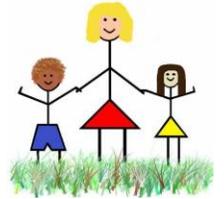




**ST MARY'S CATHOLIC FEDERATION,  
CARSHALTON NEWSLETTER  
MARCH 2018**



Sunday 1<sup>ST</sup> April - Easter Sunday



**Safeguarding Statement:** This school takes notice of and adheres to all the national and local policies and guidance in regard to Safeguarding Children and Young People.

**Lead Safeguarding Person Junior School:** Mrs G Owens and **Nursery & Infant School:** Mrs M Quinn.

**Safeguarding Deputy:** Mrs S Hulme **Safeguarding Governor:** Mr T Richmond

Although the sharing of photographs with family and friends is a great thing to do, please be reminded of the schools safeguarding procedures and refrain from taking pictures at school events. Thank you for your support regarding this as we all need to work together to look after our pupils.

Dear Parents & Carers,

This is the most important time of the year in our Christian Calendar. The children have made us so proud, demonstrating great reverence and respect at each of our prayer services especially the wonderful presentation of the Passion Play prepared by Year 5, both staff and pupils. We are often humbled by the actions of our children and this was one of these occasions. Thank you to all who supported us and enabled this event to take place.

The children at the infant school had a fun filled day yesterday being in the creative mood. It was lovely to see them all engaged in Easter craft activities.

Progress meetings for each year group have been held this last week, giving us the opportunity to evaluate the curriculum provision and make plans for the summer term. Much has been achieved despite the snow, rain and the many infections that have been going around. Thank you to each member of staff for their commitment in developing the whole child and interest in their welfare.

We wish Mrs Pye luck as she takes maternity leave from today. We can't wait to see her new baby and hope all is well. Thank you for supporting the sponsored events, we hope to have grand totals for each early next term.

We are pleased to be able to share the success in recent accreditation of the Youth Sport Trust (YST) Silver award at both the infant & junior schools and a School Games Mark Silver Award at the junior school.

### **Spiritual, Moral, Social & Cultural Development**

Lent began during the half term, and we know the children particularly enjoyed sharing pancakes at home on Shrove Tuesday. We have shared information in school about the work of the Catholic Children's Society who support families and children from schools in the Dioceses of Southwark and Westminster, and we thank you for your generosity in having the collection boxes at home during this season when we prepare for Easter by fasting, praying and giving.

Chaplaincy sessions continued for every class in both schools. Reception, Y1, Y2 and Y4 took place before Lent. This half term, the Nursery have enjoyed their first Chaplaincy sessions outside of their nursery building. The Y3 session focussed on Mary Bear's journey to Fatima, and praying for peace in our world. If you don't know who Mary Bear is, ask an Infant child or one from Y3! During the sessions for Y5 & 6, the pupils reflected upon Peter's sorrow after denying Jesus.

At the infant school the children's reflections from their chaplaincy sessions (in the form of angels, doves, prayer hands and candles) are now adorning the outdoor areas. Children experienced their own Stations of the Cross in the garden with activities linked to the Easter story.



At the Juniors, the Lent Tent has been open every Tuesday and Wednesday lunchtime, and the Chaplaincy Team, with Mrs Norbury, have welcomed pupils who have wanted to pray and reflect as we journey towards Easter. Other queues have formed outside the chapel, as pupils chose to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation from Father Luke on three Mondays during Lent. Lectio Divina on Thursday lunchtimes has been popular with pupils who wish to spend time reflecting on texts which help our understanding of Jesus and His actions.



A display in the dining area has helped us know that our Jewish brothers and sisters celebrated Purim at the beginning of March, and our Hindu friends celebrated Holi, a festival full of colour.



### Table Talk

Table Talk suggests a topic of conversation for your family to discuss at a meal time together. Some of these topics might take even longer. Topic for this week - **Is it better to play well and lose, or play badly and win?**

## NURSERY & INFANT SCHOOL

### News from Nursery

Our 'Amazing Animals' topic in Nursery this half term has proved to be both an exciting and busy one! We had a visit from Ellie, a local vet who told us all about what a vet does and how to look after pets. The children had the opportunity to dress up in the veterinary surgeons scrubs ready to perform an operation! We were also lucky to have a visit from Our Amazing Animal World who brought along some of their furry and scaly friends. The children were all very brave and keen to hold and stroke all of the furry and scaly creatures.

The snow brought lots of fun too. We explored and played outside; making snowballs, footprints and our very own mini snowman. The children all agreed the snow felt 'freezing' and the ground was 'icy'.

In our R.E. topic of 'Growing' we talked about how we could show our love for others to try and be more like Jesus. We also worked together to plant our own seeds which we can't wait to see grow.

Our topic for the new half term will be 'Superheroes'. We will talk about fiction superheroes, designing our own superhero and looking at real life superheroes.



### News from Reception

As always it has been a very busy half term with so many highlights that it is hard to choose a favourite. We had a lovely time dancing at our book character ball, found many signs of new life during our spring walk in RE and enjoyed making and eating gingerbread men to help us write instructions. One of the children's favourite moments was when we had a video from Princess Sophie asking us to help her find her missing dragon. We walked to the junior school to search the grounds and even found dragon scales.

We will continue our topic for two weeks after half term as we look forward to our exciting trip to Buckingham Palace Mews. We will then begin our new topic 'Why do spiders eat flies?' where the children will explore and investigate minibeasts.



### News from Year 1

This half term our topic was 'Moon Zoom' and we investigated an alien crash landing in the Infant garden. The children looked at clues that were left by the alien and discovered an alien hiding in the shed trying to fix his spaceship. In RE we celebrated the end of our 'Meals' topic with a special meal as a year group. In History the children have been looking

at the key moments in the space travel timeline and have been researching different astronauts who have ventured into space to discover more about our universe.



## News from Year 2

This half term our topic was 'Street Detectives' and we had lots of fun solving clues like real detectives. We also constructed hideouts outside our classroom using primary colours to make camouflaged green and brown. The highlight of this half term was a visit to the Honeywood Museum which children found very stimulating and educational. Children were amazed with how much Carshalton had changed over time. To celebrate the end to our topic, children made mini pizzas by following instructions which they enjoyed. Before making their mini pizzas, children got the chance to taste and evaluate existing pizzas.



**Star of the week - week ending 23<sup>rd</sup> March** Ladybirds AM - Beatrix Nutley & Antoni Baran, Ladybirds PM - Olivia Van Vreden & Lena Gumienna, Penguin Class - Neill Seedoyal, Bees Class - James Groom Rodriguez, Elephant Class - Jakub (Kuba) Wisniewski, Reindeer Class - Megan Power, Giraffe Class - Michael McCearney, Cheetah Class - Evie Cottam, Meerkat Class - Jacob Boardman, Horse Class - Jacob Salmen, Owl Class - Adam Gierak

**Sponsored Read Winners** - Congratulations to Adrianna Amarasekera (Meerkats), Harry Jenner (Giraffes) and Olivia D'Souza (Horses).

### **Infant Choir - KS1 Big Sing**

We have 30 pupils across Year 2 participating at the **KS1 Big Sing 'A Right Royal Sing Song'** concert at All Saints' Church, Carshalton Wednesday 23rd May 2018 afternoon.

Last week the children took part in a hour workshop led by Emily Murphy, Senior Leader, singing & vocal development and Charlotte Gibbs, both vocal specialists from Sutton Music Service, in preparation for this event.



## **JUNIOR SCHOOL**

### **News from Year 3**

This term's stand out moment was World Book Day and a huge thank you to the children and their parents for the amazing costumes. The children had an amazing day with the highlight for many being the reading marathon of Matilda, that saw all teachers tearing round the school to read with every class.

In year 3 the children have been enthralled with their work on myths and legends. The children looked at what myths are, where they have come from and what their purpose is. We looked in particular at the story of Perseus and Medusa where the children were able to practice their use of adjectives, similes and metaphors when adding description and excitement in their writing. The children then looked at the genre of legendary tales in particular Robin Hood and St. George and the Dragon. This culminated in the children writing a newspaper article on the story that included the features of a newspaper article.

In maths we have focused on multiplication and have applied the skills of multiplying using pictorial, partitioning and grid methods to word problems. We have also looked at fractions and built on our prior learning of fractions. Science has been a journey into the world of forces and magnets, including seeing how vehicles moved on different surfaces. This tied into our work on transport in geography where we looked at the transport in Carshalton and presented it in the form of bar charts.

Throughout the term we have built up to our design and technology day where the children created their own sandwich. The children looked at types of sandwiches and the packaging they come in. They have also looked at instruction writing in preparation for writing their

own instructions to make their own sandwich. The day was a great success and some of the sandwiches would have been worthy of any cafe counter in Carshalton. It has been a short half term but one packed with fun and exciting moments (not to mention the snowstorms in spring!) and we are all looking forward to the summer term starting.

### News from Year 4

In year 4 this term the children have had many memorable experiences including our most recent trip to the Carshalton Methodist church to take part in the Easter experience led by Sutton Schools Work.



In addition to this the children enjoyed a 'snowy' world book day, where despite the weather they made an amazing effort with their costumes (thank you to all parents for this). We have had an exciting term in English where our exploration of the Ted Hughes book 'Iron Man' has led to some brilliant writing from all children including: emails, diary entries and additional/alternative chapters. We are so proud of all the work that children have completed.

Our science topic 'states of matter' has been very exciting, where the children have explored so far; what each state of matter is, then into more detail gases (and whether

they weigh anything - they do!) and finally how matters change state through heating or freezing. Science has involved a variety of experiments and explorations where children have applied their skills to predict and evaluate tests.

In maths, -decimals, tenths, fractions have been explored using a variety of different methods and we are so proud of the children's progress and development of understanding in this area.

This term in Art we have been focusing on the artist Jane Franks and looking closely at a different range of collages. Children have

worked in groups of 4 to plan, create and evaluate a piece of work which represents the Brecon Beacons.

Finally we have been lucky enough to take part in tennis workshops during this half term which the children all really enjoyed as well as a multi-skills intra- school tournament.



### News from Year 5

Although the term has been short it has been very busy and the children have worked hard whilst showing great enthusiasm. In English, the children have written their own suspense stories and as class teachers we have been greatly impressed. Our focus in Maths has been fractions and it has been rewarding to see the confidence grow in students.

The whole of Year 5 have enjoyed our science topic of Living Things and their Habitats and we had a talk on Monday from two bee keepers (don't worry, no live bees involved!) After the talk, the children had the opportunity to taste some honey. In DT, we have enjoyed creating pop up books based on the Easter Story and many children were able to make several mechanisms. The term ended with our Easter Reflection and as teachers we were delighted that it was a great success. The children have been reverent, reflective and respectful. Finally, next term we are looking forward to our trip to Bough Beech which will inspire our topic of the Water Cycle.



### News from Year 6

This term, year 6 have examined a broad range of topics that have brought out some very insightful discussions and pieces of work. In literacy, we have continued reading 'Clockwork', by Philip Pullman, which has kept the class enthralled as we delved into Pullman's style of writing to draw audiences in with suspense and unique storytelling structure. The children have also used the text to write some amazingly complex pieces of writing, including a discursive piece on whether one of the character's deserved the ending the author gave them. It also gave the children a great chance to develop their debating and arguing skills.

Year 6 also thoroughly enjoyed World Book Day, and despite the snow, all wore fantastic costumes and a range of book related activities. It was also really great to see Year 6 spend some time with their year 3 buddies and share their favourite stories. In science, the children have been looking at some of the changes living things go through to adapt to their own environment for survival. A very popular exercise was when the children were given an environment and had to invent their own living organism with features to help it survive. Needless to say, the children created some very interesting animals and plants (we're not sure that spontaneous combustion counts as a survival technique...).



Our Friday afternoon PE lessons continue to be a firm favourite as the children have been tumbling, rolling and cartwheeling in gymnastics and learning the complex rules of field hockey (it took a while for them to realise they cannot kick the ball). It is always great to see not just the game techniques develop but also a sense of team achievement and sportsmanship. To finish up the term, in DT, the children have been putting their sewing skills to use by designing and creating a

group flag detailing their journey through St Mary's, which we will take to the Isle of Wight.

## Sports

The snow and the cold weather has not dampened our sporting endeavour this term! All junior children have enjoyed taking part in their spring term inter-school tournament. This term's competition had a multiskills theme and competition was fierce as the double space hopper demanded skill, cooperation and determination for even the most confident of sportsperson! We were delighted to welcome Suzy Brooks from The Sutton School Sports Partnership back to host a presentation assembly after she had delivered the tournament. Among the 35 certificates received between all classes, our overall winners were:

- 3<sup>rd</sup> 5 ELM = 815
- 2<sup>nd</sup> 6 OAK = 920
- 1<sup>st</sup> 6 CHESTNUT = 961

Children also took part in a tennis taster workshop. This was delivered by professional coaches from Sutton Tennis and Squash club to all children in all year groups. Children in year 3 have been offered the opportunity to sign up to a tennis club to be held at school starting after Easter. Any places at the club not taken up by Monday 9th April will be made available to year 4. All children were given leaflets about Sutton Tennis and Squash Club and the Easter activities they have going on.

Finally, in our second year working with Crystal Palace Football Club's 'Palace for Life Foundation', we have been lucky enough to be a trial school for a Premier League initiative called Healthy Stars. Aimed at a trial group in year 4, children have been learning about healthy lifestyles through a range of classroom based sessions, active sessions, competitions and fun. Some have even taken part in a pupil and parent healthy cooking workshop - the smells wafting through the corridors were a real distraction to all the teachers after school!

With the Palace for Life Foundation, we have also been in a position to offer an 'Active Lunches' club to a range of children from each year group this half term. Held on a Wednesday lunchtime, it gives children the opportunity to take part in a number of fun activities and sports as well building their knowledge of what it means to be healthy, increasing their confidence and developing their teamwork skills. Next half term we will offer this club to a different group of children in order to give lots of pupils the opportunity to benefit from this.

**E-Safety** - <https://parentzone.org.uk/parents>



Need some more support in keeping your child safe online? Have a look at ParentZone which is designed to help parents facing challenges in this digital age.

Here are some great E-Safety links -

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/>

<http://www.thinkyouknow.co.uk/>

<http://www.internetmatters.org/>

<http://www.kidsmart.org.uk/>

<http://www.childnet.com/>

<https://www.commonsemmedia.org/>

**PSHE**  
Association **PSHE**

In PSHE the children have been looking at the theme of 'Valuing differences' in particular looking at : challenging stereotypes; different types of relationships; maintaining relationships; respecting similarities and differences as well as the effect of bullying, discrimination and prejudice. Next term all year groups move onto the theme of Rights and Responsibilities (Summer 1 term) and Taking Care of the environment (Summer 2). The children will explore a range of issues including: the importance of rule and law, what a democracy is, UNICEF rights and the difference between a right and a responsibility. Lastly, keeping with our promotion of British Values we have the pleasure of the local MP Tom Brake who is coming into the school next term to take part in a St Mary's Juniors Question time!

## Junior Travel Advisors/ School Travel Plan

It has been a very busy term which included the Junior Travel advisors continuing to collect WOW Walk to school data. Look out for your children receiving badges for the month of March. Next term we would like to trial JTA meetings for lower and upper school. Thank you to Parents and Carers for always choosing different modes of active travel to school. Lastly, thank you for helping to improve the air quality in our local area whilst helping to avoid congestion on our local streets.

## English

### At the Junior School

World Book Day 2018 was a huge success. It was full of events to celebrate the occasion. Despite the snow, children made a huge effort to come in dressed as one of their favourite characters for the day. Well done to everyone, and thank you! The day started with an assembly and book character parade where a child in each class was awarded a book prize for the most inventive costumes.



At lunchtime, the children had a chance to perform some poetry. All year groups embraced this and practised their performance skills in an open mic format. Our annual book marathon on World Book Day was enjoyed by staff and children alike. It's not everyday you are witness to sprinting gangsta grannies arriving in your

classroom! Class teachers followed a planned route to encounter every class at the junior school to read part of the book 'Matilda.'

At the Junior school, we were also fortunate to have a visit from John Press, a local author, who shared his work and discussed his journey as a writer with all classes. The children came prepared with interesting and thoughtful questions to challenge John. He really enjoyed his visit to St. Mary's Junior School and the children clearly enjoyed meeting a real life author! Lots of children have expressed interest to purchase John's book 'The Return of the Purple Paw' after reading the first few chapters in class and meeting with him to discuss how he planned, created and edited his book. Information of the reduced costing of this book will be sent out to those children who have already responded to reserve a copy of the book.

### **Awards & Achievements**

#### **St Mary's Awards - Spring 2**

**3 Mulberry** - Oliver Brzezinski      **3 Willow** - Oliver Izani      **3 Hawthorn** - Kai Thomson

**4 Ash** - Caitlin Tuke    **4 Poplar** - Maciej Andrzejewski      **4 Rowan** - Joshua Mboura

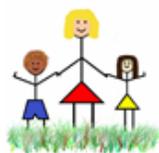
**5 Birch** - Ella Young    **5 Elm** - Jacob Jagielo    **5 Sycamore** - Ellen Toye

**6 Chestnut** - Grace Stinson    **6 Oak** - Daisy Lee

**Chess Awards** The following children have qualified to represent the school in the next "Megafinal" stage of the UK Chess Challenge, the world's largest chess tournament!

Jose Aceves Robledo, Isabella Morreale, Thomas Kvam, Victor Aceves Robledo, Finley Clooke, Amara Gillen and Harry Farrant.

Harry Farrant has also been awarded Class Champion and wins the trophy.



## NURSERY & INFANTS' SCHOOL



## JUNIOR SCHOOL

<b>INSET DAY 4</b>	<b>Mon 16 Apr</b>	<b>INSET DAY 4</b>
<b>SCHOOL STARTS 8.55AM</b>	<b>Tue 17 Apr</b>	<b>SCHOOL STARTS 8.45AM</b>
	<b>Wed 18 Apr</b>	9am Class Rep Meeting
	<b>Wed 18 Apr</b>	Year 5 trip to Bough Beech Water Reservoir IOW meeting for Year 6 parents 7pm
<b>Horses Class Liturgy 9am. Parents welcome</b> <b>SMIF Committee meeting</b>	<b>Thur 19 Apr</b>	Year 5 trip to Bough Beech Water Reservoir
	<b>Fri 20 Apr</b>	<b>Daily Mile Assembly 9am - children only</b> Swimming 3M, 3W & 3H
	<b>Sun 22 Apr</b>	FSM Quiz Night The Greyhound Carshalton
Reception - Height & Weight Measurement	<b>Mon 23 Apr</b>	
Penguin Class to Buckingham Palace Mews Reception - Height & Weight Measurement <b>Visit from Art Gallery Years 1 &amp; 2</b>	<b>Tue 24 Apr</b>	<b>Visit from Art Gallery All year Groups</b>
Reception - Height & Weight Measurement	<b>Wed 25 Apr</b>	Creativity Day - Whole School Learning Journal to be sent home with the topic of "Summer"
Bees Class to Buckingham Palace Mews <b>Meerkat Liturgy 9am. Parents welcome</b>	<b>Thur 26 Apr</b>	
Elephant Class to Buckingham Palace Mews	<b>Fri 27 Apr</b>	Assembly with Tom Brake - children only
Sutton Schools Work Assembly - children only	<b>Mon 30 Apr</b>	
	<b>Tue 1 May</b>	Crowning of Mary 9am children only
Class photos	<b>Wed 2 May</b>	Class and group photos
Parent Forum Meeting 9am Junior School Crowning of Mary Mass 9am children only	<b>Thur 3 May</b>	Parent Forum Meeting 9am Junior School
Year 1 Outing to Animal Kingdom (Chessington World of Adventures)	<b>Fri 4 May</b>	Swimming 3M, 3W & 3H
<b>BANK HOLIDAY</b>	<b>Mon 7 May</b>	<b>BANK HOLIDAY</b>
	<b>Fri 11 May</b>	Swimming 3M, 3W & 3H
	<b>Mon 14 May</b>	SATS WEEK
<b>Cheetah Class Liturgy 9am. Parents welcome.</b>	<b>Thur 17 May</b>	
	<b>Fri 18 May</b>	Swimming 4A, 4P & 4R
	<b>Mon 21 May</b>	<b>Year 6 Retreat Day at the Church of Our Lady of the Rosary</b>
Group of Year 2 Choir to perform at the KS1 Big Sing Concert in the afternoon at All Saints Carshalton.	<b>Wed 23 May</b>	
<b>Giraffe Class Liturgy 9am. Parents welcome.</b>	<b>Thur 24 May</b>	
	<b>Fri 25 May</b>	Swimming 4A, 4P & 4R
<b>SCHOOL FINISHES</b> <b>SCHOOL STARTS 8.55AM</b>	<b>Mon 4 June</b>	<b>SCHOOL FINISHES</b> <b>SCHOOL STARTS 8.45AM</b>
	<b>Tue 5 June</b>	Year 6 Trip to 4 <sup>th</sup> Dimension Year 3 Trip to Butser Farm

	Thur 7 June	Sports day on the Infant School field Years 5 & 6 in the morning Years 3 & 4 in the afternoon
	Fri 8 June	Swimming 4A, 4P & 4R
	Thur 14 June	Sutton Schools Work Assembly Children only
	Fri 15 June	Swimming 5B, 5S & 5E
	Sat 16 June	School Journey for Year 6
	Thur 21 June	Year 3 First Holy Communion Mass 11am and photographs. Parents welcome. New Year 3 2018 Intake Parents meeting 7pm
	Fri 22 June	Swimming 5B, 5S & 5E
Sutton Schools Work Assembly - children only	Mon 25 Jun	
New Reception 2018 Intake Parents Meeting 2pm	Tue 26 Jun	
New Nursery 2018 Intake Parents Meeting 9.30am	Wed 27 Jun	
	Fri 29 June	Year 5 Under Canvas event Feast of St Peter & Paul - all children attending Mass
	Tue 3 Jul	Year 5 Coffee morning 9.30am to 10.30am to discuss any concerns you have about transfer to high school. This is not a presentation but a chance to ask questions.
	Wed 4 Jul	Year 5 Coffee afternoon 2pm to 3pm to discuss any concerns you have about transfer to high school. This is not a presentation but a chance to ask questions.
	Thur 5 Jul	Year 4 - Group of children to attend Wider Opps Concert St Andrews Cheam
Mufti Day - Own Clothes. Bring a bottle and cakes	Fri 6 Jul	Whole School Intra School Athletics - All day outside Mufti Day - Own Clothes. Bring a bottle and cakes
Joint Summer Fete at the Infant School	Sat 7 Jul	Joint Summer Fete at the Infant School
Full Governing Body Meeting Infant School 7pm	Tue 10 Jul	Full Governing Body Meeting Infant School 7pm
Year 2 attending year 6 Production at the Junior School	Tue 17 Jul	Year 6 Production 1.30pm & 7pm. All welcome.
NURSERY FINISHES	Thur 19 Jul	Final Assembly - children only
SCHOOL FINISHES 2PM	Fri 20 Jul	Leavers Mass 11am. Year 6 Parents welcome SCHOOL FINISHES 2PM
INSET DAY 5	Mon 23 Jul	INSET DAY 5
INSET DAY 1	Mon 3 Sept	INSET DAY 1
INSET DAY 2	Tue 4 Sept	INSET DAY 2
SCHOOL STARTS 8.55AM	Wed 5 Sept	SCHOOL STARTS 8.45AM
Individual & Sibling Photos	Tue 16 Oct	Individual & Sibling Photos
SCHOOL FINISHES	Fri 19 Oct	SCHOOL FINISHES
SCHOOL STARTS 8.55AM	Mon 29 Oct	SCHOOL STARTS 8.45AM
SCHOOL FINISHES 2PM	Fri 21 Dec	SCHOOL FINISHES 2PM