



# St Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy

## Bulletin No 16: Friday 10 January 2020

**Happy New Year to all our children and families! We wish you blessings and happiness for 2020**

Thank you for all the cards, tokens of appreciation and good wishes received by staff this Christmas.

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

We have all eased our way back into the school routine – refreshed by the Christmas break!

On Monday we celebrated the Feast of the Epiphany, focussing not only on the gifts brought to Jesus by the Wise Men but also on the gifts we can share with each other, every day.

You may remember that at the end of the Advent term, we distributed bibles to our Y6 and Reception pupils, which were gifts from the Diocese to celebrate 2020: the Year of the Word (Look out for our banner in the school entrance). We have also bought additional copies of the bible for pupils from Y1-Y5, so that a greater number of pupils could benefit. A special focus on the Word of God will therefore pepper our year! We will begin by reflecting on the words of Jesus, who said,

*"I have come that you should have life – and have it to the full."* John 10:10

This scripture forms the basis for our 10:10 project – which begins this term. We are aiming to have a set of fun challenges for each year group which support them in loving life (each other and themselves) even more! There will be 2 challenges for each year group, each year, focused on faith, experience, development, arts & culture and wider curriculum (e.g. sports). There will be opportunities to undertake further, optional challenges within the family. Watch this space for further details!

The new Come and See RE curriculum leaflet is attached to this bulletin – this contains dates for the various topics. Please read it so that you are aware of the RE foci and areas covered.

### NEW TERM, NEW PLANS

Our pupils have an exciting term to look forward to, thanks to various initiatives being launched this term:

- Y6 will prepare for a few nights away at PGL in March – the highlight of their year! Keep an eye out for the parent meeting details in the date list below.
- Our feeder secondary school, Harrytown High School, is welcoming groups of our Y5 pupils into their art department to carry out project work: the first group were completely enthused by their afternoon visit this week and we look forward to the whole class enjoying this opportunity to benefit from the resources and skills on offer.
- Mrs Mitchell and Mrs Wilde have accessed expert training this week in order to support Y5 in a Shakespeare project – culminating in a performance of Romeo and Juliet at The Lowry Theatre in Salford! Drama workshops will be led by professionals – but the benefits will extend across the curriculum.
- Our Y3 and Y4 classes have the honour of preparing our Easter production this term. They will perform on the Wednesday of Holy Week and will begin learning the beautiful songs later in the term.

### MRS MITCHELL

We have lovely news to begin our Lenten Term: Mrs Mitchell is back in school! Her general working pattern will be to teach Y5 on Monday and Tuesday and Y4 on Friday. Not only are we delighted to have Mrs Mitchell back with us, having missed her expertise & good company, but we are also thrilled to share that she is expecting her first baby later in the summer term!

### PTA

The winners of the December 200 Club are Helen Osbourne £88; M Coupes £56; Lucy Roberts £32 with PTA benefitting by £176. Congratulations to you all.

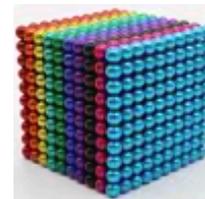


## CONTACT

If you would like to make contact with your child's teacher regarding any matter, please do so at the end of the school day, via the contact us form on the website or through the school office. The office will direct emails and phone calls to relevant members of staff. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. If you have any new contact details – phone numbers, address, new medical information etc – please let the office know as soon as possible.

## Health and Safety

Please be vigilant at home as we will be in school: a child in the local area has undergone surgical procedures and a lengthy hospital stay due to swallowing small magnets thought to be currently popular amongst children. Here is a picture. We have reported this to the Health and Safety department at the Local Authority. Please ensure that your child does not bring anything like this into school.



We bring to your attention information received from Dr Baxter, Stockport's lead on communicable diseases:

*You may be aware that some schools have been severely affected by the usual winter bugs: Flu type A, and to a lesser extent type B. There were also a small number of Nora virus episodes that resulted in partial and full school closures. Stockport has fared slightly better than some other regions with the vast majority of schools in the Borough remaining, on the whole, less affected. We would urge you however to remain vigilant because research has shown that following flu type A outbreaks there is a risk of increase of flu type B. Type B can only be spread from person to person, but still causes outbreaks of seasonal flu and the effects can be equally severe. We would urge you to ensure children have the flu vaccine if they have not already done so as this is the single most effective way to avoid serious illness. Thank you.*

**APPLICATIONS FOR RECEPTION 2020** close this coming week: please ensure you have completed your application on the Stockport Admissions website and fill in the Supplementary form, which can be found on our school website.

## DINNER MONEY

For the new term, dinner money will be £66 - £11 per week, £2.20 per meal. This should be paid in advance and can be done either via school money or calling into the office with cash or cheque. Many thanks

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY	
Wednesday 22 Jan	PGL and Assessment meeting for Y6 parents – 6pm (Provisional)
Wednesday 5 February	Phonics meeting for Y1 parents – 6pm
Wednesday 12 Feb	Assessment meeting for Y2 parents – 6pm
Friday 14 February	Finish for half term
<b>Monday 24 February</b>	<b>INSET DAY – CHILDREN NOT IN SCHOOL</b>
Tuesday 25 February	Children return to school
Wed-Friday 26-29 Feb	Life Caravan in school
Tues-Fri 3-6 March	Y6 PGL Residential
Wednesday 11 March	Parent/Teacher meetings
Wednesday 18 March	Parent/Teacher meetings
Wednesday 8 April	Y3 and Y4 Easter production: 2pm and 7pm in the school hall
Thursday 9 April	Finish for Easter Break

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### Public meeting with Andy Burnham, Mayor of Greater Manchester

Come along to hear from the Mayor about his plan for public transport across the region, with a focus on the Marple area. There will be an opportunity to ask questions.

Tuesday 21 January, 6.00-7.30pm. St Martin's Parish Hall, Brabyn's Brow.

If you have any questions, please contact [marplelabour@gmail.com](mailto:marplelabour@gmail.com)

*Have a great weekend!*