

St Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy
Bulletin No 4: Friday 28 September 2018
www.st-marys-marplebridge.stockport.sch.uk
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We're really getting stuck into the business of learning in our classrooms this week. On Wednesday, we celebrated European Day of Languages with a special assembly, lessons and croissants for all children in school. We are hoping that paying special attention to days and weeks throughout the school year will keep the children enthused about their learning.

THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

This week, we were paid a visit by Joe Hopkins who is the lay chaplain for our academy trust. We showed him around school and he spoke to some of the children and adults that work and volunteer here. We shared with him some of our ideas off the school development plan relating to Catholic life of the school and he was very keen to help us get some new projects up and running. We now have a couple of days in the diary when he will be coming to work with the children. The first is **Tuesday 16 October** when he will be spending time with the Guiding Lights and some of the Faith Friends. We hope that we will be able to invite parents to a special assembly on this day, so there will be further information to follow.

WELLSPRING HOMELESS CHARITY DONATIONS

We are still asking for donations to The Wellspring (Stockport). The Wellspring is a charity for the homeless and people at risk of becoming homeless. We have made an annual donation of goods to this charity for many years. This year, we are asking for tinned soups, tinned meats, biscuits, shower gel, coffee and mayonnaise. If you can help with a donation of one of the listed items, then it would be greatly appreciated. The children can bring the items directly into classes, then they will be collected by the office by **Friday 5 October**. Thank you to those who have already brought in donations.

HIGH SCHOOL OPEN EVENINGS FOR CHILDREN IN YEARS 5 AND 6

We hope you have enjoyed going to see the local schools to compare what each has to offer your child in the future. Remember that Harrytown will also come to St Mary's to host an information evening on **Thursday 4 October at 6pm**. We have close links with Harrytown as we are one of their feeder schools and this forms part of that relationship.

ST MARY'S PTA AND FAMILY SOCIAL

We held the first PTA meeting of the year last night in school. School was slightly optimistic in the number of chairs that were set out, but we did have a fantastic group of parents come along ready to share ideas. We are looking forward to the first event of the year: the Family Social. It takes place on **Friday 5 October from 6 – 8pm**. There will be bingo, games, a chippy tea and refreshments. Forms have gone out so check book bags, or ask the PTA or in school if you need another one.

CAR PARKING

One of the issues raised last night was car parking around school. I understand how busy it can get in the surrounding streets in the morning, especially as we are so close to Ludworth, but the safety of our children is paramount. Please make sure that you are driving in a courteous manner and parking in a safe place for yourself and others: one that is not blocking pavements or driveways. Please can you also mention this to people that drop off or collect your children, but don't have access to the newsletter. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

BID WRITING FOR EXTRA FUNDING HELP REQUIRED

We are starting quite a few new big projects this year and therefore we would like to try to access extra funding wherever we can find it. One way of doing that is bidding for grants from public and private bodies. For example, the Foyle Foundation have a fund to revamp school libraries and Aviva have a fund that would help us to improve our playground. If you think you can help in this area, or in any way help us access extra funding for projects in school, contact school or the PTA.

CINEMA ST MARY

There are still tickets left for Cinema St Mary on **Monday 8 October at 3.30 pm**. Our first film is Zootropolis. Letters went out last week with further details. Contact the office for further information.

TIMES TABLES ROCK STARS

The letters for Times Tables Rock Stars will now go out next week. I'm sure that the children are going to love it.

STOCKPORT SPORTS AWARDS

We had another successful night at Stockport Sports Awards this week. There were some individual prizes for children and two whole school prizes. We achieved the Schools' Sports Silver Award for our successes last year.

EARLY YEARS DROP IN AND CURRICULUM EVENING

On **Wednesday 3 October at 6pm**, there will be a curriculum evening in school for the parents and carers of children in Reception. It will be an opportunity to speak to staff, have a look around the classroom and find out about the Reception curriculum and other key information. It is vital to the success of any child's educational experience that close links are formed between parents and school so we look forward to seeing you there.

On **Wednesday 10 October**, there will be an opportunity for parents and carers of children in Nursery to meet staff and have a look around the classroom. Between 3:15 - 5:00 pm, Mrs Finney and the team will be hosting a drop-in session which they will also use as an opportunity to launch our new story sacks. Please feel free to call in at any time during the session. We will be glad to see you.

ADMISSIONS

www.stockport.gov.uk/topic/nursery-and-school-admissions

NURSERY: Consideration for January 2019 start: Birth dates between 1 Sept 2015 - 31 Dec 2015:

Closing date **31 Oct 2018**

Consideration for April 2019 start: Birth dates between 1 Sept 2015 - 31 Mar 2016: closing date **15 Feb 2019**

September 2019 start: 1 Sept 2015 - 31 August 2016: closing date **31 March 2019**

RECEPTION: for children born between 1 Sept 2014 - 3 Aug 2015: closing date **15 Jan 2019**

SECONDARY: for children born between 1 Sept 2007 - 31 Aug 2008: closing date **31 Oct 2018**

HOLIDAY CLUB:

Please send your Holiday booking forms in by the end of today.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - Please check for updates on a regular basis	
Wed 3 Oct	Reception class curriculum evening for parents and carers 6:00 pm start
Thu 4 Oct	Harrytown information evening for parents of children in Year 5 and 6 6 – 6.45 pm
Fri 5 Oct	St Mary's PTA Family Social: school hall, 5.30 pm - 7.30 pm. Tickets available in school.
Mon 8 Oct	Cinema St Mary. In school 3.30 – 5.30 pm
Wed 10 Oct	Nursery drop-in and launch of story sacks 3:30 – 5:00 pm
Fri 19 Oct	Year 6 Fire Service session Last day of half term
Mon 29 Oct	Back to school
Wed 31 Oct	Sponsored Bounce
12 – 16 Nov	Anti-Bullying Week
Wed 7 & 14 Nov	Parent/ Teacher consultations
Thu 22 Nov	PTA Christmas Shopping Night: school hall, 7.00 pm – 9.00 pm
Sat 1 Dec	Marple Bridge Association's Winter Wonderland
Fri 7 Dec	PTA Christmas Fair: in school, 3.30 pm – 5.30 pm
Wed 12 Dec	Nursery and Reception Nativity 10 am and 2 pm
Tue 18 Dec	Year 1 and 2 Christmas Performance 10 am and 2 pm

SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Thank you to those of you who have contributed their thoughts on this year's school development plan. We do love a bit of parent engagement. Further contributions are most welcome via email or the 'Contact Us' form on the website. See the following page for our key objectives for the year. If you have any thoughts about things you think we should add, ways in which we can deliver these aims, or feedback on the process, please get in touch.

Priority

Objectives

Religious Education and Catholic Life of the School

1 Pupils grow academically, spiritually, emotionally and socially with knowledge of the love of Christ

1.1 Increase the proportion of pupils meeting age-related expectations in Religious Education

1.2 Increase pupil involvement in planning and participation of whole school and group worship

1.3 Develop different aspects of prayer and worship

Leadership and Management

2 Leadership and management ensures highly-effective outcomes for pupils and staff

2.1 Establish an effective new Senior Leadership Team

2.2 Increase the involvement of pupils, parents and governors in shaping the strategic direction of the school

2.3 Develop links with schools in the SRS CMAT family

2.4 Increase the ability of middle and senior leaders to improve teaching and learning through effective monitoring cycles

Teaching, Learning and Assessment

3 High-quality teaching, learning and assessment processes are embedded

3.1 Increase the proportion of outstanding teaching across the school

3.2 Ensure that school's curriculum offer is vibrant and inspirational

3.3 Increase rates of pupil progress through accurate, informative assessment practices

Personal Development, Behaviour and Welfare

4 Pupils are engaged and motivated learners with high levels of respect for themselves and others

4.1 Increase the proportion of pupils with excellent attitudes to learning

4.2 Improve pupils' emotional literacy

4.3 Ensure pupils take pride in their learning behaviours and their contributions to the life of the school and society

4.4 Ensure that pupils feel safe in school and know how to keep themselves and each other safe in a range of contexts

Outcomes for Pupils

5 Pupils make at least expected progress from their starting points

5.1 Increase the number of pupils making expected and accelerated progress

5.2 Increase the proportion of disadvantaged pupils making accelerated progress

5.3 Increase the proportion of children working above age related expectations

Early Years Provision

6 Effective Early Years provision ensures excellent outcomes for pupils

6.1 Improve engagement with parents and carers in pupils' education

6.2 Ensure accurate assessment judgements inform ambitious target setting

6.3 Improve proportion of boys attaining Good Level of Development in Writing by the end of EYFS