



St. Mary of the Angels Catholic Primary School

Following Jesus in all we think, do and say

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Newsletter: 30th January 2023

Parents, carers, pupils, staff and governors,

Forest School

Our EYFS and KS1 pupils returned to Paddington Rec Forest School this week and were blessed with good weather. Forest School is a fantastic opportunity for all of our children to experience nature. Our Nursery pupils got to experience the wonder of going on a treasure hunt to collect natural resources and see how many different colours they could collect. They also got to have their snack and a drink around the campfire, built by Forest School teacher Helen.

"I got to play with log dogs and see the fire!" Malo

Floating Classroom

This week, Swifts and Kestrels got to visit the Floating Classroom to explore our local area from a very different vantage point! They investigated, identified and classified animals we find in our local area. The children also discovered how different animals have adapted to their environment.

"We went on a boat and it was really big. We learnt about birds – coots, mallards and there were lots of pigeons. We learnt about where they live – their habitats. I liked when we were wearing the birds shoes because they were so big!" Shagaf
Our thanks to all of our school staff who help to facilitate these wonderful learning experiences and trips for the children.



Foundation Stage News: People Who Help Us

On Thursday 26th January we were delighted to welcome Nathan, a Paramedic, to our school to visit Nursery and Reception children who have been learning about all of the different people who help us. The children engaged really well and asked lots of questions about what a paramedic does and the different equipment they get to use. They even got to try on some of the uniform a paramedic might wear! This special visit follows on from the visit of local police officers to our school earlier this term and preceded today's visit to our parish church today where Fr. Keith extended a warm welcome to our youngest children. Thank you to everyone involved in arranging these special visit and visitors.

Presentation of the Lord – Thursday 2nd February

On Thursday 2nd February at 10am, Key Stage 1 and 2 staff and pupils will be attending a special Mass at St. Mary of the Angels Church at 10am to celebrate the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord. Parents and carers are most welcome to attend to join us.

Class Assemblies

We are delighted to share with you our class assembly timetable. All assemblies will take place on Wednesday's at 9.15 in the school hall. Parents and carers are warmly invited to join us. A list of Prayer Services will be shared in our next school newsletter.

Ducklings	Wednesday 12th July
Robins	Wednesday 21st June
Goldfinches	Wednesday 14th June
Kingfishers	Wednesday 29th March
Swifts	Wednesday 5th July
Kestrels	Wednesday 1st March
Hérons	Wednesday 22nd March
Swans	Wednesday 19th April

School Street

As you will know from the last school newsletter, Westminster City Council has installed CCTV cameras in our School Street which is a pedestrian and cycle only zone between the hours of 8.15 - 9.15am and 2.45 - 3.45pm Monday to Friday. As from Monday 30th January, drivers who enter the School Street during these times may incur a Penalty Charge Notice of up to £130. For further information, including exemptions, please click [here](#) or go to <https://www.westminster.gov.uk/school-streets/cctv-school-streets-trial/st-mary-angels>



February Half-Term Holiday Activities & Meal Offer

Westminster City Council is once again funding local organisations to offer free activities and a healthy meal offer to children and young people in the borough. The offer is aimed at families who are eligible for Free School Meals and those who are experiencing financial hardship. Activities in February half-term include sports sessions, cultural trips, arts and crafts, drama sessions, cookery sessions, outdoor play and health and well-being activities.

To find out more about the free activities and to register for a place for your child please click [here](#) or go to <https://ourcity.org.uk/westminster-half-term>

Catholic Children's Society Crisis Fund

The Catholic Children's Society operates a Crisis Fund which provides immediate financial support for families experiencing financial hardship in the face of traumatic situations completely outside their control. Headteachers and parish priests can apply to this fund on behalf of a family and the society aims to respond within 24 hours. If you would like to discuss your situation in confidence please call or email Ms Chadwick (office@stmaryangels.co.uk) who will arrange for Mrs Wilson to call you the same day.

Parent/Carer Workshops

Our school nursing team, supported by Change4Life, will be offering parent/carers workshops in our school hall. We hope as many of you can attend as possible.

Workshop

Sugar Swap & Oral Health
Healthy Eating
Healthy Eating

Date:

Friday 3rd February @ 9-10am
Friday 24th February @ 9-10am
Friday 3rd March @ 9-10am

Target Audience

Nursery/Reception Parents
KS1/KS2 Parents
Nursery/Reception Parents

Baby News

Finally, we are pleased to announce that on Friday 20th January, Mrs Hough and her husband welcomed baby Zara Florence into the world! Mum and baby are both doing well and we look forward to meeting baby Zara soon.

Prayer

On Racial Justice Sunday (5th February), the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales encourage us to mark the day by praying these words of Pope Francis, taken from his encyclical letter Fratelli Tutti:

*Come, Holy Spirit, show us your beauty,
reflected in all the peoples of the earth,
so that we may discover anew
that all are important and all are necessary,
different faces of the one humanity
that God so loves.*

Amen.

Mrs. Wilson	Miss Percival	Miss Hulands
Headteacher	Assistant Headteacher	Assistant Headteacher