



# St Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy

## Bulletin No 23: Friday 06 March 2020

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

**We have been thinking about** the Bible as a key book in our lives, as we celebrate World Book Day and our own St Mary's Book Week. In the Bible, we have stories of life (with its ups and downs), poetry, song, biography – a whole library! The need to share the Bible was the drive to invent a means to print books – without it, we may not have access now to the wonder of books!

**We have been singing:** *Here I am to worship, here I am to bow down, here I am to say that you're my God.*

**We have been looking at** our Lenten Calendar, considering how to take time to reflect during the Lenten season.

**We have circulated** our Lenten Packs, which are now with Y2. 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.

**We have been dancing to** a hymn to Mary, using liturgical dance to explore different ways to pray.

### WORLD BOOK DAY – and our BOOK WEEK!

The children enjoyed coming to school in their pyjamas on Thursday bringing their favourite bedtime story. We had a lovely day sharing and celebrating our favourite stories in school. This week each class has chosen a bible story from the Old Testament to focus on. Nursery enjoyed re-enacting the story of Brave Joshua, Reception have explored the story of Noah and his Ark. Jonah and the Whale and Daniel and the Lion's Den were amongst the other stories that we have enjoyed in school this week. The disco tonight for World Book Day has been a sell out and I feel sure everyone will have a very enjoyable time.

### PARENT MEETINGS

Parent/teacher consultations will take place on Wednesday 11 and Wednesday 18 March, 16:00-19:00. Please book your slot with Mrs Biggs.

### CORONAVIRUS

As the coronavirus situation continues to evolve, we include for you a link to the latest information from the government. Our position remains that the best thing we as a school can do is to follow the latest government public health advice, supported by the Trust and LA:

**For the latest government public health advice**

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public>

**For information about the virus and how to protect yourself**

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/ourwork/epr/coronavirus/>

### PGL

As you read this, our Y6 team will be travelling back from Shropshire, where we have spent most of this week learning about teamwork, how to overcome personal challenges, developing resilience – all while having a whale of a time in excellent company! Our children continue to develop into young people with skills, talents and character: every single one has achieved



**St Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy**

Lowry Drive, Marple Bridge SK6 5BR  
[headteacher@st-marys-marplebridge.stockport.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@st-marys-marplebridge.stockport.sch.uk)

Company No 07937154



enormously through conquering physical tasks, supporting their peers and becoming increasingly independent. We look forward to sharing lots of happy news and stories with our school community over the coming weeks!

### STAFFING UPDATE

At the end of the month, Mrs Oldfield will be leaving us for a new position at Woodley Primary School. Mrs Oldfield has been part of our school family for 15 years – initially as a parent and subsequently as a valued member of the staff team. She has contributed to our school successes in numerous ways, for example through involvement in the school's maths team, supporting countless productions and working alongside great numbers of children and staff over the years! Mrs Oldfield takes with her our love and thanks: we wish her well in her new worklife and hope that she will never be a stranger to us at St Marys!

### CROSS COUNTRY

A reminder that there is cross country at Woodbank Park tomorrow – Saturday – with a meet at 10.00 am. Mrs Ashton will be there to meet you.

### STOCKPORT JUNIOR SCHOOLS' CHOIR CONCERT

Our Y3 children will be participating in a Stockport Junior Choirs' Concert with a theme of Animals at the Town Hall on Thursday 2 April 2020 at 19:00. Practicing has already started! Please keep this date free as tickets will soon be on sale from the office.

### CYBERSAFETY

During the 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 this half 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. We have a provisional date of Monday 06 April but please watch this space for confirmation of this.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY	
Fri 6 March	PTA World Book Day Disco
Wednesday 11 March	Parent/Teacher meetings, 4-7pm
Wednesday 18 March	Parent/Teacher meetings, 4-7pm
Monday 6 April	CyberSafety talk TBC
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

**Marple Athletic Wildcats Football** are looking for girls aged 7 and above, of all levels of ability, to join our teams. Training takes place at Marple College on Thursday evening 6-7pm and 7-8pm is £3 per week. Your first session is free. Matches are played on Saturday mornings. For more information please check the Marple athletic Facebook page or contact us at [secretarymajfc.com](mailto:secretarymajfc.com). Wildcats is a friendly and inclusive program and we would love to welcome you along.

**Have a great weekend!**

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