



St Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy

Bulletin No 22: Friday 28 February 2020

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

We have been thinking about the beginning of Lent. On Ash Wednesday we held a special service with Fr Bill where we all received ashes on our foreheads, setting the tone for a period of reflection in the lead-up to Easter. Our Faith Friends wrote and prayers and our Y1 children performed their liturgical dance to enhance the liturgy. If any parents and grandparents were in attendance, please let us have some feedback as we value your opinion.

We have been singing: *These ashes we receive reminding us, it's time for a change of heart... it's time for a brand new start... to follow in Jesus' way!*

We have been looking at our Lenten Calendar, which sets out a daily focus for the next 40 days!

We have circulated our Lenten Packs, starting with Reception class. These packs contain a small figure of Jesus alongside reflections to support spiritual growth during this special season. Please ensure that the pack is returned the very next day, so that every family will receive their turn before Easter. Thank you for your support.

LIFE CARAVAN

Our annual visit from the Life Caravan took place this week. The SCARF programme focuses on safety, caring, achievement, resilience and friendship. Each class visited the caravan where they discussed age-related health and personal development topics and related fun activities. Certificates today have praised pupils who showed particular strength in this PSHE work during the week.

WORLD BOOK DAY – and our BOOK WEEK!

Thursday next week is World Book Day, when our children may come to school ready for a bedtime story – in their pyjamas or comfy clothes! All week, we will have an emphasis on books and a love of reading. One unit of work will focus on The Bible as a special book we are celebrating throughout 2020. The grand finale at the end of the week will be the PTA Book Week Disco, when children may dress up as a favourite book character: make sure you buy your ticket soon, as they are selling fast!

If any parents would like to read an end of the day story in school next week to a class or group of children, please contact Mrs Biggs or Mrs Young, who will take your details and sign you up for a Storytime.

PTA

Look out for the latest PTA newsletter, bursting with information about forthcoming dates and activities. Thank you in advance to the PTA team for pulling together such a useful summary of past successes and future excitement! There are still a few tickets available for the disco next Friday – they will be on sale in the playground at the beginning of the day or from the office.

PARENT MEETINGS

Parent/ teacher consultations will take place on Wednesday 11 and Wednesday 18 March, 4-7pm. Please book your slot with Mrs Biggs.



SUNDAY MASS TIMES	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

FAMILY CHALLENGE

Do we have any more families who can sign up for the Family Challenge?! Please do – we are two families short of the top position in the town, based on take-up!

THE COMPETITION

We would like to invite your family to take part in our 'Train to Tokyo' Family Challenge.

- We would like you to take part in physical activity as a family over the next few months and by recording the amount of family physical activity you do, you will race against other families to see who can travel from Stockport to Tokyo, the home of the 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games, first.
- You will receive a poster of the map showing different stations from Stockport to Tokyo to record your progress from station to station.
- Every time you complete half an hour of physical activity **as a family**, you achieve 1 station on the map and can mark these off until you have travelled from Stockport to Tokyo.
- All families completing the race will receive an award and the top 3 families will receive extra prizes of sporting equipment and prizes from Life Leisure
- More details will be given on entry.

HOW TO ENTER

1. Email Judith.riddings@stockport.gov.uk

with the following information:

- **Names and ages of children in the family**
- **Schools they attend**

Then we will email you the resources – a copy of the map to stick up at home and the recording sheet for you to record your physical activity events on, to prove your journey. As soon as you have completed your Train to Tokyo Family Challenge, send us your record sheet of activities to claim your reward! Take photos of your journey to show us your family fun.

Your family physical activity must be done over a period of months, include a variety of activities and not just completed on an activity holiday. The deadline date to finish is June Monday June 8th.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY	
Tues-Fri 3-6 March	Y6 PGL Residential
Fri 6 March	PTA World Book Day Disco
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	Mass of the Lord's Supper and Washing of Feet: 2pm in school (all welcome) Finish for Easter Break

COMMUNITY NEWS

HOLY SPIRIT QUIZ takes place on Friday 28 February at church. It is sure to be a great night! Tickets are £5 and it starts at 7.30pm.

Have a great weekend!