



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: 2nd December 2022

Dear Parents, carers, pupils, staff and governors,

Police Visit: Tuesday 22nd November

Last week, we were delighted to welcome PC Mo, PC Lewis and PC Ellis to our school to lead a special assembly about Stranger Danger and Walking Safely for Foundation Stage, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 pupils and staff. The children really engaged well with the assembly and were very excited to question the Police Officers about their line of work. The children in Nursery and Reception even got the chance to sit in the police car and set off the sirens!

Christmas Movie Night

A big thank you to everyone who attended and supported our Christmas Movie Night. We raised £785 for our school. We are therefore delighted to announce that that we have raised the total £500 cost of our school's new subscription to ZSL's Education Access Scheme. You may recall from our previous newsletter that the scheme affords the school unlimited visits to London Zoo, so we very much look forward to booking our first visits in the spring term. If you would like to find out more about the scheme please [click here](#). Thank you also to all of the school staff who helped with the planning and preparation for the event and who stayed behind to supervise the children.

Advent: A Season of Giving

Pope Francis tells us that 'the measure of the greatness of a society is found in the way it treats those most in need'. Our school community continues to come together to support those less fortunate than us, whether the need is local, national or further afield. Some of our Advent almsgiving activities, chosen with the help of our team of Mini Vinnies, are detailed below and we thank you in advance for your generosity.

Reverse Advent Calendar

Inspired by Pope Francis, we are asking families to take part in our '**Reverse Advent Calendar**' project this Advent. The Caritas Food Collective are a new project working to tackle food poverty in the Diocese of Westminster. Each class has been assigned an item that the foodbank require from our 'Reverse Advent Calendar.' We invite the children to bring in their donations on the date assigned to their class. Each item will then be put together and donated to **Westbourne Park Pantry**.

Class	Item	Date to be brought in
Ducklings	Tea or Coffee	5/12/22
Robins	Tinned Puddings	5/12/22
Goldfinches	Tinned fruit/vegetables	6/12/22
Kingfishers	Tinned Sauces	6/12/22
Swifts	Long life juice or long life milk	7/12/22
Kestrels	Cereal	7/12/22
Hérons	Rice	8/12/22
Swans	Biscuits	8/12/22
School Staff	Toiletries	

Christmas Jumper Day

On Thursday 8th December pupils and staff are invited to wear a Christmas jumper and make a £1 donation to help support St John's Hospice in St John's Wood. The hospice provides specialised palliative care to more than 4,000 terminally-ill patients and their families every year and relies on voluntary donations to continue its essential work in our community. Last year, we donated an amazing £210.75 to the hospice. Please join us on Thursday 8th December and encourage your child to wear a Christmas jumper or decorate a jumper with festive decorations such as tinsel or paper snowflakes. Thank you in advance for your support.

Christmas Lunch

We are looking forward to our Christmas lunch in school on Thursday 8th December. If your child has a packed lunch but would like to have a traditional Christmas lunch on this day, then please inform Ms Chadwick no later than Monday 5th December by emailing office@stmaryangels.co.uk

Wigmore Hall: Family Concert - Sounds of the Skies

As part of our [Partner Schools Programme](#) with Wigmore Hall, we are delighted to announce that Wigmore Hall are offering our school an allocation of 20 free tickets for a family concert on the 17th December at 1pm. The event is suitable for children aged 7+ and tickets are free (normally £12 for adults and £10 for children). Please note, all children must be accompanied by an adult. If you would like to attend please email Ms Chadwick at office@stmaryangels.co.uk no later than 9am on Wednesday 7th December and include the following information in your message:

- Subject: Wigmore Hall
- Names and address of all you would like to attend (first name and last name)

Please note that the tickets are limited and will be given to families on a first come first served basis. We will email you to confirm if your family have been allocated tickets. If you do not receive any further communication with the school then unfortunately you and your family will not have secured tickets. Wigmore Hall will be offering our school and pupils many more opportunities to join them as we continue with the partner school programme.

Westminster Deanery Choir

Reminder for pupils from Year 3-6 from Yvette Murphy (Choral Director)

If you are interested in joining the Westminster Deanery Choir, rehearsals are held every Thursday during term time from 4-5pm (pupils can arrive from 3.30pm and will be supervised until the start of the session)

Location: Our Lady of Sorrows, 17 Cirencester Street, W2 5SR

Sign up form: <https://forms.gle/v6wyGWTqFsdBWvPs5>

For more information, contact Choral Director yvettemurphy@rcdow.org.uk

School Admissions Consultation

You will have seen the letter sent home via email on 25th November regarding the governing body's proposal to reduce the school's published admissions number from 42 to 30 from the start of the academic year 2024/2025. The formal consultation period opened on Monday 28th November and closes on Sunday 8th January 2023. For further information, including how to comment on the proposed change to the school's Admission Policy for 2024/2025, please [click here](#).

Reminder: Christmas Dates

Celebrating the Good News of Jesus' birth is such an important part of our school and liturgical year so we will be doing all we can to ensure our school community can come together to share in the joy and festivities in the run up to the Nativity of the Lord on Christmas Day.

Tuesday 6 th December	Foundation Stage Nativity 9.30am for parents/carers
Wednesday 7 th December	Foundation Stage Trip to 'The Lyric Theatre'
Thursday 8 th December	Christmas Lunch Mass at 10am - The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception (KS2 only) Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 9 th December	Key Stage 2 Carol Service 2:30pm at St. Mary of Angels Church
Tuesday 13 th December	Key Stage 1 Nativity 2.30pm for parents/carers
Friday 16 th December	End of Term 2/School closes at 1.30pm for Christmas Holidays
Wednesday 4 th January	School opens: Start of Term 3

After School Care

Thank you to all who responded to the recent school survey re after school care being offered once again. We had 57 responses in total with 88% of those who responded saying that they would use after school care. Just under of these said they would use the service 2 to 4 times a week and 30% said they would use the provision daily. This is a positive response which was not reflected in the take up of the provision when it was offered by Fit for Sport earlier this year. However, we appreciate that needs may have changed now and so we have shared the results with 'Let's Leap' a company currently providing the service at a small number of schools in Westminster who have proposed offering the provision in our school for a trial period starting after February half term 2023 until the Easter holidays. The proposed costs are as follows:

Session One | 3:15pm - 5:00pm | £8 per day
 Session Two | 4:15pm - 6:00pm | £8 per day
 Full Session | 3:15pm - 6:00pm | £12 per day

The directors of Let's Leap will be visiting school from 8.45 – 9.30 on Tuesday 10th January and there will be a coffee morning for parents and carers at 9am on Tuesday 17th January. In the meantime, the sample timetable to the right provides an indication of the type of activities on offer. Please note, the initial provision will only be offered to children who are aged 5 or above. Please email the school office if you have any questions or speak to a member of senior staff at the school gate.

TIME	ACTIVITY	
3:15pm	Collection of ASC children	
3:20pm	REGISTRATION	
3:20 - 3:45pm	Let's Be Creative Arts & Crafts activities	Let's Be Mindful Reading and Puzzle games
3:45 - 4:15pm	Light Bite	
4:15pm	Collect children from clubs	
4:15 - 5:15pm	Let's Play Sports & Team Building games	Let's Explore Obstacle Course/Hydrscope & ...
5:00pm	SESSION 1 COLLECTION & SIGN OUT	
5:15 - 5:45pm	Let's Play Indoor Team Board games	Let's Be Mindful/Let's Build Reading, Puzzles, Memory/ Concentration games, Building Blocks
5:45 - 6:00pm	Milo's Challenge / Quiz (e.g. stop the bus or personal challenge)	
6:00pm	FULL SESSION COLLECTION & SIGN OUT	

After School Clubs: January – February 2023

Booking for after school clubs for spring term 1 opens on Monday 12th December and closes on Friday 6th January.

Prayer and Worship

Ten Ten's December newsletter is now available for you to read [here](#).

Prayer

O Jesus Christ, Prince of Peace,
 come and save your people.
 Joy of every heart,
 strength of those who are poor,
 come quickly to help us.
 Prince of Peace,
 teach the lion and the little lamb,
 teach the cat and the mouse,
 the hawk and the tiny bird,
 teach everyone who doesn't get along
 to live in peace.

Amen

Have a lovely weekend!

Mrs Wilson Mrs Hough
 Headteacher Acting Deputy Headteacher