



St. Mary's RC Primary School, Clive Road, Failsworth, Manchester. M35 0NW

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"Called to love as God loves"

October 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are coming to the end to what has been another busy half term at school. Pupil leadership is going from strength to strength and is having a significant impact on school life. I am delighted to be able to announce the appointment of our Head Girl Grace and Head Boy Teddy and House Captains Cole, Annabel, Raphael and Autumn.

Pupil Chaplains

The Pupil Chaplains continue to lead the spiritual life of the school under Mrs Faulkner's guidance. They prepared Rosary Prayer Bags for children to take home and pray the Rosary with their family at home. They have also organised lunchtime prayer sessions which have been well attended in honour of Our Lady.



Well Being Ambassadors

Our team of Well Being Ambassadors meet with Mrs O'Leary on a Friday lunchtime. They organised the Hello Yellow event and prepared assemblies to mark World Mental Health Day last week.



School Council

The School Council led by Mrs Bushi have met several times and have already audited and replenished playtime resources. They spent £1000 on new games for each class including Connect Four, Hungry Hippos, chess, draughts and Uno to name but a few. It is a joy to watch the children playing cooperatively. I am sure you would agree that it is money well spent!



Laudato Si

Our Laudato Si Committee have met with Miss Butterworth and Miss Monks. They have organised a poster competition for recycling bins and are encouraging classes to switch off lights when they leave a room by rewarding them with tokens which are counted at the end of the week. The winning class receives the Laudato Si trophy which celebrates children's stewardship of our common home.



Black History Month

We have been celebrating Black History Month with each year group studying inspirational people who have changed the course of history. Thank you to Year Five who presented their learning in a very informative assembly for the children and their parents last week.



Macmillan Coffee Morning

Congratulations to our Year Three children who organised a successful Macmillan coffee morning. Thank you especially to the parents who were able to attend and supported the children to raise a magnificent £429 for this very worthy cause.



Phonics

It was lovely to see so many parents in school recently for the Early Years and KS1 phonic workshops. I hope that it was useful and you feel more equipped to support your child with early reading. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to speak to your child's class teacher who would be more than happy to help.



Parking

May I remind parents not to put the children of our school in danger by parking on the zig zag lines in front of school. I appreciate that the traffic is heavy at the beginning and end of the school day. The church car park is available and has ample parking spaces and would only require a short walk across the road to the school. Father Michael has also asked that the parents parking on his drive please use the car park rather than his front garden as on several occasions he has been blocked in. Thank you in advance for your cooperation in this matter.



Applying for Secondary School Places

May I remind parents in Year 6 that there is still a few days left to complete an application using the online application system available on the Oldham Council website. Applying online is the only form of application as Oldham Council no longer provides paper application forms. The online system opened on 1 August 2022 and closes at 5pm on 31 October 2022. If you don't have access to the internet, there are computers in all Oldham's libraries. You will need an email address, these are very easy to set up and staff at the library will be happy to help.

Message from the PTA

With normality finally starting to return after Covid, St Mary's would like to welcome the return of the school PTA. The group hope to start organising many fun events each term and welcome support from any parent who can donate even an hour or two to help at these fundraisers. There will also be the introduction of a number of family support initiatives to help when the cost of living is so high. If you would like to get involved or know more, please contact one of the new chairs, Kelly or Claire, on the below emails.

K_chung@hotmail.com

Clareroobinson2015@yahoo.co.uk

Every term we will publish upcoming events in the newsletter for parents to be aware. Funds raised via these will be reinvested back into the students of St Mary's. It is hoped that along with supporting the Church Christmas Fair, the PTA will organise a Christmas Jumper and Cookie event and if possible the return of The Secret Room this Christmas. More details will be shared once these are confirmed.

Thank you as always for your continued support.

Ms M. Garvey

Stay With Us, Lord, On Our Journey

Diary Dates:

October dates:

Fri 21st Y4 Harvest Assembly 9.15am KS2 Hall
Fri 21st Y2 'Take 5 Be Yourself'
Fri 21st End of Term
Mon 31st School Opens
Mon 31st Deadline for Y6 High School applications

November dates:

Tues 1st Day of the Dead Celebration
Sun 6th Y3 Sacramental Programme - meeting after 9.30am mass in school hall
Wed 9th Y1/Y2 Cinema Trip
Mon 14th Anti-bullying Week
Tues 15th Y3/Y4/Y5/Y6 Cinema Trip
Thurs 17th Parents' Evening - letters to follow
Fri 18th Y1-Y6 Pantomime at Oldham Coliseum
Fri 25th Y3 EM Presentation of children in Church at 9.30am.
Wed 30th-Fri 2nd Y6 Robinwood Residential Trip

December dates:

Fri 2nd Y3 SB Presentation of children in Church at 9.30am.
Sat 3rd Christmas Fair in school - details to follow
Mon 5th Nursery Christmas Craft Morning 9.00am - parents/carers invited
Tues 6th Reception Christmas Craft Morning 9.00am - parents/carers invited
Wed 7th Christmas Jumper Day
Wed 7th Christmas Dinner Day for children having school meals
Thurs 8th Parish Feast Day -Whole School Mass 9.30am
Mon 12th EYFS Nativity 9.15am - parents/carers of REG/NAM/half NFT
Mon 12th EYFS Nativity 2.15pm - parents/carers of REM/NPM/half NFT
Tue 13th EYFS Christmas Panto (afternoon) - NAM to attend PM on this day
Wed 14th Y1 Nativity Concert 9.15am KS1 hall
Wed 14th KS2 Carol Service in Church 7pm
Thur 15th Y2 Nativity Concert 9.15am KS1 hall
Mon 19th Christmas Party for EYFS and Y3/4
Tues 20th Christmas Party for Y1/2 and Y5/6
Wed 21st School Closes 1.30pm