



Headteacher Message

Dear Parents/ Carers

What a wonderful Lent 2 term it has been, filled with the most amazing sunshine and very happy events. It was a joy to share all the amazing talents that the children have at St Marys in the talent show. Thank you to the Fosm volunteers for putting on a wonderful show, that was enjoyed by all. We raised over £300 for the Cafod Big Lent walk and walked over 600km together. The pupils also thoroughly enjoyed the career's day and being able to dress up in their future career's clothes- so aspiring to see. There will be more about the latter events from our reports from the School Council, Chaplaincy Team and Eco- team. It is such a blessing to have such pro-active children at St Mary's, who have so many inspirational ideas.

Year Two and Year 5 had a great and informative time at the Space Centre this term and the children also enjoyed the other faith's week, learning this time about Hinduism. The school has had very special celebrations of the word for Holy week, including one led by Year 4 outside about the Garden of Gethsemane, using the KS2 garden. The Easter Holiday camp is being run at St Mary's school from Monday to Thursday in the first week of the holidays and in the second week at Delisle. We do hope you can join us for the children's stations of the Cross on Good Friday in St Mary's school hall.

On behalf of all the staff at St Mary's we wish you a restful and enjoyable Easter holiday and look forward to seeing you all on Monday the 28th of April for the start of the Pentecost term.

Miss Jordan



Contact Info

Address: Hastings Street, Loughborough, LE11 5AX Phone: 01509 212 621

Email: office@stmarys-rc.leics.sch.uk Website: www.stmarys-rc.leics.sch.uk



Dates for your diary



7th April: Holy week Liturgies in school

Easter holidays begin 14th April to the 25th of April

School begins for the Pentecost term (Summer Term- 28th April)

Friday 2nd of May: Colour Dash run on Cumberland field

5th May: Bank Holiday

12th May: y6 SATS begin

16th May: film night

26th May-30th May: Half Term

2nd of June- start of the Pentecost 2 term: y4 multiplication tests this week

9th June: Phonics Screening Week : Y1

16th June: Y6 Bike-ability Sessions

11th July: Last day of term

Summer holidays begin 14th of July

Follow us on x and instagram

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ST MARY'S CHAPLAINCY TEAM

Hello we are the St Mary's Chaplaincy Team. In the Chaplaincy Team, we have 2-3 members from each class from year 3 upwards, who have been elected by our classmates or in the case of two of us, been elected by the Headteacher for enriching the Catholic life and mission of the school. Our president Ravnor is also the other faith's leader. We have a deputy president, secretary, a communications team and a Sacristy team. The president and secretary set the agenda with Miss Jordan, after the Monday celebration of the Word and we try to meet once a week. Please have a look at our board in the hall.

The Big Lent Walk

As a chaplaincy team, we set a target of £200 for the Cafod Big Lent walk and to walk at least 200km in Lent. We wanted to involve all the classes, including St Annes and invite families to join us on Cumberland Field for it. It was a beautiful sunny day and we were thrilled to raise more than our target and walk 600 km. Thank you to all families and friends for sponsoring the pupils in school. We know the money will go to a good cause, because Will came to talk to us from Cafod in an assembly and told us about chickens for a family and the cost of it. Will called them glitter chickens. One Headteacher walked a long way to a church in Derby in a chicken outfit for Cafod. We are going to make Miss Jordan do that next year, but we haven't told her yet!

Lent Prayers and Stations of the Cross

As the Chaplaincy team, we started a new trend called..... " Secret Lenter." We printed out all the names of the pupils and staff in the school, cut each name out and added it to a bowl. Everyone then picked out a name of the child/ adult they would pray for in Lent. We also have some lovely outdoor stations on the Junior courtyard wall and playground, from a donation by the Loughborough Catenians. We have led the stations on Thursday lunchtimes and have been joined by large groups of children.

Saint's Prayers for Each Class

During one of our Chaplaincy meetings, we looked at our goals on our action plan formed at the Rosmini Centre in the Advent term. We have written prayers for each class saint, which we will share with parent's next term. One of our successful actions, was visiting the classes to check the RE boards, with the RE lead adults in school. One of the best classes were Y4, who had all the key vocabulary.

We will keep you in our prayers.

Written by Elsa- Communications team member of the Chaplaincy team.

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School Council/Eco- Team

Eco team-Gold Food For Life Award

St Mary's school staff and pupils were thrilled to receive the Gold Food for Life Award on the 7th of April. This has been the result of many years of hard work, growing, cooking, learning and raising the profile of healthy eating. The growing areas in school have been expanded, including by the year 6 area to include a mini apple orchard, wild flower area, green house and an area to grow strawberries. Thank you so much to all the staff who help with this, particularly Mrs Hill, and Mrs O'Connell who lead the eco-team, Mrs Hunt who leads the gardening club and Michelle and Vijay in the kitchen, who listen to our menu ideas and help us reduce food waste.

Eco Warrior: "I am most proud of the work I have done to set up the green house. I am growing carrots and tomatoes to give to the kitchen"

Year 4 pupil: "Now I eat apples and grapes" (this was following on from the TastEd work done with the pupil and his family, now the pupil has a healthier lunch box)

Eco Warrior: "My favourite vegetable is beetroot. I like to grow it and eat it with rice."

As an Eco team we have encouraged lots of litter picking this term. Classes now seem to automatically take the Litter pickers out with them, every time they go for a walk or trip. Well-done to Y1 for their litter pick at Queen's park and to Y6 and Y3 for using their successes and suggestions bins. We are hosting an Eco film night on Wednesday the 4th of June. More details to follow.

Written by Kenayah -Eco team member.

School Council

We wanted to thank all the parents/ carers who helped us with the Career's day. We loved dressing up and finding out about lots of careers. Thank you to Mr Rutledge from Biffa, the teaching school, Fr David, Mr Neale and the dentists too. We will look to have another day like this in the future.

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Leicestershire Children's Holidays and Trips/ Colour Dash

Leicestershire children's holidays are a great charity that we fundraised last year for on the colour dash. They have helped us so much to fund school trips, such as the year 2 and 5 space centre trip, the Briar's residential and other trips for pupils in receipt of pupil premium funding. Without their support, we would not be able to fund so many trips for the year and reduce parent contributions. The St Mary's colour dash this year, will be on Friday the 2nd of May, which we will aim like last year to run on Cumberland field. We do hope you can support this year, as every child benefits in St Mary's school from this charity. Parents are welcome to watch and as it will be in the afternoon, can take children from the field if they are attending, as the following Monday is a bank holiday. The children had an assembly on this on the 8th of April at 9a.m.

Increase in Prices for Wrap around club

It has been wonderful to see an increase in numbers for the before school club. The school applied for funding for this and this supports some free places. However there is no funding for the wrap around care club and unfortunately due to running costs, the price will need to increase after the Easter holidays. £5.00 for the hour after school and £11.50 for the full time at wrap around club. Extra curricular sport's clubs will also need to increase to £4.00.

STAFFING

Congratulations to Mrs Rutledge who has been appointed Headteacher at English Martyrs Catholic Primary School in Oakham for the next Academic year. We will miss Mrs Rutledge when she leaves at the end of this Academic year and Mrs Adamek who is also retiring after many, many years as a higher level teaching assistant also at the end of this Academic year. We will celebrate their wonderful achievements in the Pentecost 2 term and hope you can join us for the celebrations. We also hope you can join us for our end of term mass this Friday the 11th of April at 1.30p.m in the school hall, also to celebrate Mrs Rutledge's special birthday.