



St. Mary of the Angels Catholic Primary School

Following Jesus in all we think, do and say

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Headteacher: Mrs Mary Wilson

Newsletter: 11th March 2022

Dear Parents, carers, pupils, staff and governors

Dear Jesus,

Please comfort the people of Ukraine and keep them safe.

Help and protect the people in Russia who are protesting against the war.

Change the hearts of world leaders who want war.

Bring your peace, love and understanding into the rooms where decisions are being made.

Jesus, please be merciful to the world. Shine your light of love and hope.

Help us seek peace and bring an end to war.

Amen



Prayer for Ukraine

As you will recall, we recently sent home some guidance for parents, carers and staff in how to support children who may be worried or anxious about things they may have seen in the news and about the war in Ukraine in particular. In assembly today, we shared the prayer to your left and each class teacher then led a short prayer service in class with resources provided by TEN TEN Catholic Worship. The teachers have shared with me how supportive the children have been of each other and particularly of the small number of our children who have family and friends in Ukraine and Russia. Once again we stressed that it is understandable that we may feel worried or anxious when we hear about wars and that it's important to talk to someone about how we are feeling.

Travelling Book Fair

A big thank you to everyone who attended and supported the Book Fair. **£935.95** worth of books were sold, which in turn raised an amazing **£501.57** for our school. This money will be used to buy books for our school library. Thank you also to all of you who bought a book for your child's class.

World Book Day 2022 Parade

World Book Day on Thursday 3rd March was a day full of fun activities and most importantly, lots of READING! Classes participated in activities such as book tastings, virtual storytelling, author presentations, visits to Paddington Children's Library, mystery storyteller 'drop-ins' to the classroom and our famous book costume parade to end the day. Thank you to parents and carers for your support, not only in helping to create amazing costumes, but also for encouraging and participating in home reading each day with your child. Reading is the foundation of learning and we certainly value this at our school. The 2022 World Book Day winners will be announced at our whole school assembly next Friday.

STEAM Week 2022

St Mary of the Angels will be celebrating **STEAM Week** (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Maths) from Monday 14th-Friday 18th March. Remember to look at our homepage on the school website and your child's class page for more information about STEAM Week and the planned activities.



Welcome to St. Mary of the Angels Lurky!

We have recently welcomed a new member to our staff team. His name is Lurky and he will be visiting us every Friday afternoon. The Dog Mentor programme has built upon the benefits of the human-animal bond by providing children with positive experiences with dogs that can help them educationally, developmentally, emotionally and socially. We envisage that The Dog Mentor Programme will bring a positive influence into the school environment as a whole and look forward to the impact that The Dog Mentor programme will have on our children. Please feel free to visit The Dog Mentor's website for more details www.thedogmentor.co.uk

LENT: Our Pilgrimage to the Cross

Our Pilgrimage to the Cross began on Ash Wednesday, the start of Lent, when our Key Stage 1 and 2 children and staff attended Mass at St. Mary of the Angels Church. We are so very proud of the reverence the children showed in church and their participation in the Mass. Our journey through Lent with Jesus continues with our weekly Gospel assemblies; more information about which you can find [here](#) or by visiting www.tentenresources.co.uk/parent-newsletter/ Thank you for taking home the Catholic Children's Society's collection boxes. These can be returned to school anytime up until 31st March.

Easter Bonnet Parades

We are delighted to share with you that we will be holding an Easter Bonnet Parade for our Foundation Stage children. We have also decided to hold a Key Stage 1 Easter Bonnet Parade, for this year only, as we know some of the children haven't been able to take part in this longstanding Easter tradition. We plan to hold the parades outside in the Key Stage 1 playground and parents and carers are invited so you and your child are invited to get creative and we look forward to seeing the wonderful home-made bonnets and hats that our school is famous for. There will be prizes and everyone who takes part will receive a certificate.

Monday 28th March 2.45pm Key Stage 1 Easter Bonnet Parade (Goldfinches and Kingfishers)
Wednesday 30th March 2.45pm Foundation Stage Easter Bonnet Parade (Ducklings, Robins and Sparrows)

Please note, if on the day the weather isn't suitable for an outdoor parade we may not be able to invite parents and carers in to the school for an indoor parade. A letter with more details will be sent home in the coming days.

Prayer Services

Thank you to all the parents and carers who attended Robins prayer service last Friday and Goldfinches prayer service today. It is wonderful to be able to invite family members in to school to join us in prayer and worship. The dates for the remaining prayer service are as follows:

Swifts Friday 18th March 3pm
Sparrows Friday 25th March 3pm
Kestrels Friday 29th April 3pm
Swans Friday 20th May 3pm
Ducklings Thursday 9th June 9.15am
Hérons Friday 10th June 3pm
Kingfishers Friday 17th June 3pm



Polling Day

St. Mary of the Angels will be closed to children on Thursday 5th May as the school will be used as a Polling Station for the local council elections. We will write to you nearer the time re the remote learning that will be provided for the day.

Reminder: Parent Teacher Consultations

The dates for our Spring Parent Teacher consultations are as follows:

Goldfinches, Kingfishers, Herons & Swans

Tuesday 15th March 1.30 – 3.00 / 4.00 – 5.20

Thursday 17th March 1.30 – 3.00 / 4.00 – 5.20

Ducklings, Robins, Sparrows, Swifts & Kestrels

Tuesday 22nd March 1.30 – 3.00 / 4.00 – 5.20

Thursday 24th March 1.30 – 3.00 / 4.00 – 5.20

Appointments will be video or phone appointments. Online bookings are now closed so if you have yet to make an appointment please contact Mrs. Murphy in the office.

Covid-19

A reminder that you must not send your child to school if:

- they are showing one or more [coronavirus \(COVID-19\) symptoms](#)
- they have had a positive test result
- there are other reasons requiring them to stay at home, for example, they are [required to quarantine](#)

You should follow public health advice on [when to self-isolate and what to do](#). If you insist on your child attending school when they have symptoms, the school can take the decision to refuse your child if, in our reasonable judgement, it is necessary to protect other pupils and staff from possible infection with COVID-19. This decision would be carefully considered in light of all the circumstances and current public health advice.

The school's expectation is if your child has tested positive for Covid-19 you should inform the school and keep them at home for a minimum of 5 days. Please access the link below for the latest guidance for parents and carers re Covid-19.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/step-4-update-what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges>

Kind regards

Mrs Wilson
Headteacher

Mrs Hough
Deputy Headteacher (Acting)