

St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter – Friday 25th February 2022

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*Happy are those who hear the word of God
and keep it' Luke 11:28*

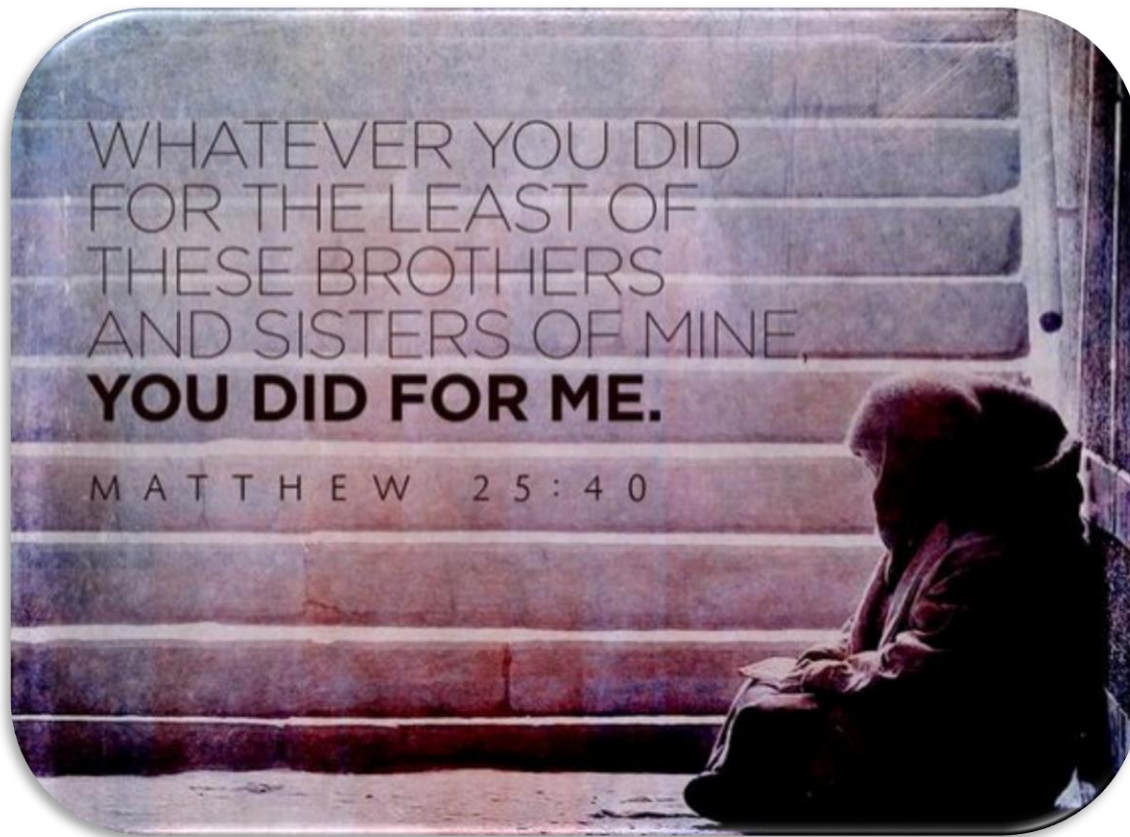
Dear Parent/Carer

An exciting week in school in which we had a rather 'odd' visitor once more, Dr. Fragile. You can read all about his visit below. We approach the end of February and next week we enter the month of March and the special period of Lent begins.

In our Celebration Assembly today we talked about Lent and how we are called to reflect and repent. We think of how Jesus fasted in the desert for 40 days and 40 nights. During Lent we may think about what we may choose to give up or indeed what extra we may do to help us "*Live our lives as Jesus taught us*". It may be, helping someone in need, raising money for charity or offering an extra prayer each day.



Our actions can be small or large. In the Bible Matthew tells us that when we help others it is like helping Jesus.



You child will have brought home a Lenten Planner- This can also be found on our website and is displayed in our notice board.

The next two weeks activities are shown below;

Wednesday 2 nd March	Ash Wednesday
Thursday 3 rd March	Lenten Mass at 8.15 am followed by Lenten Breakfast in the school hall
	Dress up as a World Book Day Character - Bring in a colour item for next week's colour stalls
Thursday 10 th March	Lenten Mass at 8.15 am followed by Lenten Breakfast in the school hall
	Colour stalls- Bring in spending money and colour items to sell! Matthew - Yellow Mark - Red Luke - Blue John - Green

Wonderful World Water Day @ St Mary's!



On Tuesday 22nd February, we celebrated World Water Day at St Mary's, beginning our day with an exciting assembly with Dr. Fragile. He spoke to us about the importance of water, why it is important to save water and some 'Sticky Knowledge' Facts for us to remember (there was 100 House Points each if you could remember them).

Our Sticky Knowledge facts were:

1. 75% of the earth is covered by water.
2. Only 3% of the water on Earth is safe to drink.
3. Water is made up of Hydrogen and Oxygen.
4. Water boils at 100 degrees Celsius and begins to freeze at 0 degrees Celsius.
5. We should try to drink 2 litres of water (between 6-8 glasses) each day.

Dr. Fragile then showed us a whole host of experiments using water; from re-appearing water beads, a colourful, musical xylophone and colour-changing water, to almost cutting Mr Taylor's hair and beard off and the grand finale... Exploding rocket pots!

Back in class, we continued learning about water, by completing different activities, such as explaining the water cycle, reading different scales in our Maths lessons, talking about the different animals that might live in the sea and finally designing a 'Save Water' poster to go around school.

Dr. Fragile said, "It was great to see the children (and staff) so enthusiastic on this very special day, as well as learning the important facts about water. Let's hope they remember the things they discussed in school about saving water, when they get back home!"

Covid- 19- Important information

As you will be aware the Government have published their 'Living with Covid' plan effective from 24.2.22. As I write, we await additional/ further guidance from our Local Authority and, as you will appreciate, each school will have to ensure that they apply any guidance in such a manner it supports their own setting and their individual risk assessment so that we can work to keep each other safe.

A key change is that the 'Legal' requirement to Self-Isolate has been removed, however, the guidance STILL STATES that people who are positive should isolate to prevent the spread see below:-

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-people-with-covid-19-and-their-contacts/covid-19-people-with-covid-19-and-their-contacts>

"Children and young people with COVID-19 should not attend their education setting while they are infectious. They should take an LFD test from 5 days after their symptoms started (or the day their test was taken if they did not have symptoms) followed by another one the next day. If both these tests results are negative, they should return to their educational setting if they normally attend one, as long as they feel well enough to do so and do not have a temperature. They should follow the guidance for their educational setting"

Whilst there are many positives in moving forward it remains our priority to **keep everyone safe and ensure school remains open**. I will continue to advise you and keep families fully informed as we receive any additional guidance or information.

In Summary;

- At present anyone presenting with symptoms of Covid -19 are encouraged to seek a PCR test. Testing is **still available** (guidance will be updated 1.4.22)
- Anyone who tests positive for Covid- 19 should follow the above guidance and remain at home
- Any pupil who is unwell should remain at home. If pupils have a high temperature, sickness or diarrhoea they should remain at home for 48 hours.

World Book Day - Swap a book Station!!

To celebrate World Book day on Thursday 4th March lots of special activities will take place at school. All pupils will get to enjoy an outdoor reading session under our canopy. Many different staff will share their favourite books!

We will also be running a 'Swap a Book' station. We would ask all pupils to bring in a book in good condition that they have already enjoyed and donate this to school- all pupils will then be invited to go along to the swap station and come home with a new book!!

We would ask that all books come into school on **Monday 28th February** so they can be organised into age appropriate sets etc. Thank you!!

Celebration Assembly – Family Invitation

We would like to begin to invite our families back into school and I know you are all excited and keen to come and celebrate your children's achievements once more. Whilst we continue to return to a 'more normal' – we are mindful of the need to make small steps in order to keep each other safe and support wellbeing recognising everyone has different comfort levels.

Initially therefore we would invite those parents/ carers of the pupil's being celebrated only at this point. If you child's name is on the bottom section of this newsletter we would welcome you to come along next **Friday 5th March at 9.15 am**. We thank you for your ongoing support and understanding. To attend the Celebration Assembly please come down to the Hall via the driveway.

Breakfast and After School Club

We are pleased to be able to continue to offer our Breakfast and After School clubs each day. I know this is invaluable service for many families.

In order to book spaces we ask that families complete a booking form and send payment in at the time of booking. **We are only able to secure booking with payments.** We have limits on the maximum pupils that are able to attend due to staffing and ratios so please do complete the relevant forms well in advance.

Our clubs are run on a non-profit basis to provide a service to our families. If we do not receive payments in advance and have outstanding payments due we will not be able to continue to run our clubs.

Should you require a booking form for either please see Mrs Lofthouse or Miss Harrison
Thank you for your ongoing support.

Big School Adventures

Big School Adventures takes place 1.15 – 3.15 pm each week. Places are limited and must be booked in advance.

Dates for your diary:

Celebrations Awards

	Achievement Award Winner	'EAT' Award Winner Explore, Active, Think creatively	Welfare Award Winner
Class 1	Jade Beresford	Amelia Patel	Amelia Patel
Class 2	Jessica Moore	Ellis Leigh	Dougie Pye
Class 3	Georgia Purkis	Rowan Hawkins	Finney Griffiths
Class 4	Sebastian King	Penny Robinson	Jessica Eland

At St. Mary's School we

“Live our lives as Jesus taught us,

Work hard together to achieve our best,

Respect each other and the world around us,

Have fun and enjoy learning!”

