



## Bulletin Number 10: Friday 13 November 2020

### A GOOD WEEK'S WORK

We've had a highly successful week in school: thank you for your support, behind the scenes, in helping us to achieve this!

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



We had our most poignant Remembrance Day gathering on Wednesday 11/11/20. Our whole school community stood in class groups, spaced out along our running track outside; we were struck silent by Kitty and Beatrice's mum playing the Last Post on the trumpet, the notes resounding round the field beautifully; we had William and Bethany's mum in her RAF uniform, smartly saluting and representing those who protect, and have protected, our country through war and conflicts; our 2 minutes of silence were observed by thoughtful, respectful children from our youngest to our eldest, with role modelling from Y5 and Y6 which was exemplary. Ask your child to talk about this: it was perfect.

This special time led to many conversations with our children about family members who may have served in the last two world wars: if you have any brief family stories to share, your child could note this down and bring it into school – we may be able to build quite a collection!

This week's Wednesday Word can be found here

<https://www.paperturn-view.com/uk/wednesday-word/talent?pid=MTA101634&v=9.9>

In our whole school worship time today we celebrated certificates for Thoughtfulness, celebrating pupils who are helpful and grateful to others. Congratulations to them all!

We also celebrated our new Y6 Teams. All our Y6 pupils have now been commissioned to work in one of the following influential groups, the roles for which will soon be explained....

- Well-being Warriors
- Eco Defenders
- Community Custodians
- Charity Champions
- Education Guardians
- Team 10:10

Well done to Reception, who have already raised £123 for Children in Need!

### PARENT/TEACHER MEETINGS <https://stmaryscatholicvamarplebridge.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

We are holding our online parent/ teacher consultations on the next 2 Wednesdays. Hopefully you are all managing to independently make your bookings on our new School Cloud system! Schools who have already used the system have reported that it is So Easy to use... Once you are booked in, you will receive a message with a link to the event. All you need to do is click on that link – that's it – from any device. Remember that you must be on time: if you are late, your time ticks away so we suggest that you come early and will be let in at your allotted appointment. At the end of your 10 minutes, the countdown clock will show you your cut off time.... Apparently, it is impossible to run late: we'll see!

## PHOTOGRAPHS

The proofs of photographs taken on Wednesday 4 November have now been sent home. The ordering is on line only and for free return postage to school is available if ordered within 7 days.

## CHRISTMAS DINNER

Save the date! On 16 December we will hold our Christmas dinner in school. This festive lunch will comprise of a warm turkey barm with stuffing, pigs in blanket, wedges and a suitably special pudding.

If your child does not normally have a school dinner, but they wish to have one on this occasion as a 'one off', please let Mrs Biggs know by Friday 4 December. After this date it will not be possible to order an extra lunch. £2.20 can be paid on parent pay or at the office.

Christmas jumpers may be worn on this day. If your child does not have a Christmas jumper, do not fear: you are not expected to buy one. You can either let your child wear a favourite jumper OR look out for the PTAs plan to pass on/ swap Christmas jumpers\*: children grow so quickly, this may be of help to many!

## ANTI BULLYING FORTNIGHT

**ODD SOCKS DAY on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> November, to mark the start of Anti-Bullying week!**

## PTA

Following on from the PTA zoom meeting recently, the following dates have been arranged:

- 27 November: Ginny night in – please see attached poster!
- 7 – 9 December 2020: Slots available between 4-7.30pm for the Magical Doorstep Grotto. Get into your pyjamas, pour the hot chocolate and wait at your window for twinkling lights and festive music as Father Christmas's magical mobile grotto arrives outside your house...Further details to follow.
- CHRISTMAS JUMPER SWAP\* The St Mary's Uniform Exchange would like to encourage families to exchange their outgrown Christmas jumpers with each other. Please root out good as new Christmas jumpers you no longer have use for and advertise on our Facebook group. No money should change hands; please arrange your exchanges in a Covid-safe way in good time before Christmas Dinner Day on 16th December. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/841073073087597/>
- PTA FUNDRAISING UPDATE: The PTA has agreed its fundraising objectives: to fund markings and play equipment for the playground and much-needed IT equipment (laptops and iPads). We are grateful to you all that we have raised over £6.5k so far this year towards these objectives. We have lots more exciting fundraising ideas and are also in the process of applying for grants. Please get in touch if you'd like to get involved [ptastmarysmarplebridge@gmail.com](mailto:ptastmarysmarplebridge@gmail.com)
- The PTA say: *Dear parents- if you use Amazon to buy anything please consider using Amazon smile- it means every purchase you make means a small donation for the school. We have attached a PDF sheet containing simple instructions on how to do it. Thanks! Love the PTA.*

## TRUST INSET DAY

**Don't forget:** On Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December, School will be closed to children.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY ...

2020 Dates	Event	Details
Wed 18 and 25 Nov	Parent/Teacher meetings	<a href="https://stmaryscatholicvamarplebridge.schoolcloud.co.uk/">https://stmaryscatholicvamarplebridge.schoolcloud.co.uk/</a>

<b>Wed 25 Nov</b>	<b>Flu immunisations</b>	For children in Reception to Year 6.
<b>Fri 4 Dec</b>	<b>INSET day</b>	Children are not in school
<b>Thurs 10 Dec</b>	<b>Youth Team</b>	The Diocesan Youth Team will visit Y4-Y6: they are bringing their giant tent to use, in which they will lead the children in a class retreat! This is free to our school, courtesy of the Trust.
<b>Wed 16 Dec</b>	<b>Christmas Dinner Day</b>	Special meal today for all those who have hot dinners OR who order one for this special occasion
<b>Tue 22 Dec</b>	Term ends	Christmas Break
<b>2021 Dates</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Details</b>
<b>Thu 7 Jan</b>	Lent 1 Term starts	Children back in school
<b>Fri 2-Sun 4 Jul</b>	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.

### COMMUNITY NEWS

CURE Poster Competition by Stepping Hill Hospital: Please see attached letter from Stepping Hill hospital with regards to this competition.

Blue Peter on You Tube: Blue Peter is the longest running kids TV show in the world and they are now uploading videos to it that are suitable for 5-11 year olds. There are many features including world record breaking challenges, arts and crafts, environmental videos, cooking and baking how tos, dance routines and music performances, to name but a few. There are also ways of getting a Blue Peter badge. If you are interested, you can subscribe to <https://www.youtube.com/bluepeter> but also don't forget to watch the live programme on CBBC at 5.30 every week or on BBC iPlayer.

Mellor Country House Charity: Why not support the Mellor Country House charity? Order your beautiful Nordman, non-drop pine Christmas trees and wreaths at [www.mellorcountryhouse.co.uk](http://www.mellorcountryhouse.co.uk) by Monday 30 November for collection or free delivery within a 5 mile radius on Saturday 5 or Sunday 6 December. Prices range from £32 for a 4-5ft and £72 for a 12 ft tree; plain wreaths £10.

We are holding an online Christmas delights market from 24 October to 5 December selling Christmas gifts and treats. If there is anyone in the school community who sells craft items or other products and would like a stall please message Mellor Country House on facebook to request one.

### A FINAL THOUGHT:



*Have a really lovely weekend, everyone!  
Fionuala Boucher*