



St. Mary of the Angels Catholic Primary School
Following Jesus in all we think, do and say

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Newsletter: Friday 15th March 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

New Life in Foundation Stage

This term pupils in Ducklings and Robins welcomed eggs courtesy of the Living Eggs Company, and were lucky enough to see the eggs hatch into chicks! This is a wonderful experience for our youngest pupils to see new life, especially as Lent is a time which we grow and reflect on new life. Our special thanks to Freddie in the Nursery who took the chicks home last weekend to look after them! We said goodbye to the chicks today to live life on the farm.



World Book Day 2024: Thursday 7th March

World Book Day on Thursday 7th March was a day full of fun activities and most importantly, lots of READING! Classes participated in activities such as 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.

We are delighted to announce the winners of our World Book Day costume competition. We thank all pupils and parents for taking part and we hope you had lots of fun coming up with your costume ideas! Each winner will receive the gift of fantastic high-quality reading book chosen from our book fair this week at school.

FS/KS1	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	LKS2/UKS2	1 st	2 nd	3 rd
Ducklings	Isabella	Ethan	Angelica	Kestrels	Abbie	Miller	Cecilia
Robins	Amal	Carter	Lukas	Swallows	Sebastian	Scarlett	Amelia
Goldfinches	Jesse	Emilia	Safa	Hérons	Sienna	Lily-Jo	Olivia
Hummingbirds	Saoirse	William	Helen	Swans	Ava	Alexander	Noah
Kingfishers	Ollie	Faustine	Sakina				

Book in a Box 2024



Ducklings	Freddie	Kestrels	Mikaela
Robins	Luigi	Swallows	Toni
Goldfinches	Rhea	Hérons	Chloe
Hummingbirds	Lucia	Swans	David
Kingfishers	Melissa		

Thank you to all the 'Book in a Box' entries-they were truly amazing! All children, who participated in WBD activities will receive a certificate thanking and congratulating them on their wonderful creations.

Swallows Prayer Service: Friday 8th March

Thank you to the Swallows for leading their parents and carers in Collective Worship on Friday 8th March. Swallows' Prayer Service was based on the recent topic, 'Listening and Sharing'. The children shared their responses with beautiful poems and posters of how they will share God's love.

International Woman's Day Assembly: Monday 11th March

This week, Miss Hampshire from QPR's Primary Stars Programme led us in a special whole school assembly all about International Woman's Day, which is celebrated annually on the 8th March. Miss Hampshire spoke to our pupils about gender equality in the world of football. Together we discussed our hopes, dreams and aspirations and looked at how far women have come in football and in society. We looked at some of the amazing female football players who play for QPR

and listened to their stories and celebrated their successes. Miss Hampshire reminded us all gathered that together we can forge women's equality and collectively we can all celebrate women's achievement. Thank you to Miss Hampshire for delivering such an awe-inspiring assembly and for presenting our girls with new football kits.

Sporting News: Year 3 and Year 4 Girls Football

On Thursday 14th March 2024 ten girls from the Kestrel's class were selected to represent St Mary of the Angels at the Westminster's Year 3 and 4 Girls Football Competition at Paddington Rec. We are very pleased to say after securing second place in our heat we then qualified for the semi-finals. The competition was extremely high level and we are so proud to say that we were able to secure a respectable fourth place overall. For many of our students this was their first ever football competition and so to have achieved fourth place is something to feel incredibly proud about.

Our school are often noticed for our exemplary behaviour and this event was no different. The Referees commented on our great sportsmanship, kindness and our supportive behaviour towards not only our own team members but the teams around us. This is something that is just as important as football skills in the sporting world so it was an honour to receive that feedback.



In the photo you will see the girls wearing their new football kit provided to us by our PE partners QPR. It was such a special moment for the girls to wear this kit as it represented such an important message. It was gifted to us by Miss Hampshire during a wonderful and inspirational International Women's Day assembly. The assembly, as mentioned previously, had examples of some amazing female footballers who are the perfect role models for the younger generation of eager football fans and football players. Our girls did not doubt their capabilities at all and their confidence was infectious, inspiring and made for a truly amazing competition. Well done team!

We now look forward to seeing how our Year 3 and 4 boys get on with their football competition which is happening next week on Friday 22nd March.

School Trips/Outings

Thank you to all the parent helpers that have assisted the school in trips and outings over the last two weeks. We have been fortunate to have been able to avail of lots of curriculum enrichment of late, including trips to Forest School, Cinema outings and a trip to the London Transport Museum. Thank you again to all the staff and parents who make these outings possible.

Goldfinches Assembly: Friday 15th March

It was a delight to welcome the family members who gathered together with the whole school in the hall to be both entertained and informed by the Goldfinches with their wonderful assembly all about St Patrick's Day which is celebrated annually on the 17th March. Thank you, Goldfinches for the wonderful singing, storytelling and of course showing us how to do an Irish jig!

Go raibh míle maith agat (thank you in Irish).

We look forward to our next class assembly which will be Herons on Tuesday 26th March who will be beginning our Easter journey with a special Palm Sunday assembly as we make our journey with Jesus to the Cross. This assembly will be followed by our Maundy Thursday assembly which will be retold by our Year 6's (Swans).



Parent Teacher Consultations

Thank you to all who made an appointment to speak to their child's class teacher this week. If you were unable to keep your appointment, please contact the school office and we will arrange a mutually convenient time for a phone consultation.

Travelling Book Fair

A big thank you to everyone who attended and supported the Book Fair. In our next newsletter, we will inform you on how much money was raised for our school library. Thank you also to all of you who bought a book for your child's class.

Book Drive for Children's Book Project

All of next week, our school council in partnership with Miss Hampshire from QPR are encouraging the pupils at St Mary of the Angels to donate any pre-loved children's books to the Children's Book Project. Please donate your old and pre-loved books to the collection point at the front office of the school. We



will be taking donations all of next week from Monday 18th until Friday 22nd. All books must be in good condition.

Online Safety Parental Workshop: Tuesday 19th March

On Tuesday 19th March we are pleased to welcome Mary Rebelo to school to deliver an online safety workshop for parents and carers. The workshops will take place at 9:00am in the school hall. Mary Rebelo an Online Safety Ambassador for CEOP (Child Exploitation and Online Protection Agency) part of the Online Safety subcommittee for the safeguarding board of the London Borough of Camden, and a Parentzone Digital Parenting Facilitator and she will be working with children across Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2.

At the workshop, you will have the chance to find out some of the services that your children might be accessing and contributing to online now and in the future, and be shown some practical ideas and website resources to help you to keep your family safe.

The school would encourage as many parents as possible to attend the workshop as we know it will contain a lot of invaluable information on this important area.

Easter Bonnet Parade: Monday 25th March

A reminder that our Foundation Stage/Key Stage One Easter Bonnet Parade takes place on Monday 25th March at 9:15am in the Key Stage 1 playground. Parents/carers and family members are warmly invited to attend. Please note, if on the day the weather isn't suitable for an outdoor parade we will invite parents and carers into the school for an indoor parade. 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.

Uniform Sale: Tuesday 26th March

The Parents & Friends Association will be holding a second-hand uniform sale in the school hall on Tuesday 26th March at 3:00-3:45pm. A reminder that pupils in Years 1 – 6 should return to school after the Easter holidays wearing the school's summer uniform more information about which can be found by clicking [here](#).

The Great Daffodil Appeal: Friday 22nd March

On Friday 22nd March pupils and staff may wear something yellow along with their school uniform in return for a small donation to show their support for the Great Daffodil Appeal 2024. Thank you for supporting your child in raising funds for Marie Curie and the Great Daffodil Appeal.



Catholic Children's Society Lenten Appeal

At the beginning of Lent, each child was given a purple money box from the Catholic Children's Society. This year's appeal is inspired by Pope Francis's call to *'build bridges, not walls'* and find ways to connect and help others in their time of need. Every penny raised by St Mary of the Angels will support the Catholic Children's Society's work with local disadvantaged children and families. On Wednesday 20th March we will welcome Anna Morris, a representative of the Catholic Children's Society to our school to talk to the children about this wonderful charity. **Please return your boxes to the school office by Monday 15th April or before.** To find out more about the Catholic Children's Society, please click [here](#).

Easter Holidays/Start of Term 5

School is closed for the Easter Holidays from Friday 29th March to Friday 12th April and reopens on Monday 15th April. Children should return to school wearing their summer uniform.

March Dates

Tuesday 19 th	Parental Online Safety Workshop 9:00-10:00am in the school hall
Thursday 21 st	Year 6 Confessions with Fr. Keith at the Church
Friday 22 nd	Key Stage 1 to Wigmore Hall Marie Curie-pupils and staff may wear something yellow along with their school uniform in return for a small donation to show their support for the Great Daffodil Appeal 2024
Monday 25 th	EYFS/Key Stage 1 Easter Bonnet Parade 9:15am
Tuesday 26 th	Second-hand uniform sale 3pm in the school hall

Holy Week Assemblies

Tuesday 26 th	Palm Sunday Assembly: Herons 9:10am (Herons parents/carers invited)
Wednesday 27 th	Holy Thursday Assembly: Swans 9:10am (Swans parents/carers invited)
Thursday 28 th March	Stations of the Cross Assembly MAUNDY THURSDAY/Last day of Term 3. School closes at 1.30

Friday 29th
Sunday 31st

GOOD FRIDAY
EASTER SUNDAY

April Dates

Monday 15th
Friday 19th
Monday 22nd
Thursday 25th

Friday 26th

School reopens: Start of Term 4
Swans Prayer Service 3pm
Herons Trip: Arts Award Discovery Day
Hummingbirds: Forest School am
Kingfishers: Forest School pm
Robins: Forest School am
Goldfinches: Forest School pm
Kingfishers Assembly 9:10am

School closure: Thursday 2nd May

The Mayor of London Elections are taking place on Thursday 2nd May and St. Mary of the Angels Will be used as a polling station. The school will be closed to all pupils on Thursday 2nd May.

Message from Father Keith

We are now looking forward to the most important week in the Church's calendar, Holy Week, which this year begins on Sunday 24 March. We are reviving the pre-COVID tradition of starting our Palm Sunday morning Mass at the school, followed by a procession to the Church. And you may be interested to know that this year the clocks go forward one hour on Easter Sunday itself, that is 31 March. We have to begin the Easter Vigil the day before when it is already dark, so that means we can begin earlier this year at 7.30pm. The other main services are Holy Thursday, 28 March at 8pm, when following the example of Jesus at the Last Supper, Fr. Keith will wash the feet of twelve parishioners, and Good Friday, 29 March, when we do not have Mass but instead a solemn service at 3pm. We also have Stations of the Cross for children and families at 11am on Good Friday. We look forward to seeing you at some or all of our Holy Week services!

Ten Ten Newsletter

This month's newsletter reminds us that March is packed with celebrations! From the Feast Days of St David, St Patrick and St Joseph to Mothering Sunday. Then as the clocks spring forward, we reach Holy Week and the joy of Easter! Ten Ten's monthly newsletter shares some of the content children will experience in school throughout March and suggests ways for you to engage with them about it. The March newsletter for parents/carers can be viewed by clicking [here](#) and includes an overview of our Gospel assemblies for the term ahead.

Assemblies and Prayer Services

Please [click here](#) for upcoming dates for the Spring and Summer term.

Prayer

Jesus,
Be the centre.
As I start my journey through Lent,
I welcome you into my heart.
Be my guide as I GIVE to others.
Be my strength as I ACT by making good choices.
Be my friend as I PRAY and get to know you more.

Amen

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Wilson	Mrs Hough
Headteacher	Deputy Headteacher

