



Bulletin Number 5: Friday 2 October 2020

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

Family Fast Day falls on **Friday 9 October**. We would like to ask for donations for the Wellspring in Stockport, showing our support for those with little at this time of Harvest.

We would like to build a Tea Tree in the school entrance – so if you can possibly donate packets of tea and sugar, they would be especially welcome! You can send donations into school throughout next week by leaving them at the office door in one of our plastic boxes.

The latest **Wednesday Word** is now available through the link below

<https://www.paperturn-view.com/uk/wednesday-word/messenger?pid=MTA101634&v=5.5>

or by clicking Ctrl + Click on the image to the right. Please enjoy this resource with your children at home.



Fr Daniel came to judge our scarecrow competition today – winning signs will soon adorn the lucky scarecrows! See the note below related to the local Scarecrow Trail*.

VIRTUAL OPEN EVENING

This is a message for all those interested in applying for a place at St Mary's School – whether that is for Nursery or Reception 2021 (or later!), or for an in-year school transfer: welcome to our 1 hour meeting. Please share this with anyone you know who might be interested. The session will also be recorded.

Please join me via a web link on **Thursday 8th October** for a virtual input about joining our happy school! The session will take place from 4-5pm. **To join, please follow the instructions below:**

1. At 4pm, click on the '**Join our Live Event**' button on the school website.
2. *If prompted to 'Open Microsoft Teams' click on Cancel.*
3. Choose '**Watch on the web instead**' and then click on '**Join anonymously**' (no need to sign in). **You're in!**

We will start the live stream on time and there is **live Q&A** so that we can answer any questions.

CHILDREN WALKING HOME: a Safeguarding message from the Local Authority

Following the start of the new term, the LA has received a few reports of children being approached by strangers on foot and in vehicles. These incidents have caused the pupils involved to feel uncomfortable or concerned for their safety. Two students (from another school in Stockport) have reported recently being approached by a female asking them for directions and then asking them to get into her vehicle and show her the way. We have no detailed description and of course there may not have been any malicious intent.

Can I ask you to remind children how they can keep safe walking home, especially as the weather and light levels being to change? Many pupils may be opting to walk alone due to social distancing: please remind them it is ok to be with others if they observe the rules. Vigilance is of course important, sticking to safer routes and encouraging pupils not to put themselves at risk by carrying and wearing expensive items and ensuring phones etc. are kept out of sight will all help.

HOLIDAY CLUB

We are planning to run Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday during the half term so please let Mrs Young know by **MONDAY 5 OCTOBER** if you would like a place.



BUBBLE/CLASS CLOSURE

Should we ever need to close a bubble/ class, or ask a number of children to self-isolate at home, due to a positive Covid test (as other schools have had to do already), this is likely to be at short notice. It would be a good idea for all families to have a contingency plan, with some ideas about how you would manage such a situation.

DAILY MILE – ITV GRANADA REPORTS

The film crew came on Monday to talk to Bethany, Ida and Miss Poole along with some of year 2 demonstrating in the background, about our Daily Mile exercise at St Mary's. We have won an award for our levels of engagement over the last year! This will now be shown on Saturday at 17:45 on Granada Reports/ News: don't forget to watch!

NURSERY CHARITY We have £140 to send to Macmillan!

We have had a fantastic response to our Nursery Charity and raised £140 for Macmillan Cancer Care. The Nursery children and families have been amazing, holding their own Rainbow Tea Parties at home and raising money. Their pictures are displayed in the Nursery window if you want to take a look.

The staff also took part in a Macmillan coffee morning - a great fundraiser and a nice occasion to have a distanced get-together, when staff are not often able to meet and chat these days! Thank you to all who took part.

LONDON VIRTUAL MARATHON

Wish Mrs Ashton luck - as embarks on the London Virtual Marathon on Sunday 4th October! She will be running along Middlewood Way and the last 2 miles up from the canal onto Windlehurst Road (estimated time 1pm), Hibbert Lane and Buxton Road back to Middlewood Way. Give her a wave if you see her.

FRIENDS OF MARPLE MEMORIAL PARK PAVILION COMMUNITY ART PROJECT

We have signed up to be involved in this lovely community action effort, where designs should reflect the response to this request: **Show us what you love most about your park and what it means to you.** There are 10 circular spaces available for our school community to contribute to a community mural which will be installed on the wall of the former bowling pavilion in Marple Memorial Park: the template is attached with this week's bulletin. Entries need to be received by **5 October**, so get creative and let's see some amazing artwork! You can send your entries directly into pavilionart@marplememorialpark.org.uk – but don't forget to fill in your name, age and school on the form. If anyone has an issue with the technical aspect of downloading/ printing/ sending entries, let us know as we do not wish there to be barriers for anyone.

SCARECROW TRAIL THROUGH MARPLE*

Artist Helen wrote to us last week and said: *I am an artist and designer based in Marple and part of Marple Trails (www.marpletrails.org.uk) who are creating a community project involving the schools in Marple, Marple Bridge and Mellor for school children to design scarecrows and have them displayed in the Memorial Park and Cromwell Park. (I hear you have already created some scarecrows with the PTA so feel free to use them or create new ones). We are also working with friends of the Memorial Park who will help assemble the scarecrows around the park. The reason for this project was to provide children with an alternative to trick or treat, to allow children to design and create their scarecrows and the enjoyment of walking around the trails. We hope to raise funds for all the schools involved via a just giving page where people can donate. There will be no cost to the school for doing this project as we will provide all materials. The winning 4-6 designs to be chosen by the 9 October 2020 by the school. Please also see the attached poster for more information.*

As we have had a scarecrow competition, by coincidence, in school, we commissioned Fr Daniel to choose 5 under the 'Heroes and Villains' theme as part of his role as the Competition Judge. These scarecrows

can therefore be offered to the trail as part of our school's contribution. There is still one scarecrow place up for grabs! If any children would like to complete a design on paper for the final place in our school's contribution to the community project, please send this into school on **MONDAY 5 OCTOBER** for the attention of Mrs Biggs.

World Mental Health Day Friday 9 October

This Year's theme is 'Hello Yellow'. We are supporting this important day by inviting the children to wear a yellow accessory to their uniform for a £1 donation to the Mental Health charity- Healthy Young Minds. We will be completing 3 acts of kindness to brighten someone's day and spread some joy during the day. We will also be completing a bunting flag with messages, quotes and drawings about how I look after myself at school, this could be a tip for cheering someone up or how someone has looked after you, teachers and staff will be taking part too. The bunting will all be joined together to create a positive banner to mark this important day.

We are aware that this takes place on the same day as Family Fast Appeal, above: so, £1 for Healthy Young Minds and some Tea/Sugar or a donation for the Wellspring would be Wonderful.

SCHOOL BAGS

Our suppliers send their apologies: the next delivery of school bags will not be until mid-October.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY ...

2020 Dates	Event	Details
Thu 15 Oct AND Fri 16 Oct	INSET DAYS x2	DON'T FORGET: We have two training days for staff in the middle of October. This is not the same week that we break up for half term. Children will not be in school on these days.
Wed 21 Oct (TBC)	PTA Don't Stop Moving outdoor disco	Each class will enjoy an outdoor disco (with a DJ) on the bottom playground during the school day. Children to collect sponsorship for each minute that they keep moving continuously during the disco. Certificates for all. More details to follow.
Mon 26 Oct – Fri 31 Oct	Half term break	Holiday
Mon 2 Nov	Advent 2 Term Starts	Children back in school
Sat 28 Nov	PTA Santa's Grotto	Father Christmas will be visiting the St Mary's outdoor classroom for timed visits. Booking details to follow.
Tue 22 Dec	Term ends	Christmas Break
2021 Dates	Event	Details
Thu 7 Jan	Lent 1 Term starts	Children back in school
Fri 2-Sun 4 Jul	St Mary's Family Camp	Every year (sadly we were unable to in 2020), many St Mary's families go camping on a field at a farm in Castleton. This is always the first weekend of July.

A THOUGHT TO LEAVE YOU WITH....

Wishing everyone a happy and relaxing weekend

Fionuala Boucher

