



St Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy

Bulletin No 18: Friday 24 January 2020

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

We have been thinking about: Bishop Patrick's Diocesan plan to develop Discipleship. How can we be good disciples? Our Faith Friends have been considering this theme and evaluating the Catholic Life of our school, considering the pupil-led targets for this term.

We have been singing: 'One more step along the world I go,' remembering that God is with us every step of the way.

We have been caring about: the Australian bushfires. Two of our pupils completed a great fundraiser today for people affected by the fires in Australia (huge thanks, Sarah and Ellie!) . They led a £1 Zumba session for Y5 and Y6 pupils to raise funds for the cause – as well as awareness. We have a number of links with Australia, including with families who have been affected by this recent disaster – and Y6 are learning about this fascinating country in their topic work.

HEALTH UPDATE

We have had the following message from the Local Authority regarding vaccinations:

On behalf of those organisations who work with schools across Stockport we would like to express our sincere thanks for the great job you have all done in promoting the school Influenza Vaccination programme to date. Particularly in holding vaccinations sessions in your schools and in encouraging families to take up the offer.

The hard work you and your staff have done has led to Stockport not only improving on its vaccine programme figures last year, but this year being the no. 1 Local Authority across Greater Manchester in all primary year groups.

	Dec-19	Dec-18	GM Position	GM Average
Reception*	80.0%↑	79.70%	1st	61.10%
Year 1*	79.6%↑	78.70%	1st	61.20%
Year 2*	77.6%↑	76.70%	1st	60.70%
Year 3*	76.8%↑	76.20%	1st	58.60%
Year 4*	75.6%↑	74.00%	1st	57.90%
Year 5*	75.1%↑	71.20%	1st	55.80%
Year 6*	71.30%	NA	1st	52.50%

This is fantastic news but, of course, we are not yet at the end of the flu season and it is not uncommon for us to experience a second wave of Flu-type B before then. Please remain vigilant and we would urge you to keep reminding your families to ensure their children have the flu vaccine if they have not already done so as this is the single most effective way to avoid serious illness. Also, to continue in school with the good health habits of regular hand washing, cleaning surfaces, and encouraging children to cough or sneeze into a tissue, etc.

SAFEGUARDING

Training has been undertaken in school this week to further support our Safeguarding systems. Our Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs) in school are Mrs Boucher, Miss Poole and Mrs Finney.

FAMILY CHALLENGE

Life Leisure are offering a family challenge entitled: 'Train to Tokyo'. Please see the attached poster for more details.

PTA

The PTA AGM is to be held on 12 February 2020 in the school hall at 7 pm. Forms for nomination of PTA members are available from the school office and on the school website; these need to be returned in advance of the meeting. A description of the specific roles of the PTA committee is attached.



PARENT MEETINGS

- Thank you to our Y6 parents for attending our PGL and Assessment meeting on Wednesday. There are packs available for those who were unable to attend.
- Y1 parents are invited into school on 5 February at 6pm to hear about the teaching of Phonics and the Phonics Screening Check, which takes place in June.
- Y2 parents are invited into school on 12 February at 6pm to hear about how children are assessed at the end of the academic year – including discussion about Y2 SATs.
- Don't forget! The PTA AGM follows the above meeting at 7pm on 12 February. PLEASE come along as this is your opportunity to have your day/ get involved/ hear about plans for spending and make a valuable contribution to the life of our school.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY	
Wednesday 5 February	Phonics meeting for Y1 parents – 6pm
Wednesday 12 February	Assessment meeting for Y2 parents – 6pm PTA AGM – 7pm
Friday 14 February	Finish for half term
Monday 24 February	INSET DAY – CHILDREN NOT IN SCHOOL
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, 4-7pm
Wednesday 18 March	Parent/Teacher meetings, 4-7pm
Wednesday 8 April	Y3 and Y4 Easter production: 2pm and 7pm in the school hall
Thursday 9 April	Finish for Easter Break

COMMUNITY NEWS

SWIMMING AT LIFE LEISURE

February swimming holiday courses are running at all of our Life Leisure pools during half term (17th – 21st February). For just £33.25 children swim for half an hour Monday to Friday and build up their confidence quickly which shows in the progression they make by the end of the week. When booking both the holiday course and a term of lessons **new** customers will receive a 20% discount off their first booking of termly lessons. Please contact swimming@lifeleisure.net or your preferred centre for more information.

UK SPORTS COACHING

Pre-school soccer training starts in February on a Saturday from 12.30 – 13.15 at Life Leisure Dialstone, Fairway, Offerton for boys and girls aged 2 to 4.5 yrs. Please contact 07891205763 or email info@uksportscouching.co.uk for further information. There are also Activity Camps for children in Reception to Year 7. Contact the same numbers and email above.

SUNDAY MASS TIMES

Our parish communities would welcome children and their families to services each weekend. Here are the times, for ease of reference:

	St Mary's, Marple Bridge	The Annunciation, New Mills	Holy Spirit, Marple
Saturday Vigil Mass	6.30pm	N/A	6.00pm
Sunday Morning Mass	11.15am	9.30am	9.00 am

Have a great weekend!