



Bulletin Number 7: Friday 16 October 2020

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

You will remember that I shared with you the sad news of the fire at St Mary's CVA in Derby. Two weeks on, the school is looking for alternative premises so that children can pause online learning and once again come together as a class group, and eventually as a school family, on a temporary site. Needless to say, there is a lot for them to organise. Schools across the Trust are 'thinking and doing' things to help: I wondered how our own families might feel about helping out with any of the following: if so, please let me know.

- Are you (or is a family member) a knitter? The school would love to have a knitted nativity set for each of its 16 classes. Knitters are being commissioned – and there is a pattern I can forward onto those who have the required skills!
- The school has nothing left. If locating to new premises in the next few weeks, it would be great to build them a library of books. Schools across the Trust are asking if any parents would be prepared to buy one book to add to the shelves. Are you in this position? Please let us know: one new book from a lot of different people would make a library...
- Friendship bracelets: we may make some of these in school. BUT, for all those keen crafters out there, could our St Mary's pupils send their St Mary's pupils a friendship bracelet?

This week's **Wednesday Word** is now available by clicking Ctrl + Click on the image or through this link: <https://www.paperturn-view.com/uk/wednesday-word/holiday-special?pid=MTA101634&v=7.7>



This week in school the children have loved celebrating the bible with our special St.

Mary's **Bible Alive Week**. This time we took the theme of **Jesus the healer** as our school-

wide focus. Each class then had to explore their own bible story in which Jesus healed someone. The classes spent a day enjoying a range of activities from reading the story to performing it, or using drama skills to think about how characters felt, art works and crafts or small-scale DT projects. Others explored the healing aspects of prayer more fully and planned or wrote special prayer times. We had a special prayer which we shared with the children each day this week in which we thought about how we need to *give time to just being still and breathing, notice the small things around us or kind gestures and then praying for healing*. We talked about how, whilst Jesus performed many miracles of healing, today we need healing in all sorts of ways, such as healing friendship and loneliness with comfort and companionship - particularly relevant at the moment when we are reconnecting with each other.

CHARITIES

We were delighted to send off £251 to Healthy Young Minds today, following last week's Hello Yellow day! Thank you so much. We have the most amazing Tea Tree built in the school office from the bags of sugar and boxes of teabags: the Wellspring will be thrilled! Photo to follow.

APPLICATIONS FOR SCHOOL PLACES: SEPTEMBER 2020

Applications are now open at www.stockportadmissions.gov.uk as follows:

Admission Types	Birth dates between	Application closing date	Offer date
Nursery - Sept 2021	1 Sep 2017 - 31 Aug 2018	31 Mar 2021	18 May 2021
Primary - Sept 2021	1 Sep 2016 - 31 Aug 2017	15 Jan 2021	16 Apr 2021
Secondary – Sept 2021	1 Sep 2009 - 31 Aug 2010	31 Oct 2020	2 Mar 2021

If any parents would like to talk about school admissions, you are most welcome to make arrangements to discuss this with Mrs Boucher through contacting Mrs Biggs. **Y6 parents: please note that your child's application for secondary school must be submitted by the end of this month.**



HOLIDAY CLUB

We are planning to run our Holiday Club on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday during the October half term so please let Mrs Young know ASAP if you would like to book a place.

HARRYTOWN OPEN EVENING <http://www.harrytownschool.org/>

As Harrytown cannot have a traditional open evening, the school has placed a virtual tour on their website, from today onwards, so that families can meet the staff and see the school. There will also be an opportunity for questions to be asked. Please visit the website and see what a lot Harrytown has to offer!

ST THOMAS MOOR, BUXTON openevening2020@s-tm.co.uk Password: stm2020.

St Thomas Moor CVA in Buxton is one of our Trust schools within the St Ralph Sherwin CMAT family. School leaders have sent us a link to their virtual opening evening which is now live for the next couple of months. Please go to the school website, then to the top left menu/Opening Evening 2020/Open Evening for prospective parents and then the login details above.

PTA DISCO DAY: Wednesday 21 October: Don't stop moving! See dates for diary below and poster

Please join the fundraising team for my GoFundMe fundraiser

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/2608dusvio?teamInvite=c7sMdF1XQcE3txp80UUZBR0crZVfEQ0WgTGz9CHScH4CWkQBd4pKQtJ3Bnth1r4Y>

SCARECROW TRAIL THROUGH MARPLE

We have received the following information from the team organising the Scarecrow trail through Marple: *Due to Greater Manchester probably heading into Tier3 restrictions, the council have decided that having the scarecrows displayed in the park may encourage people to group together and, taking advice from central government, have announced that this option is no longer possible. We are allowed however to incorporate them along the Marple house trail and inside shops. We really love the idea of having the scarecrows displayed in shop windows around Marple and are currently in discussions today as this will not only look visually appealing but will attract people to shop locally. I do apologise about this inconvenience and the impact Covid-19 is having on this event. If you could let your parents know of the new arrangements that would be wonderful and we will keep them informed via our website www.marpletrails.org.uk. We are on Facebook and Instagram too. We will pick up the scarecrows next week.*

https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/raising-funds-for-primary-school-children-in-the-marple-area?utm_term=9k9EkWmj2.

The latest winners, judged by the Marple Trails group, have signs around the scarecrows necks: see if you are a winner – as there are lovely prizes coming your way!

ON LINE SAFETY <https://www.net-aware.org.uk/>

This online safety website is a collaboration between NSPCC and O2 and is really good for parents. We have been supporting our older children with safe use of social media: why not brush up on your own knowledge too

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY ...

2020 Dates	Event	Details
Wed 21 Oct	PTA Don't Stop Moving outdoor disco UNIFORM, AS USUAL	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.
Mon 26 Oct – Fri 31 Oct	Half term break	Holiday
Mon 2 Nov	Advent 2 Term Starts	Children back in school
Wed 4 Nov	Individual photographs	More details to follow
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.

Wishing everyone a happy and relaxing weekend

Fionuala Boucher