvation.

With the Rosary in fact we meditate the mysteries of joy, of sorrow and the glory of Jesus and Mary. It's a simple prayer, humble so much like Mary. It's a prayer we can all say together with Her, the Mother of God. With the Hail Mary we invite Her to pray for us. Our Lady always grants our request. She joins Her prayer to ours. What Mary asks She always receives, Jesus can never say no to whatever His Mother asks for.

We are invited to say the Rosary as a powerful weapon against evil, to bring us to true peace. With your prayer made together with our heavenly Mother, you can obtain the great gift of bringing about a change of hearts and conversion.

***The word Rosary means:***

***'Crown of Roses'***

**The Mysteries of the Most Holy Rosary**

| <b>Joyful</b><br><i>(Monday /Saturday)</i>   | <b>Sorrowful</b><br><i>(Tuesday / Friday)</i>   | <b>Glorious</b><br><i>(Sunday / Wednesday)</i>   | <b>Luminous</b><br><i>(Thursday)</i>  |
|--|---|--|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The Annunciation</li><li>2. The Visitation</li><li>3. The Nativity</li><li>4. The Presentation</li><li>5. The Finding of Our Lord in the Temple</li></ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The Agony in the Garden</li><li>2. The Scourging at the Pillar</li><li>3. The Crowning with Thorns</li><li>4. The Carrying of the Cross</li><li>5. The Crucifixion</li></ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The Resurrection</li><li>2. The Ascension</li><li>3. The Descent of the Holy Spirit</li><li>4. The Assumption</li><li>5. The Coronation</li></ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The Baptism in the Jordan</li><li>2. The Wedding at Cana</li><li>3. The Proclamation of the Kingdom</li><li>4. The Transfiguration</li><li>5. The Institution of the Eucharist</li></ol> |

Each month I will excite you with a new experiment or investigation to try at home to get you thinking about Science.

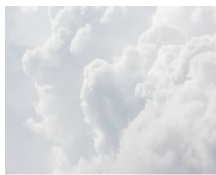
*Well done to all of you who tried out the milk magic experiment; I hope you made some lovely patterns and shades of colours.*

*This wonderful example has been made by Luca in Cherry class.*

**This month we are going to look at how clouds are formed by making your own.**

**As with all experiments, make sure you conduct them with adult supervision.**

### CLOUD IN A JAR



#### **You will need:**

- A jar with a lid
- 1/3 cup of hot water
- Ice
- Hairspray

1 **Health and Safety:** Ensure you take care when handling hot water, have an adult to help you with this.

#### 2 **What to do:**

1. To do this experiment, pour the hot water into the jar. Swirl it around a bit to heat up the jar.
2. Turn the lid upside down and sit it on the top of the jar.
3. Place some ice cubes on the lid and allow to rest for about **20 seconds**. Next, remove the lid and spray some hairspray into the jar and put the lid (with ice) back on the top of the jar.

You should start to see a cloud appear. Once a decent amount has formed, remove the lid and watch the cloud escape the jar!

I would love to see your pictures of your homemade clouds.

Send them to the office c/o Mrs Pollard.

Have fun!

**Mrs Pollard**  
**Science Lead**



### SPORTS DAY

Sports Day will take place on **Wednesday 21st June for YR - Y6**. The event will start at **approx. 9.30am**. Year R will be joining the Sports Day from **11.00am**.



### OPEN EVENING

We will be inviting you to celebrate your child's work with them after you have received your child's report. This will give you an informal opportunity to look at your child's work and the displays in the classroom. This will take place on **Wednesday 12th July, between 4.00 - 6.00pm**. If you wish to have a detailed conversation with your child's teacher about their report, then a separate appointment may have to be made.

### REPORTS



This is just to remind you that your child's report will be sent to you on **Monday 11th July**. The children will also have an opportunity to write their own report reflecting their achievements over the year.

### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2022

As you are all aware the sacrament of First Holy Communion is a parish based celebration, however, we will also be holding a special celebration in school on the feast of St Peter and St Paul, on **Thursday 29th June**, with a whole school Mass. The children who will have made their First Holy Communion will lead our school Mass, whilst wearing their beautiful Holy Communion outfits and celebrate the first time that they receive communion together at school. This special Mass will then be followed by a small tea party.



### SECONDARY TRANSFER

For the parents of those children who are transferring to Secondary School in September 2024, the process starts soon. Information for parents has recently been sent out to Year 5 parents.

The Medway Selection Tests are scheduled for **Tuesday 12th and 13th September 2023**, in school.

### END OF TERM DISCOS

End of year discos on **19th July**:

|             |               |
|-------------|---------------|
| Y1 & Y2     | 4.15 - 5.00pm |
| Y3, Y4 & Y5 | 5.15 - 6.00pm |
| Y6          | 6.15 - 7.30pm |



**MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW NEARER THE TIME.**

### **YEAR 6 PARENT LEAVERS' MASS & ASSEMBLY**

Year 6 parents are invited to a Leavers' Mass and Assembly on Tuesday 18th July 9.00am.

### **KS2 MASS IN CHURCH AT 10AM**

KS2 children will be participating and leading parts of the Mass on following dates, in Church at 10am:



**7th June:** Year 3

**14th June:** Year 4



Collect **FREE** funds for us  
any time you shop with



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now

### **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](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) and I am pleased to inform you that so far we have raised **£779.60!**

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](http://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/>

### **BIBLE STUDY**

For the past term, we have been leading a Bible Study class. Every Thursday, we invite Key Stage 2 to come together in their lunch time to learn and talk about the weekly Gospel. Everyone is invited, whether they go to church or not. We decided as Year 6 children to create this Bible Study group because not everyone is able to go church. We read from the Gospel and ask questions about it. We discuss what we can learn from it and how we can live like Jesus. We colour in whilst we do this and do other activities. Although we have lots of children attending already, we hope to see even more children next week.

**Sariyah, Michelle, Chelsea (Year 6)**

### **ATTENDANCE**

Whole school attendance is currently 94%.

Please be reminded that absence from school for a family holiday will not be authorised and if you decide to take your child out of school for an unauthorised holiday then this will be referred to the Medway Attendance Service and you may receive a penalty notice. Children with attendance under 90% will be put on Medical evidence. This means you will have to provide medical evidence every time your child is absent from school.

### **LATE**

We expect all children to be in school by 8.50. Gates are open 8.40-8.50. After this your child will be signed in to the late book. We advise that all children should be in class with their peers to register as learning starts promptly every school morning.



### *First Holy Communion*

We ask God to bless all our children who are making their First Holy Communion on 20th and 27th May and we also remember them in our prayers.

***We come together with joyful hearts as you receive your First Holy Communion.***

### **PARENT MESSAGES**

Please ensure that you continue to **email the school office** if you have any changes to collection or any other key messages. If there are any urgent messages **after 1pm, please also phone the school office as well as email**. This will ensure that your message can be passed on in a timely manner before the end of the school day.

### **LATE COLLECTION**

If there are unforeseen circumstances and you are unable to collect your child on time, please phone the school office to make them aware. If there are any late collections at the end of the school day, parents will be asked to sign for their child on collection. If necessary, your child will be booked into Wraparound Care, where a fee will be incurred.

### **Half Term**

**School finishes on**

**Friday 26th May 2023**

**at the normal time.**

**INSET DAY: SCHOOL CLOSED ON MONDAY 5TH JUNE**

**The children return to school on**

**Tuesday 6th June 2023.**