



St Mary's Catholic Primary School

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St Mary's Catholic Primary School Newsletter

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we approach the end of another fantastic term, I'm excited to share some upcoming events and important updates from St Mary's Catholic Primary School!

**An Easter Egg Hunt, We Hope to See,
But We Need Your Help, Parent Community!**

As Easter approaches, we're filled with cheer,
For a special event that's drawing near.
An Easter Egg Hunt, so joyful and bright,
For all our children, a wonderful sight!

But to make it happen, we need your support,
A small chocolate egg donation, we ask to be brought.
Peanut-free treats, wrapped up with care,
So every child can join in and share.

With your kind donations, we'll hide with glee,
Eggs filled with surprises for all to see!
So please, dear parents, if you can spare,
A chocolate egg to show you care.

Bring them to school by the end of next week,
And watch our children's faces as they peek!
Thank you for helping make this event so grand,
Together, we'll create memories that'll surely stand.

We're kicking things off with our annual Easter Bonnet competition on the last day of term. This is a wonderful tradition that allows our children to showcase their creativity while celebrating Easter. We encourage all children to get involved, and to make it even more fun, there will be delicious chocolate prizes for the most creative bonnets!

In addition, we're gearing up for our much-loved Annual Easter Egg Hunt. This event is always a highlight, bringing together children, and staff in a joyful celebration. To make it a success, we'd greatly appreciate your donations of chocolate eggs. Please remember to check that your donations are peanut-free.

A quick reminder about dinner money accounts: if you have an outstanding balance, please take a moment to check your child's account and settle any amounts as soon as possible. Timely payments help us continue providing healthy meals for all our children.

In other exciting news, as a school, we will be taking part in CAFOD's 'Big Lent Walk'. This will take place on the school grounds on Monday, 7th April. Our



goal is for every child to walk at least 1km, contributing to a collective distance of over 200km! Please make sure your child brings a pair of trainers with them on that day.

The Big Lent Walk will also serve as our Lenten fundraiser, aligning with our school's ethos and Catholic values. We have chosen to support CAFOD as a way for our pupils to put their faith into action. By raising money together, we will help those in need around the world and live out our school mission.

CAFOD is the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development, working alongside communities worldwide to end extreme poverty and global injustice. Every £1 raised through the Big Lent Walk will help fight poverty in countries like Afghanistan, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and South Sudan. Right now, CAFOD is supporting families in Ethiopia who are struggling due to a devastating food crisis caused by years of drought. Your donations will help provide vital resources such as water, emergency food, and healthcare.



We hope that every child can bring in at least £1, which would help us raise over £200 for this incredible cause. If you'd like to ask other family members to contribute, any additional donations would be greatly appreciated. Please bring in all contributions by Monday, 7th April.

Thank you so much for your continued support. We hope everyone has fun while helping us raise money for CAFOD and make a real difference in the lives of those who need it most.

We are delighted to invite you to Mass at **St Mary's Catholic Church on Sunday, 6th April, at 11:00 AM.**

This event is open to all members of our school community, both Catholics and non-Catholics alike. It's a wonderful opportunity for us to come together in faith, celebrate our school community, and enjoy a moment of prayer and reflection.



Whether you're a regular attendee or this is your first visit, we would love to have you join us. Your presence will make this gathering even more special.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Warm regards,

Mrs Griffiths

Class Saints

We are introducing Class Saints so children can learn about each one in more detail as they travel through our school.

Reception – St Cecilia of Rome (patron saint of music)

At that time young women did not have a say about their choice of a husband. Valerian, a pagan Roman nobleman was chosen for Cecilia against her wishes. Cecilia had no option. She could not oppose her father but she was determined to keep her pledge to Christ, that is, to be solely His bride. During the wedding, Cecilia sat apart and while the music was being played, she sang with the heavenly music she felt in her heart, a prayer to her Heavenly Spouse. After the wedding Cecilia revealed to Valerian that she was a Christian.

Year 1 – St Nicholas of Myra (patron saint of children)

In the days of Nicholas, when daughters were married, a father had to offer the potential husband a dowry – something valuable. A woman was more likely to marry a good man with a larger

dowry. The poor woodcutter's daughters had no dowry and were therefore going to be sold into slavery. However, mysteriously, on three different nights, a bag of gold was tossed through an open window landing in some stockings or shoes that were left by the fire to dry. Because of this gift by Nicholas, the three daughters were saved from slavery and given a future.

Year 2 – St Mother Teresa of Calcutta (patron saint of world youth and charity)

She formed the Co-Workers of Mother Teresa and the Sick and Suffering Co-Workers, people of many faiths and nationalities with who she shared her spirit of prayer, simplicity, sacrifice and her apostolate of humble works of love.

This spirit later inspired the Lay Missionaries of Charity. In answer to the requests of many priests, in 1981 Mother Teresa also began the Corpus Christi Movement for Priests as a "little way of holiness" for those who desire to share in her charisma and spirit.

During the years of rapid growth the world began to turn its eyes towards Mother Teresa and the work she had started. Numerous awards, beginning with the Indian Padmashri Award in 1962 and notably the Nobel Peace Prize in 1979, honored her work, while an increasingly interested media began to follow her activities. She received both prizes and attention 'for the glory of God and in the name of the poor.'

Year 3 – St Catherine of Siena (patron saint of nursing)

St. Catherine of Siena (March 25, 1347–April 29, 1380) had a deep love for Christ from a young age, so much so that when her family tried to persuade her to get married at the age of 16, she cut her hair short and began fasting in protest.

Her family relented, allowing her to spend much of her time secluded in prayer in her bedroom. At the age of 18, she joined the Dominican Third Order.

Gradually, her reputation for holiness and personal charisma attracted a circle of followers. Before long, she was employing multiple scribes to keep up a lively correspondence with an ever-widening circle of influential Church and secular leaders, including kings, queens, and even the pope.

Year 4 – St John Baptist de La Salle (patron saint of teachers)

When he was 21 years old, both his parents died within a few months of each other. He had to take over the administration of family affairs and take responsibility for his 4 brothers and 2 sisters. This did not deter him from continuing his theological studies, having set his heart on becoming a priest. In fact he was ordained priest in April 1678 and after 2 years he received a doctorate in Theology. During his pastoral work he became involved in the establishment of a free school for boys who were 'often left to themselves and badly brought up.'

Year 5 – St Francis of Assisi (patron saint of animals)

St. Francis then led the life of a beggar and served God. Eventually he established an order of monks. There are stories about St. Francis being able to talk to the animals. One day there was a large flock of birds that St. Francis preached to, telling them they should be thankful. The birds stood still and listened as he walked among them. They only flew off when St. Francis told them to fly away.

Year 6 – St Catherine of Bologna (patron saint of artists)

Catherine felt called to the religious life and at the age of 14, she joined a Franciscan community. During this time she suffered a spiritual crisis, but she had a vision of the Real Presence in the Eucharist that brought her consolation. Catherine continued in her artistic pursuits, playing the viola, painting religious pictures (including one of St. Ursula that hangs today in a gallery in Venice), copying out and illuminating her breviary (now on display at Oxford), and writing spiritual guides and poetry.

Dates for your Diary

01.04.25	Year 6 trip-Shropshire discovery centre	
03.04.25	Year 2 Trip to Cosford	
07.04.25	Big Lent Walk	
09.04.25	Easter Egg Hunt	
	Easter Bonnet Parade	
10.04.24	Children break-up	
11.04.25	PD day	
28.04.25	Return to school	
05.05.25	Bank Holiday Monday	
06.05.25	Reception Trip to Home Farm	
09.05.25	Year 4 curriculum assembly	Children in year 4 will be sharing the work they've been doing in their class. All parents of year two children are invited. This will begin at approximately 8:55 AM in the hall.
12.05.25	Year 6 SATS week	These tests assess children's knowledge and understanding in core subjects: English (reading and grammar, punctuation, and spelling) and mathematics. The results help teachers understand

		how well children have progressed and are used to inform the transition to secondary school.
23.05.25	Leavers mass in Shrewsbury Break up	Our 6 children will be travelling to Shrewsbury to celebrate mass together with other year 6 children from Catholic schools across Shropshire
03.06.25	KS1 Sports day	Families of children are invited to come and spectate our Sports Days. These will begin at approximately 9:00 AM.
05.06.25	KS2 Sports day	
20.06.25	Year 1 curriculum assembly	Children in year 1 will be sharing the work they've been doing in their class. All parents of year two children are invited. This will begin at approximately 8:55 AM in the hall.
23.06.25	Parents Evening	More information to follow.
24.06.25	Parents Evening	
04.07.25	Reception curriculum assembly	Children in Reception will be sharing the work they've been doing in their class. All parents of year two children are invited. This will begin at approximately 8:55 AM in the hall.
18.07.25	Year 6 Leavers Assembly Children break-up for summer	Parents of children in year 6 will be invited to our leavers assembly to celebrate the children's years spent here at Saint Mary's Catholic primary school. The assembly begins at approximately 9:00 AM and should last just over an hour.
21.07.25	PD day	