

St Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy

Bulletin No 18: Friday 25 January 2019

www.st-marys-marplebridge.stockport.sch.uk

Telephone number: 0161 427 7498



THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

On Wednesday, our assembly was about the parable of the talents (<https://request.org.uk/restart/2014/07/24/the-parable-of-the-talents/>). We were thinking about how we can make the most of our gifts from God to grow more love and kindness in the world and to make ourselves and others happier.

GARDENING AT ST MARY'S

I will repeat our plea for volunteers to help with gardening in school. We are looking for parents, grandparents, etc. to help us keep our gardening groups running this year. As we try to use our outside spaces for more learning opportunities, we are looking for people to help Jim and the team keep this distinctive and special aspect of our school life running. The gardening group is looking for more volunteers to help them continue their amazing work in school. You don't need to have any prior experience, so if you can offer any time to help out during the week, we would be delighted to hear from you through the school office.

PTA AGM:

Thank you to all of those who attended the PTA AGM on Wednesday night in school and to those parents that have put themselves forward for the committee. Our school would be a poorer place without these valuable volunteers. We have made plans to spend the funds held at the moment, so you should see improvements around school very soon.

HOLIDAY DATES 2019-2020

The holiday dates for 2019-2020 are now on the website and you should have received an email with the new dates on too. If you got the initial version from the website last week, please note that we have had to amend the dates slightly due to a Saint Ralph Sherwin Multi-Academy Trust INSET day in February 2020.

HOLIDAY CLUB is available this half term ... book your places now! (forms are on the website)

PUNCTUALITY

We have had quite a few late-comers at the start of this year. The official start of the school day is 8.55 am. Please make sure children are in school on time so that classes can get on with meaningful learning straight away.

PARKING

I have received a couple of emails about parking issues in the last couple of weeks. While the roads around school are not within our jurisdiction, we all have a duty of care to safeguard the children in our care. Please can you ensure that you park in a safe manner and switch engines off while you are waiting. We do have some children with severe asthma in school and stationary cars with engines running have a big impact on their health. If you could pass on this message to grandparents and other people that pick up from school, that would be appreciated.

CURRICULUM COFFEE MORNING

We have begun to review our curriculum and the core values that underpin our school. Parents are invited to attend a consultation session on Monday 4 February at 9:00 am in the school hall. We will look at the mission, vision and what we want our curriculum to look like in

the future. This session will be repeated at 6:00 pm on the same day, also in the school hall. Each session will last half an hour. We would love to hear your views.

YEAR 1 PHONICS AND YEAR 2 SATS INFORMATION EVENING

Miss Poole will be hosting an information session for parents on Wednesday 6 February at 6:00 pm in the Year 1 classroom. There will be a presentation and time for any questions about the Year 1 Phonics Screening Check, which the children will do in June. Also at 6 o'clock on the same evening, Mrs Bramhall will present information about the Key Stage 1 SATs that the children will do in May. Parents are invited to attend to find out about how the assessments work and to find out more information about the expectations that pupils are working to meet in Year 2.

YEAR 6 SATS AND PGL INFORMATION EVENING

Mrs Britton and Mrs Thompson will host an information evening about KS2 SATs and our annual residential trip to PGL in March on Wednesday 30 January at 6:00 pm in the school hall. Y6 pupils have taken home SATs papers already this year, so parents will have some idea of the expectation that Year 6 pupils are striving to meet at the end of the year. This evening will give further information about the different assessments and how they are score. We will also talk through the arrangements for PGL this year and answer any questions that you might have regarding that trip.

LIFE EDUCATION CARAVAN

We are once again having the Life Caravan in school next week Monday through to Wednesday. This supports teachers in providing the best PHSE and Wellbeing education for the children. Each class will have a session in the caravan over the course of the three days, and if parents would like to have a look, there is a session on Tuesday morning 9.00-9.15 am available.

NCTSA INFORMATION EVENING

The Nottingham Catholic Teaching School Alliance have places available for Primary and Secondary School Direct Trainees. There is an information evening at St. Mary's in Derby on Tuesday 5 February, from 5 – 7 pm. Contact Vanessa Scott for more information on 0115 982 4280

SPARE WOOD

Following the removal of the timber playground equipment in the bottom playground, there is wood available free to a good home! It is in a pile by the school gates – please help yourselves, taking great care though when removing it please.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY	
<i>Please check for updates on a regular basis</i>	
Wed 30 Jan	9.05am: Year 6 Collective Worship (parents invited)
Tue 5 Feb	Internet Safety Day
Wed 6 Feb	9.05am: Year 3 Collective Worship (parents invited)
Wed 6 Feb	Y1 Phonics and Y2 SATs Information evening
Wed 13 Feb	9.05am: Year 1 Collective Worship (parents invited)
Fri 15 Feb	INSET – children not in school
Half term - Monday 18 to Friday 22 February 2019 School reopens Monday 25 February 2019	

COMMUNITY NEWS

Stockport Grammar Netball Camp for girls in Year 4/5/6 will run on 18 and 19 February. £25 for one day/ £35 for two days. Application forms are available in the school office or contact goddardl@stockportgrammar.co.uk
Marple Bridge Association AGM will be on Thursday 7 March at the Women's Institute on Lower Fold at 8:00 pm. It is open to anyone to attend.