



St Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy

Bulletin No 4: Friday 27 September 2019

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

We had our first visit from our new lay chaplain this week. Chris Fitzgerald was interviewed and appointed with the help of some of our pupils back in July. He will be in once a week in the coming weeks to work with different pupil groups to help them lead the faith life of our school. Hopefully, we can get him to meet some parents too!

EXCITING NEWS

Mrs Ashton and Mrs Boucher will represent our school one evening next week at an event to celebrate sporting achievements in Stockport. We have been invited over the last 4 years – sometimes only in the company of two or three other schools. Watch this space for an update in a couple of weeks!

PLAYGROUND SAFETY AT THE BEGINNING AND END OF THE DAY

We ask parents for their support at drop off and pick up time to ensure the health and safety of all at such busy times. In the morning, we ask for no ball games to be played: we do not want adults or children to be dodging balls or be confined to the edges of the top playground while a small number of children weave in and out playing football. Similarly, at the end of the day, it is important that pupils do not continue to play after being collected by parents and carers – on either playground: Kids Club staff are keen to use the playgrounds as soon as everyone has left the site.

FOREST SCHOOL AT ST MARY'S

As you will know, we love exploring the outside spaces that we are blessed with here at St Mary's. Nursery and Reception have been running 'Little Acorns' and 'Muddy Things' activities for a couple of years now and we started Forest School in Key Stage 2 last year. Year 6 will continue with Forest School this year, but we are also going to train up a member of staff to be a fully-qualified Forest School practitioner so that we have an expert on site that can work with other classes. Sometimes, children forget kit or don't quite have the right things for wet and muddy play. If you have any old wellies, warm trousers and tops or waterproofs that would fit 10/11 year olds, we would be grateful if you donated them to us.

BLUEBELL WOOD CHILDREN'S HOSPICE

The St Ralph Sherwin CMAT has Bluebell Wood as its chosen charity for our region. We are supporting Bluebell Wood in a number of ways:

- From our Mary Day celebrations and charity box collections we have managed to raise in excess of £253, the exact amount is not known yet but we will let you know when it is finalised. Thank you for all your support with this.
- Sean McClafferty, our CEO, and Jacqueline Rodden, Chair of the Trust, are jumping out of an aeroplane at 10,000ft in October to raise money for the Trust's nominated charities – Rainbows and Bluebell Wood.

To sponsor Sean <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/srsrainbowsskydive>

To sponsor Jacqueline <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/srsbluebellwoodskydive>

For Both <https://www.justgiving.com/teams/srsskydives>

NASAL FLU VACCINES

This is being organised by Intra Health on line this year –you will have received an email and text reminding you to go on line and complete a 'Yes' or 'No' form. Here is the link again just in case

<https://www.nhs.uk/FLU/information?Id=106106&Type=FLU> . If you do have a problem with this please contact Intra Health on 0333 3583 397

PTA EVENTS

The forthcoming events for the PTA include a Sponsored Bounce on 6 November. Watch this space for more details on this and future events.

ST RALPH SHERWIN TRUST CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION

The Trust is running a Christmas card competition. See the additional letter that is with the bulletin.



ART PROJECT FOR SCHOOLS

We realise it is only September, but the children have started to make Christmas cards in school that you will be able to purchase to send to all of your friends when the time comes. The children design and make the cards in school and once scanned by the firm they will be returned to you with an order code on the reverse. You will need to go on line to purchase the cards, and the closing date for ordering is 4 November. This is a great fundraiser for our dedicated PTA.

ALDI'S KIT FOR SCHOOLS

Please save your stickers from Aldi we are collecting them. For every £30 spent a sticker is given. This will then be displayed on a poster and once full we will receive an exclusive Aldi sports kit for school; as well as being entered into a draw to win one of twenty £20,000 prizes!! Please keep saving!

APPLICATIONS FOR SCHOOL PLACES: SEPTEMBER 2019

Applications are now open at www.stockportadmissions.gov.uk as follows:

Admission Types	Birth dates between	Application closing date	Offer date
Nursery - Consideration for Jan 2020 start	1 Sep 2016 - 31 Dec 2016	31 Oct 2019	Late Nov 2019
Nursery - Consideration for Apr 2020 start	1 Sep 2016 - 31 Mar 2017	15 Feb 2020	Mar 2020
Nursery - Sept 2020	1 Sep 2016 - 31 Aug 2017	31 Mar 2020	17 May 2020
Primary - Sept 2020	1 Sep 2015 - 31 Aug 2016	15 Jan 2020	16 Apr 2020
Secondary – Sept 2020	1 Sep 2008 - 31 Aug 2009	31 Oct 2019	2 Mar 2020

If any parents would like to talk about school admissions and/or arrange a tour of the school, you are most welcome to make arrangements to meet Mr Murphy through the school office.

CYBER SAFETY

During the first half term, every year, in school we cover age-appropriate aspects of cyber safety; this fits in with our curriculum plan for Computing. We are planning to invite parents and carers into school later in the term to follow up the children's work with a session for adults. As parents, family members, teachers... are we all as internet and social media savvy as we could be? This is what we would like to explore. With the changing world online and the growing number of ways social media is accessed, it can be hard to cover this topic without discussion and input from experts. So – watch this space: date to follow!

Climate Crisis in Marple

Sunday 29 September, at Marple 6th Form Collage, Buxton Lane, Marple at 14:30—17:30 is the time to discover and work out what we can all do to play our part both as individuals and community to combat the effect of Climate Change. The event will incorporate stalls and displays along with an Art Competition - Our Year 6 pupils have created some lovely artwork which will be displayed at this event and will maybe include a prize winner!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - Please check for updates on a regular basis	
Fri 18 Oct	Finish for half term
Mon 28 Oct	School reopens
Wed 6 Nov	Parent Teacher Meetings 16:00 – 19:00 Appointments available from 14 October
Wed 13 Nov	Parent Teacher Meetings 16:00 – 19:00 Appointments available from 14 October
Wed 18 Dec	EYFS Nativity 10:00 and 14:00
Thurs 19 Dec	KS1 Nativity 10:00 and 14:00
Fri 20 Dec	Party Day / Wear Christmas Jumper / Carols 13:30

COMMUNITY NEWS

The Gallery Choir and Poynton Male Voice Choir – wish to entertain you with a joint concert on Friday 11 October at 19.30 at Trinity Church, Massie Street, Cheadle SK8 1DU. Tickets available on the night at the door or to reserve for collection on 456 4266 (Adults £8, Children and Students £5)

Kickstart Drama runs a drama group during term time on Fridays at 4.30 - 6.00pm in the Ludworth W.I. Hall. The sessions are designed for children aged 6 to 11 and incorporate stagecraft, vocal technique, musical theatre and drama games with the aim of developing the children's dramatic awareness and skills in a fun and engaging atmosphere. Spaces are also available in our new group for seniors (12-18 year olds) 6.00pm to 7.30pm. The first session is free and thereafter £10 per week, paid in advance, each half term. All our tutors are working professionals and all hold a current DBS certificate. Anyone who is interested in booking a trial session may contact us via email: kickstartdrama@gmail.com or through our Facebook page #kickstartdrama

Have a great weekend!