



## St. Mary of the Angels Catholic Primary School

*Following Jesus in all we think, do and say*

Shrewsbury Road, Bayswater, London W2 5PR  
Telephone: 020 7792 1883 Email: [office@stmaryangels.co.uk](mailto:office@stmaryangels.co.uk)  
Website: [www.stmaryangels.co.uk](http://www.stmaryangels.co.uk)  
Headteacher: Mrs Mary Wilson

Dear Parents/Carers

### Newsletter: Friday 8th September 2023

It was lovely to welcome the children back to St. Mary of the Angels this week! A special welcome to any new families joining our school family this year, including our youngest pupils in Nursery and Reception. We are so impressed with how well all the children have settled in to life in their new classes and we thank you in advance for your support, faith and encouragement for your child and the school in the year ahead. We are also delighted to welcome Mrs Waine, our Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO) back to school. A reminder that Mrs Waine's working days are Mondays and Tuesdays.



#### Follow the Leader

Our first whole school assembly of the new school year on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September gave all gathered an opportunity to reflect on their relationship with Jesus during the summer holidays and, through an imaginative reflection, consider how they want to follow Jesus during the year ahead - because Jesus is a leader we can trust to follow! All the staff were so impressed by the reverence shown by the children throughout the assembly. The assembly

was followed up in class with a reminder of our school's Golden Rules which help support us in being witnesses to our schools' mission to 'Follow Jesus in all we think, do and say'.

#### Welcome to Year Group Meetings

A message has been sent home today via text to parents/carers of pupils in Years 1 to 6 (email for Year 6) of the dates of the forthcoming Welcome to Year Group Meetings which can also be found below. A text message will be sent to Ducklings and Robins parents/carers once all the children have started school. These meetings will take place in the school hall with your child's class teacher and the relevant key stage leader. Teachers will share information about the curriculum, expectations, home learning, essential learning experiences and how you can continue to support your child at home. There will also be the chance to ask general questions.

Welcome to Year 2	Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> September 9am
Welcome to Year 6/Secondary Transfer	Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> September 2.30pm
Welcome to Year 1	Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> September 9am
Welcome to Reception	Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> September 2:45pm
Welcome to Year 3	Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> September 9am
Welcome to Nursery	Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> September 9am
Welcome to Year 5	Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> September 9am
Welcome to Year 4	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> September 9am

#### Catholic Life of the School

Please [click here](#) to view/download the RE curriculum newsletter for the term ahead. We continue to use Ten Ten's Collective Worship for Catholic Primary Schools which provide a media-rich range of prayer, liturgy and worship resources for assemblies, classrooms, teachers and parents. Please see Ten Ten's September newsletter below or click [here](#) to view the newsletter online.

#### Our School prayer

We are encouraging all classes to learn our School Prayer and would appreciate your support in helping by sharing the prayer at home.

*Loving Father,  
Bless our school and fill our hearts with love, friendship and forgiveness.  
Help every child to grow and achieve the best that they can  
When we find things difficult give us the courage to carry on.  
We thank you for all of our friends and classmates.  
Bless our families, our community and all who help us in our school.  
Help us to follow in your footsteps.  
Amen*

#### Curriculum Newsletters

These will be sent home early next week.

### PE Days

Mr Grace, our new PE Coach, is looking forward to starting PE lessons next week. Children in Reception to Year 6 must wear their school PE kit on their PE days (see **Uniform** below). Please note - Year 6 Swans will be taking part in swimming lessons on Thursdays this term. As per the text messages sent home, PE days for Autumn 1 (September – October) are as follows:

Robins	Thursday
Goldfinches	Monday & Wednesday
Kingfishers	Monday & Wednesday
Hummingbirds	Monday & Thursday
Kestrels	Wednesday & Thursday
Swallows	Wednesday & Thursday
Hérons	Monday & Thursday
Swans	Monday & Thursday (swimming)

### Uniform

Please ensure that you adhere to the school's uniform policy which you can find [here](#). In particular, we draw your attention to the requirement for children to wear dark blue/navy jackets/coats and black school shoes (black plimsolls/trainers on PE days). This is particularly relevant when you purchase new items for our winter uniform. Black jackets/coats are not part of our uniform policy and should not be worn to school. Jewellery is not allowed other than stud earrings and a watch. We will be holding a pre-loved uniform sale later this term in preparation for the changeover to winter uniform after the October half term.

### Forest School 2023/2024

We are delighted that pupils in Reception to Year 4 will be taking part once again in the Forest School programme at Paddington Recreation Ground. Unfortunately, Sayers Croft's Urban Nature Space have decided to no longer offer sessions for Nursery and Upper Key Stage 2 pupils. However, Year 5 and Year 6 will get the opportunity to engage in outdoor learning whilst on their much-anticipated residential trips this coming year. As for Nursery, we are currently looking into opportunities within our local area to explore the outdoors. In the meantime, we know our pupils in Nursery and Reception will continue to make the most of our wonderful, newly refurbished Foundation Stage playground.

Class teachers will send home a letter with more detailed information about the Forest School programme prior to your child's first visit which will include the dates of the visits and seek your consent for your child to attend. In the meantime, if you would like to find out more about the programme please click [here](#)



### A date for your diary

We are delighted to announce that we will be hosting our first ever **Macmillan Coffee Morning** in school on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September at 9am to which all parents/carers are warmly invited. In doing so, we will be joining people all over the UK hosting Coffee Mornings to raise funds for Macmillan to support people living with cancer. More details to follow. If you would like to help organise the event, please let Miss Chadwick or one of us on the gate know.

### Nursery and Reception Places

We have some places available in our Nursery and Reception classes so if you have friends or family members looking for a school place please ask them to contact the school. Applications for a nursery place are welcome from families whose child reaches his/her 3rd birthday between 1st September 2022 and 31st August 2023. Applications for a place in reception are welcome from families whose child reaches his/her 4th birthday between 1st September 2022 and 31st August 2023.



### Shrewsbury Road: School Street

Earlier this year, Westminster City Council installed CCTV cameras in Shrewsbury Road on the section of Shrewsbury Road between its junction with St Stephen's Gardens south and Talbot Road which is a School Street. A School Street is a designated pedestrian and cycle only zone between the hours of 8.15 - 9.15am and 2.45 - 3.45pm Monday to Friday, term times only. Drivers who enter the School Street during these times may incur a Penalty Charge Notice of up to £130. For more information and detail of exemptions, please click [here](#).

### After School Clubs: Multisport

Booking for after school clubs for autumn term 1 has opened. Please login via your school gateway account or by [clicking here](#). This term, we will be offering Multisport. A wider range of clubs will be available after half term. We will update you accordingly re additional clubs before half term.

### And finally, ...

Congratulations to Ms Davis on the safe arrival of her baby boy! Khalil was born on the 28<sup>th</sup> July, both mum and baby are doing well and we look forward to meeting baby Khalil soon.

Kind regards

Mrs Wilson  
Headteacher

Mrs Hough  
Deputy Headteacher



## Ten Ten Parent Newsletter September 2023

Welcome back to a new school year! We hope that this first newsletter finds you well-rested after the summer break. The beginning of a new school year is exciting and busy, and a time ripe for new resolutions. Children may have mixed feelings as they settle into new routines at school, and you'll be easing back into school-time routines as a family too. This newsletter gives a glimpse of some of the Collective Worship resources that children will experience during September and suggests ways to support your family prayer times.

### Education Sunday

Education Sunday is a special day dedicated to celebrating Catholic schools. It's one of the oldest Days of Special Prayer in the Church calendar and this year is the 175th anniversary!

Catholic schools are communities of faith, working in partnership with families and the local parish to nurture children in their learning and faith.

To celebrate this special year, children will receive a special message of encouragement from Bishop Marcus Stock – Chair of the Department of Education and Formation, for the Catholic Bishops' Conference in England and Wales.

<https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/parent-newsletter/>

Through the Ten Ten Resources Online Parent Portal for Collective Worship, you can access the Daily Classroom Prayers that children will be praying each day in school. Perhaps you could pray the prayers at home as a family too! Ask your child's school about the login details if you don't already have them.

### September Assemblies in brief

Here's a glimpse of the September Assemblies with links to where you can read the Gospels and some prompt questions which you might like to explore further with your child/ren:

#### Follow The Leader

w/c 4th September

This assembly starts the new school year with an opportunity for children to reflect on their relationship with Jesus during the summer holidays and, through an imaginative reflection, consider how they want to follow Jesus during the year ahead.

Matthew 16:24

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+16%3A21-27&version=NRSVACE>

Children will have different levels of knowledge and understanding about leaders depending on their age. You might like to talk to your children about leaders that they know starting with leaders in their school and then widening to leaders in the Church, our country and the world. Ask the question: 'What makes a good leader?'

Jesus, the Servant King is a good role model of leadership. You might like to challenge children to look for examples of leaders serving others and encourage them to find ways to follow that example.

#### Education Sunday 2023:

"Where Two Or Three Meet In My Name" w/c 11th September

To celebrate the 175th Education Sunday, children are quizzed about aspects of schools, and reflect on how Catholic schools contribute to the mission of the Church. In a concluding time of prayer for pupils, families and school staff, Bishop Marcus Stock, chair of the Catholic Education Service, will offer some words of encouragement.

Matthew 18:20

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+18%3A15-20&version=NRSVACE>

This is a good opportunity to encourage children to consider what is special about their school. Ask what they enjoy about their learning and think about the people who help them every day at school.

You might want to talk to your children about your own school life or your faith when you were growing up, you might like to also share the experiences of their grandparents and invite them to notice the differences and similarities with their school today.

#### **Forgive and Forgive and Forgive** w/c 18th September

In this week's Gospel reading, Peter asks Jesus how many times we should forgive someone who sins against us. Jesus says not seven times but seventy-seven times - in other words, no matter how many times somebody hurts us, we need to forgive them! Peter's question helps us to understand that daily choices to forgive others are needed.

Matthew 18:21

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+18%3A21-35&version=NRSVACE>

Saying sorry and forgiving others can be challenging. The message of the Gospel is that we should always be ready to forgive. This might be an opportunity to talk about making good choices and ways of making up for the wrong choices we have made.

You might like to talk about the Sacrament of Reconciliation with your child and say the Act of Contrition ('Sorry Prayer') together during family prayer time.

#### **Deeper, Wider, Higher**

w/c 25th September

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Isaiah+55%3A6-9&version=NRSVACE>

Isaiah 55:6-9

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+20%3A1-16&version=NRSVACE>

Matthew 20:1-16

Fairness is important for children and this Gospel may provoke interesting questions. The message is that it's hard to understand God's amazing generosity. God doesn't only give us what we deserve, He continues to love us and provide for us unconditionally.

You might want to challenge your children to find ways to be generous by giving time and being more understanding with younger siblings or friends.

#### **Prayer**

*"If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let them forget about themselves and what they want, take up their cross and **follow me.**"* Matthew 16:24

The daily classroom prayers for the first week of term remind children that Jesus is always inviting us to walk with Him. Children have the opportunity to prayerfully reflect on what it means to follow Jesus on 'sunny' days when everything is going well; on 'cloudy' days when we are troubled and on challenging days when it feels like we have a mountain to climb! Whatever the day brings, we can be sure that Jesus is there with us.

Perhaps you'd like to say this prayer together.

**Dear Jesus,**

**Thank you that you are with us on the path ahead.**

**Thank you that you help us up the mountains in our lives.**

**Thank you that you are with us when life is going well.**

**Thank you for helping us to follow you through every step of this school year.**

**Thank you that you are with us and all of our friends and family.**

**We will walk with you!**