ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

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Welcome back to a new month and half term in school, I hope you have all had a restful break.

Thank you to all who made our first half term in school such a success. It has been wonderful to see our school community working together for the good of our children and it has been a joy to welcome the children back for their second half of the autumn term





St Mary's Catholic Primary School Street

As I know you are aware Enfield Council have set up a School Street for St Mary's between Alexandra Road and Bursland Road.

A 'School Street' is an area transformed into a pedestrian

November 2024

and cycling zone operating Monday to Friday during the school term, during set times at drop-off and pick-up times.

School Streets aim to:

- · ensure the safety of school students as they arrive to and leave school,
- improve the air quality near the school, and
- encourage more young people to walk and cycle to school.

When the School Street zone is in operation during the designated hours, motor vehicles cannot pass through the zone, except for those who have applied for and received a permit or exemption.

The times of operation for the St Mary's Primary School Street are 8.15am to 9.15am, and 2.30pm to 3.30pm from Monday to Friday during school term time only and operates using a camera enforced system.

Further information on School Streets and how they operate can be found at https://letstalk.enfield.gov.uk/ schoolstreets/widgets/38314/

videos/3024

https://letstalk.enfield.gov.uk/ SchoolStreets

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https://www.youtube.com/watc h?v=v1 NB42i-Gq



Parking

Parking difficulties in the vicinity of the school tend to occur (and have happened already this term) when children are being collected from / dropped off to school each day. I do understand how busy some of the roads around our school can be especially now that Durants Road is a school street but please make every effort to park responsibly as you drop off / collect your child each day.

I hope that during the rest of this school term all parents and carers will act in a responsible manner both for the safety of our children and a positive association with our neighbours. Thankfully so many already do.



Parents a huge thank you to so many of you for your wonderful support. More and more children are walking, cycling or scooting to school. Lots of parents too are cycling and walking with their children.

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For the minority of adults who are still blocking driveways and parking illegally in the roads around the school (we continue to hear about some concerns) please park legally and walk with your child!

Please try hard to:

- Park legally and walk with your child.

 Walking is better for your general health. If you can, leave the car at home and try to build the walking time into your child's day. If a child minder or another family member brings your child to school please encourage them to park legally and walk.
- Please do not sit in the car with the engine running. This is not good for the health of others.
- Never park in / across driveways even for a minute. This is disrespectful and causes a lot of problems for the school with local residents.

 Never park on the zig-zag lines during the designated no parking times (please check the signs) or in the disabled bays which are reserved for blue badge holders.

Our Faith

The "door of faith" (Acts 14:27) is always open for us. ushering us into the life of communion with God and offering entry into his Church. It is possible to cross that threshold when the word of God is proclaimed and the heart allows itself to be shaped by transforming grace. To enter through that door is to set out on a journey that lasts a lifetime. It begins with baptism (cf. Rom 6:4), through which we can address God as Father, and it ends with the passage through death to eternal life (From Homily for the beginning of the Petrine Ministry of the Bishop of Rome (24 April 2005): AAS 97 (2005), 710).

On 11th October 2012, all around the world, Church communities marked the opening of the Year of Faith.



The Year of Faith was an invitation initially from Pope Benedict XVI and subsequently from Pope Francis to all Catholics throughout the world, both as individuals and as members of a Church community, to focus on their faith so as to deepen their understanding of what it means to have the Gift of Faith and live it each day. It was a time to nourish our understanding of Church teaching and to endeavour to develop our own spirituality.

Although the Year of Faith is now over we still need to continue to work on nourishing our own faith and helping our children to grow in their faith. What could we as adults do?

- Take our children to Mass and participate through joining in and responding. Children learn through our example.
- Encourage our older children through our example to attend the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession).
- Read the Bible / Bible stories with our children.
- Explore the lives of the saints with our children.
- Help our children to pray.
- Volunteer in school or in the Parish.
- Encourage our children to contribute to Parish and School charity events.

Remember it's never too late to start.

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Lord let me see your face, Know your heart

And experience your love in my life.

Strengthen in me the precious gift of faith.

I believe Lord;

Help my unbelief. Amen



Tips to help keep children safe on the internet and social networks

The internet does pose certain risks and dangers to children - but it offers lots of opportunities too. There are things you can do to keep your child safe.

Talking to your child is one of the best ways to keep them safe. You can also use parental controls on social networks, online games and browsers or software that can filter or monitor what your child can see.



Preventing your children from using the internet or mobile phones won't necessarily keep

them safe online, so it's important to have conversations that help your child understand how to stay safe and what to do if they ever feel scared or uncomfortable.

Follow the TALK checklist to help keep your child safe online (Internet Watch Foundation)

The Internet Watch
Foundation (IWF) has created
a resource to help parents and
carers understand the risks of
'self-generated child sexual
abuse imagery' using the
acronym 'TALK'.

To find out more, go
to: https://talk.iwf.org.uk/

You might also find the following link helpful:

https://www.kidsonlineworld.com/parents--carers.html

This site has been created by ECP, the company which has provided our staff safeguarding training for many years and has provided numerous sessions of online safety for our children and parents. This company also provides training on behalf of the local authority and to many different business and community groups.

There is some really useful help to understand apps, games and parental controls.

Top Articles KIDSONLINEWORLD.CO
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Online Platforms Have Overtaken TV!

For the first time, online platforms have overtaken TV as the UK's main news source, according to Ofcom. The survey shows 71% of the population now use online services for news, compared to 70% for TV news bulletins. Social media usage for news also rose from 47% to 52%, with 82% of 16-24-year-olds relying on it.

Facebook, YouTube, and Instagram were the most mentioned online sources, with Meta (Facebook, Instagram, WhatsApp) being the second biggest news provider at 40%. The BBC remains the largest single source, with 68% of respondents using it for news, though usage data shows it reaches 75% weekly.

Traditional news providers saw declines, with newspapers dropping from 39% to 34%, and TV news from 75% to 70%.

Despite the survey results, BBC News and CNN remain the world's largest news websites, with significant traffic increases over the past year.

You might like to read the Ofcom report: News

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consumption interactive report 2024 - Ofcom

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YouTube-Parental Controls

YouTube is expanding its existing set of parental controls with a new feature that would allow a parent to link their account to their teen's account to gain insight into the teen's activity across the video-sharing platform, the company announced on 4th September 2024. Once linked, parents will be alerted to their teen's channel activity, including the number of uploads, subscriptions, and comments - not the content. They'll also receive email notifications about events, like a new upload or livestream.

Parents will be able to be alerted to new uploads across YouTube and YouTube Shorts, even if they're private or unlisted videos, and they'll be able to see when video privacy settings are changed.

YouTube says the new experience will begin rolling out to parents this week, allowing parents to link their accounts to their teens via the new Family Centre hub in the app.

Google's parental controls service Family Link will also offer parents access to an entry point to these new controls from its app. The experience should reach YouTube's global users over the next several weeks.

https://www.kidsonlineworld.co m/parental-controls.html

School Fund

You will know that part of your commitment to the School is to contribute to the School Fund. In recent years the school has undergone major works to benefit the children and the School Fund helps towards payments for these works. Each family is asked to make the following contributions towards the cost of repairs and general maintenance and improvements, which are the Governors' responsibility. All contributions are voluntary:

1 child £2.00 per week or £25.50 per term or £76.00 per year

2 children £2.50 per week or £32.00 per term or £95.00 per year

3 or more children £3.00 per week or £38.00 per term or £114.00 per year

These payments can be made on line using the 'Parentpay' system. Thank you for your support.



Year Group Addresses:

nursery@stmarys.enfield.sch.u k 米

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reception@stmarys.enfield.sch .uk

year1@stmarys.enfield.sch.uk

year2@stmarys.enfield.sch.uk

year3@stmarys.enfield.sch.uk

year4@stmarys.enfield.sch.uk

year5@stmarys.enfield.sch.uk

year6@stmarys.enfield.sch.uk



Try out the past papers

Designed to make pupils think outside the

box, PMC questions can create a great starting point and lead to discussions later in the year. The PMC try to make sure the questions are not heavily reliant on formal mathematical knowledge but can be solved by logical reasoning.

<u>Primary Maths Challenge -</u> PMC Past Papers

(Mathematical Association)

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Music Lessons with Enfield Music Service

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Parents are now able to renew and book music lessons and activities for Spring 2025 from the Music

Store: https://traded.enfield. gov.uk/musicstore

The deadline for booking lessons and instrument hire is Sunday 1st December.

Thinking Skills

The current classroom displays include the use of the thinking

As you know our thinking is usually affected by emotional responses, prior knowledge and experience and at times confusion. The de Bono '6 Thinking Hats' method provides a framework for thinking. We think in one direction at the time. In the '6 Hats' method thinking is divided into six different modes, each of which is represented by a coloured hat.



White Hat - Information (facts. information, questions. What you have. What you need. Where to get it.).

Red Hat - Feelings (emotions, hunches, intuition, instincts, feelings).

Black Hat - Caution (caution, judgement, assessment, weaknesses, difficulties, dangers and potential problems).

Yellow Hat - Benefits (benefits, values, good points, likelihood).

Green Hat - Creativity (alternatives, possibilities, new ideas, options, new concepts).

Blue Hat - Organising the Thinking (thinking about thinking, next steps, summarising, clarifying).

Children are enjoying making use of the hats in class again this year. Ask your child to see if he / she can tell you anything about the hats. Perhaps you might like to try it at home when coming to a decision about / discussing something with your child.

Habits of Mind

'Successful people keep moving. They make mistakes but never quit' - something Conrad Hilton said.



Staff have also been trained in the use of the 'Habits of Mind' - these are a set of habits or dispositions which focus on developing a mature, independent and successful learner / citizen in the long term. You will recognise many habits of mind immediately as you will have tried or are currently trying to develop these dispositions in your own children. There are sixteen in total. They are: Persisting, Managing impulsivity, Listening with understanding and empathy, Thinking flexibly, Metacognition, Striving for accuracy, Questioning and posing problems. Applying past knowledge to new situations, Thinking and communicating with clarity and precision, Gathering data through all

senses,

Creating, imagining, innovating, Responding with wonderment and awe, Taking responsible risks,

Finding humour, Thinking independently, Remaining open to continuous learning.

We are introducing these again gradually to the children. Ask your child if he / she has focused on any of the habits of mind in school. Don't hesitate to ask the teacher about the current habit of mind focus in your child's class.

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Own Clothes' Day - October 2024

£212.25 was donated. Thank you children and parents.

Sickness

We have been advised by the London Borough of Enfield that any child who has been sick must not return to school for 48 hours.



Uniform

Our uniform is part of St.
Mary's identity. I would be
grateful if you could encourage
your child to wear full neat
uniform each day including the
correct socks, shoes, hair
accessories and PE uniform.
Children are encouraged to
always try to have shirts
tucked in and all buttons
closed. They are asked not to
tie sweatshirts around their
waists.

Boots and brightly coloured coats are not encouraged.

For health and safety reasons only small stud earnings are permitted. These must be removed for PE.

So many children wear the correct uniform - thank you parents for your support with this.

Hair

Please ensure long hair is tied back in school colours only (blue / black / white). No highlights, designs, lines or dyes to be put in hair please. Remember nits love long free flowing hair too!

Mohican hairstyles are not permitted.

Nails

False nails or nail polish are <u>not</u> permitted in school.

Please encourage your child to respect the uniform policy by leaving all jewellery at home.

Holidays, Absences and Attendance

I would urge you to try not to book holidays during term time as time away from school can unsettle children and affect their progress. I regret that we are unable to authorise time off during the term which is requested for holidays.

Any requests for time off (special circumstances will only be considered) must be put in writing in advance to the Headteacher.

It is not school policy to provide homework for absence during term time.

We are required to ask for a written note to explain any absence from school.

Our overall attendance up to the end of the first half-term was 95.57%

This is below our target of 98%.

The class with the highest attendance in the first half-term was Year 6, St. Christopher (97.89%) closely followed by Year 4,St.Paul (97.55%).

Then:

Year 2, Faith - 97.10%

Year 4, St. Peter - 96.97%

Year 5/6, St. Catherine - 96.64%

Year 3, St. Cecilia - 96.21%

Year 2, Fatima - 96.04%

Year 2, Rosary - 96%

Reception, Hope - 94.04%

Year 3, St. Bernadette - 93.68%

Thank you to all parents for all you do to ensure that your child is in school each day.

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We know that it is important that everyone continues to wash their hands more often. using soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Hand washing with soap employs mechanical action that loosens bacteria and viruses from the skin. rinsing them into the drain. Drying hands afterwards makes the skin less hospitable to the virus. Hand sanitiser can be effective if soap is not available or the situation makes using soap less feasible (i.e. when outside) but using hand sanitiser provides none of the virus-destroying friction that rubbing your hands together and rinsing with water provides.

Guidance and video on hand washing can be found at: https://www.nhs.uk/livewell/healthy-body/best-way-towash-your-hands/

Wednesday Word

Have you started to read 'The Wednesday Word' yet? The Wednesday Word is a gift to you and your family because of your connection with our Catholic school.

Every Wednesday, a 'word' (inspired by the Sunday

Gospel) will be suggested for you and your family to talk about in your home.

This weekly Family Time is structured around the Sunday Gospel because evidence shows that Gospel values really do help family relationships to thrive.

Regularly spending quality time with children is without doubt one of the most important aspects of parenting. The Wednesday Word seeks to support you in this important task: to help you and your children maintain a special closeness throughout the school years.

The Wednesday Word 'Family Time' leaflet is designed to ensure that all family members feel included. It presents an effective way for even the busiest of parents to enrich relationships with their children through spending a very special 5 or 10 minutes together each week.

We suggest Wednesdays for Family Time because it is the day that the Catholic Church dedicates to St Joseph - the Patron Saint of Families, But rather than miss out, any other night would do just as well.

The Wednesday Word is currently available online:

http://www.wednesdayword.o rg/index.html



The Angelus

In the autumn term we try to learn / say The Angelus each day at 12 noon in all of our junior classes from Year 3 - Year 6. This is a wonderful prayer which reminds us that God the Son became man in order to save

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You might like to say this prayer with your child at home. It can be said in the morning, at noon or in the evening.

The Angelus

The Angel of the Lord declared to Mary: And she conceived of the Holy Spirit. Hail Mary...

Behold the handmaid of the

Be it done to me according to your word.

Hail Mary...

And the Word was made Flesh: And dwelt among us.

Hail Mary...

Pray for us, O Holy Mother of

That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us Pray. Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord, your grace into our

hearts, that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ, your Son, was made known by the message of an angel, may be brought by his passion and cross to the glory of his resurrection, through the same Christ our Lord. Amen. May the divine assistance remain always with us and may the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.



What is mental health?

We all have mental health. Mental health is about our feelings, our thinking, our emotions and our moods.

Looking after our mental health is important. We all have small feelings every day: These sometimes feel strong and overwhelming, whether happy or sad, but they go away before too long.

Sometimes we experience big feelings: These feel strong and overwhelming for a long time. They stop us doing what we want to in our lives.

Young Minds also has a parent helpline:

https://youngminds.org.uk/

Online Parenting Courses - Family Lives

Being a parent has never been easy. There are no manuals for it, and previous generations may not be able to provide the insight you're looking for.

The family unit is more dispersed than ever, with some families existing hundreds of miles from what may be called a 'core unit'.

The rapid pace of societal change in the UK rapidly outstrips the knowledge of the immediate past. The result is that many parents may find themselves lost in a world of contradictory advice.

For adults, time has never been more compacted. Family Lives has produced a series of online parenting courses, to make this challenge a little easier. If interested please follow the link below:

https://www.familylives.org.uk/how-we-can-help/online-parenting-courses

Family Lives offers a confidential and free* helpline service for families in England and Wales (previously known as Parentline). They can be contacted on 0808 800 2222 for emotional support, information, advice and guidance on any aspect of parenting and family life. Their website is also a rich source of useful support and advice.

(* Free from landlines and most mobiles)

Anti-Bullying Week

With Anti-Bullying week coming up on 13-17 November, we will all be reminded again of the importance of educating our children on this important topic.

Young Minds has resources for pupils, parents and schools that might be of some help to parents and families.

Bullying | Get help and advice YoungMinds

Christian Meditation

As you know the World
Community for Christian
Meditation (WCCM) has
worked to develop videos which
provide short meditation
sessions which children and
young people can participate in,
whether in school or at
home. These sessions are
inspired by meditation in the
tradition of John Main OSB.

Full details are available here: https://www.cathchild.org.uk/meditation-with-children-young-people/

Remember, Remember the Dangers on 5th November!

On 5th November, we remember Guy Fawkes and his associates' plot to blow up the Houses of Parliament, usually

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by lighting a bonfire and setting off fireworks.

Whilst this is a fun and enjoyable time for children, we must ensure that we keep them safe around bonfires and fireworks. Click the link to find resources that will help you stay accident-free on Bonfire Night.

Firework safety - RoSPA

Harvest

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This year we again, in partnership with our parish, supported the Manna Centre, a centre for the homeless in London. Thank you for your very generous contributions.

Many thanks to St Mary's for your Harvest Festival gifts once again this year. The food that we have received will be used throughout the next twelve months to provide meals to some of the poorest members of our society.

The work we do here is a practical and compassionate response to poverty and homelessness. The majority of our funding and our foodstuffs come from the Christian community. Without the continuing generosity of our supporters, we would be unable to continue our work.

A breakfast, a hot, nutritious meal and washing facilities are available 7 days a week, Housing & Welfare advice five days a week, a clothing store once a week, three medical surgeries

weekly and access to computers from Monday to Friday.

On an average day we see about 120 people. Approximately 50% of our service users are rough sleepers, 15% in secure socially rented accommodation and the remaining 35% in some form of temporary accommodation (hostels, friends & privately rented accommodation) - June 24 statistics. In addition to the services mentioned above, we offer a place of respite and acceptance.

In the 12 months to April 2024, we assisted 609 clients via our Housing & Welfare advice service. 379 were seeking accommodation and we succeeded in finding accommodation (both permanent & temporary) for approximately 60% of them.

We are dependent on voluntary donations to raise approx. 88% of our annual £580,000 budget.

The gap between our income and expenditure has grown substantially in the 23-24 year. Any help you can give to help us address this deficit would be very much appreciated and will benefit some of the poorest members of our society. On behalf of those who will benefit from your generosity please accept our thanks. Best wishes, Paddy

Paddy Boyle Manna Society Administrator The Manna Society, 12 Melior Street, London SE1 3QP

https://www.mannasociety.org. uk/

Participating in Mass online

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Since Saturday 4th July 2020 there has been live streaming of our parish services, The link is: https://www.churchservices.tv/enfield



Support for Prayer

Father John has asked me to remind you that the church is now open each morning from 8.15am to enable families / parents to call in to pray.

Some Dates for this term

Tuesday 5th November and Wednesday 6th November: Judaism workshops. Wednesday 6th-Thursday 14th November: Book Fair after school Wednesday 6th November: Years 3 and 4 to parish Mass at 9.30am. Sunday 10th November: Remembrance Sunday Tuesday 12th November: Nasal flu Immunisations. Wednesday 13th November: Bring Your Grandparent to School AM Sunday 17th November: World Day of the Poor. Thursday 21st November: The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary - School Mass for Years 2-6 Wednesday 27th November: Photographer in school - individual photographs. Thursday 28th November: Infants' Mass in School Hall at 9.30am. Friday 29th November: Own Clothes' Day - items for Christmas Bazaar. Nursery Christmas Performance AM.

<u>Saturday 30th November</u>: Parish Bazaar.

Monday 2nd December: School Mass in church for Years 2-6 at 9.30am for Blessing of Advent Wreath.

<u>Tuesday 3rd December</u>: Reception Christmas Performance AM (parents with babies and toddlers).

<u>Wednesday 4th December</u>: Year 1 Christmas Performance AM (parents with babies and toddlers).

<u>Thursday 5th December</u>: Reception Christmas Performance AM (adults).

Friday 6th December: Year 1 Christmas Performance AM (adults).

Monday 9th December: The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary - School Mass in church for Years 2-6.

Tuesday 10th December:

Junior Carol Service in church, 5pm (for the Nightingale Hospice) Wednesday 11th December:

Year 2 Carol Service for parents / relatives, 9.30am (for Nightingale Hospice).

Thursday 12th December:

Years 5 and 6 to Mass at 9.30am followed by Confessions.

Reception, Years 1 and 2 classes to Pantomime at Millfield Theatre PM.

Monday 16th December: Christmas

Wednesday 18th December:
Christmas Class Parties PM.
Friday 20th December: Last day of autumn term - School Mass (Mrs. Derwin's 20th anniversary Mass) in church for Years 2-6.
Early Closing (12.45 Infants and 1pm Juniors). Own Clothes' Day.
Monday 6th January 2025: Return to school for Spring Term.
On occasions it is necessary to change dates. I apologise in

advance for any inconvenience this may cause.

These are some of the prayers we say with the children each day in school. You might like to say these in the morning with your child, at meal times or before he / she goes to bed.

Morning Offering

O My God, you love me,
You are with me night and day.
I want to love you always in all
I do and say.
Till try to place you Eather

I'll try to please you Father. Bless me through the day. Amen



Night Prayer

God our Father, I come to say, Thank you for your love today. Thank you for my family, And all the things you give to me.

Guard me in the dark of night. And in the morning send your light. Amen.



Grace Before Meals

Bless us O Lord As we sit together. Bless the food we eat today. Bless the hands that made the food. 米

Bless us O Lord. Amen.

Grace After Meals

Thank you God
For the food we have eaten.
Thank you God
For all our friends.
Thank you God
For everything.



Thank you and Best Wishes!

Thank you for your continued support. We are truly blessed with the support we receive from our families always.

You and your children continue to be remembered in our staff prayers at school every morning before school.

Miss M. Creed Headteacher

St John Paul II Feast Day

The feast of St John Paul II is usually celebrated on 22nd October.

For an entertaining animation on the life of this great saint see <u>Saint John Paul II</u>, the <u>Life of a Holy Pope - YouTube</u>

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Some of St John Paul's own prayers including the one below can be found here:

<u>Pope John Paul II Prayers:</u> <u>University of Dayton, Ohio</u> (udayton.edu)

Mother Mary,
Be with us more and more.
Meet us more and more often
because we need it so much.
Speak to us by your
motherhood, by your simplicity
and by holiness.
Speak to us by your
Immaculate Conception! Speak
to us continually!
And obtain for us the graceeven if we are distant- of not
becoming insensitive to your
presence in our midst. Amen

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Talk PANTS resources for parents

'We want all parents to talk PANTS. That's why we've created guides and resources to help them find the right words to talk to their children about staying safe'

> Find Talk PANTS resources for parents on the NSPCC website

ADMISSIONS FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2024/2025

Due to the fact that there are now fewer pupils in London (there is a continued decrease in the population of children) and the issues with

finding affordable housing we currently have places in our Nursery, Reception, Years 1, 2 and 3 2024-2025 year groups.

Thank you parents for recommending our school and helping to build up our pupil numbers. Please continue to do this.

From our School Inspection Reports:

'Pupils are eager to come to school each morning because their teachers do their best to help them learn...Pupils learn in a calm environment. This is because the school has high expectations for pupils...Pupils conduct themselves well because they know what is right and have been taught how to behave well. Pupils achieve well across a range of subjects. They are proud to talk about their work which is presented with pride... Warm, caring relationships permeate the school... Pupils are confident that adults will listen to their worries and help them. This means they feel happy and safe...The curriculum is ambitious and well structured...Adults have secure subject knowledge...Leaders have high expectations and are ambitious for pupils...Safeguarding is a priority here.' (OFSTED Inspection, Section 5, November 2023).

'A. Classroom religious education is outstanding

- The school has adapted and developed the themes of the Religious Education Curriculum Directory in an excellent manner to meet the learning needs of the pupils' of St Mary's.
- The religious education programme in use fully delivers this content and the use of De Bono system in religious education pushes pupils to develop their understanding further.
- After carefully analysing the needs of their pupils, the school has developed a curriculum and teaching programme that has reached outstanding achievement by the pupils in religious education.

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- Teachers have high expectations and plan lessons that deepen pupils' religious literacy.
- Since the last inspection, staff confidence in recording and assessment has been demonstrably achieved with the evidence of the clarity and confidence on the part of the staff in planning imaginative lessons based on the religious education programme followed in the school.
- The headteacher is also the religious education curriculum coordinator and she takes the closest

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********************* interest in developing the excellent teaching and learning of religious education in the school.

The chair of governors is a recent appointment but with her years of experience on the governing body she is clear in her role of both support and challenge in pursuing the special responsibility of governors of a Catholic school.

B. The Catholic life of the school is outstanding

- The curriculum fully conforms to the classroom curriculum time of at least 10% for religious education and teaching is fully in line with the requirements of the Bishops' Conference.
- The previous inspection asked the school to develop pupils' understanding of Catholic Social Teaching and to help pupils understand the ethics of the market place and fair trade. The school has fully addressed these priorities, both in their classroom teaching and in the encouragement offered when choosing charities to support.
- The pupils of St Mary's enjoy an outstanding experience of prayer,

liturgy and Catholic worship.

- Pupils and staff have a deep understanding of the call to 'human flourishing' and are given opportunities to develop and celebrate their gifts and talents.
- Partnership with the parents is excellent: they appreciate and support all that the school provides for their children.
- The leadership and management of the school are very effective in promoting the Catholic life of the school. The head is strong and devoted in providing both oversight and support on all aspects of Catholic life. The contribution and regular visits of the parish priest provides a strong and stable reinforcement of the foundational position of Catholicism in the life of the school' (OFSTED Section 48 Inspection, September 2019).



Our School Prayer

This is our school. May we all live here Happily together. May our school be full of joy. May love dwell here among us Every day.

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Love of one another, Love of all people everywhere, Love of life itself, And love of God. Let us all remember that As many hands build a house, So every child Can make this school A lovely place. Amen









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St. Mary's Catholic Primary Religious Education Newsletter for Autumn 2024

(second half-term) - Nursery and Reception





Religious Education

Topic Theme: Advent and Christmas

Students will explore the events, rituals and practices of Advent and Christmas, in time with the Church Liturgical Year.

Learning opportunities include: Monitoring opportunities: Hearing the story of Christmas. Students' development will be monitored through Coming to know Jesus is God the Father's Son. observation and the collection of work samples for Coming to know that Mary is the mother of Jesus. their portfolio. Experiencing that a Church is a special place where God's people gather to pray. Experiencing praying with others as a celebration. Experiencing liturgical celebrations in a variety of simple settings. Joining in simple prayers and hymns. Considering ways in which a Christian family and parish share and celebrate life and show care for one another.

Affective and Spiritual Dispositions

It is hoped that pupils will develop:

- An understanding that the stories of Jesus in the Bible link with the liturgical seasons of the church year.
- A familiarity with the Seasons of Advent and Christmas, during which we anticipate and celebrate the incarnation: God in our world.

Activities to try at home

Parents are the first educators of their child in faith. Students' learning in religious education occurs best when school and family are engaged in talking about the same topics. You could help your child by trying one or more of these activities while this topic is being taught:

- Talk with your child about Advent and Christmas how it is celebrated in the Church and in wider society. Note the different cultural expressions of Christmas: cards in other languages, foods of other cultures, customs and celebrations of other communities.
- Talk to your child about birth: their own, yours and other members of your family. Talk about your ancestors: grandparents and great grandparents. Think about your own family heritage.
- Read stories about Christmas. Remember there are two distinct stories in the Gospel: many picture stories amalgamate the two!

An idea for prayer at home

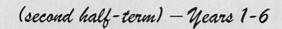


Prayer Activity

Have an Advent wreath as a focal point in your home. Light a candle for each week of Advent and pray 'God of light, help us to be people who walk with you towards the birth of your son.'

St. Mary's Catholic Primary

Religious Education Newsletter for Autumn 2024







Religious Education

Key Idea:

This framework of learning is intended as the second in the Academic year 2024/25. As the resource which teaches both Advent and Christmas it begins the Liturgical cycle of Year C – the Year of Luke. As the name suggests the content of this resource is the season of Advent and the birth of Jesus as recorded in the Gospel of Luke. It builds on the learning of the previous resource by further developing knowledge of God, in particular knowledge of the second person of the Trinity, Jesus, the Christ.

Attitudes and Spiritual Dispositions

Spiritual Outcomes: It is hoped that pupils will develop:

- A sense of wonder about the coming of God into the world
- A disposition of prayer

- An openness to the mystery of God, incarnate
- An appreciation of the gift of Christmas

Activities to try at home

You are the first educator of your child in faith. Your child's learning in religious education will be much greater if you and the school are engaged in talking about the same ideas and beliefs. This resource teaches the practices of Advent and Christmas. Your children will be asked to think about their own birth and how you prepare for the birth of Jesus. Talk to them about what you do: do your rituals and customs reflect your cultural background?

An idea for prayer at home

Prayer Activity



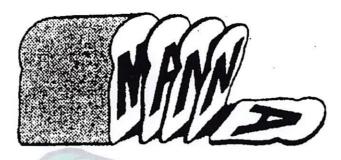
Prayer throughout Advent. Make an Advent wreath and pray for the coming of God in Jesus.

God of hope, who brought love into this world, be the love that dwells between us.

God of hope, who brought peace into this world, be the peace that dwells between us.

God of hope, who brought joy into this world, be the joy that dwells between us.

God of hope, the rock we stand upon, be the centre, the focus of our lives always, and particularly this Advent to



THE MANNA DAY CENTRE

12 MELIOR STREET, LONDON SE1 3QP

www.mannasociety.org.uk
Tele: 020 7357 9363

(Day centre for homeless people & those in need)

BIG "THANK YOU" FOR YOUR HARVEST FESTIVAL GIFTS.

YOUR DONATION ENABLES US TO PROVIDE:

A BREAKFAST & COOKED LUNCH FOR APPROX. 120 PEOPLE EVERYDAY (7 DAYS A WEEK)

MANY THANKS





Online Safety Newsletter

Nov 2024

How can I find ageappropriate games?

Do you need suggestions on ageappropriate games? You could use either of the following websites to search suitable games.

Remember, PEGI rates the gameplay so whilst it is important to review age ratings, you must also check if it has a communication feature as this might mean you decide a game is not suitable for your child.

- https://www.askaboutgames.co m/find-the-right-game
- https://www.familygamingdatab
 ase.com/home



How to Remove Social Media Access After Granting It

lave you given your child access to ocial media but are now regretting that ecision? Bark have published this rticle to help you take back control by emoving social media:

ttps://www.bark.us/blog/removingocial-media/

WhatsApp

Users should be at least 13 years old to use WhatsApp. We frequently receive reports of children not using WhatsApp appropriately, such as sharing images to embarrass others, sending hurtful messages, spreading rumours, or excluding people from group chats to make them feel left out.

Since WhatsApp lacks parental controls, it is important to think about whether it is really the right platform for your child. For example, you should consider if your child has the critical thinking skills to recognise bullying. Furthermore, do they understand how to manage peer pressure and refrain from joining in on harmful behaviour?

If your child is using WhatsApp, it is crucial to have regular conversations with them. Talk about who they are chatting with, encourage them to think carefully about the messages they send and how they might be perceived by others. Finally, make sure to model good digital behaviour yourself, as children often learn by observing the adults around them.

What should I be aware of if my child is using WhatsApp?

• **Group chats:** Everyone within a group, even if they are not one of your child's contacts, will be able to see all messages within that group. If your child is added to a group with someone that they have previously blocked, that person can still see their messages and send them messages within the group chat. If your child is using WhatsApp, check their group privacy settings to see who can add them to groups. Ensure your child understands that they can leave a chat at any time, and they know how to report users. Find out more here:

https://faq.whatsapp.com/424124173736394

- **Inappropriate content:** users can be exposed to content that is not suitable for their age.
- **Location sharing:** talk to your child about when this would be appropriate to use and the potential danger of sharing their location.
- Chat lock/secret code: users can lock chats as well as apply a secret code setting so a chat does not appear in the main chat.
- **Blocking/Reporting:** Show your child how to block and report other users. Find out how here: https://faq.whatsapp.com/1142481766359885/

Further information

Internet Matters have produced a how to guide available here: https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/whatsapp-safety-a-how-to-guide-for-parents/

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date released 01.11.24.

YouTube

YouTube is intended for users over the age of 13, however, younger children can still access YouTube with consent from a parent/legal guardian. When giving your child access to YouTube, there are different options you could choose depending on your child's age:



- YouTube Kids this is a separate app that includes a smaller selection of videos based on the age category you select: Preschool (ages 4 and under), Younger (ages 5–8) or Older (ages 9–12).
- **Supervised accounts** this is a parent-managed version of YouTube that allows you to control the content your child can access. You can select one of the following options:
 - Explore Generally for viewers aged 9+.
 - Explore more Generally for viewers aged 13+
 - Most of YouTube This setting includes almost everything on YouTube except for videos marked as 18+ and other videos that may not be appropriate for viewers using supervised experiences.

Google have created a guide to show the differences between YouTube Kids and a Supervised account to help in your decision: https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/10315420

My child wants to be a YouTuber

Many children want to start their own YouTube channel, but it is important to be aware of the potential risks and ensure that your child understands what information they should keep private and what to do if they receive negative comments. YouTube have produced these safety tips for teens when posting content:

https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/2802244

You should be aware that there are different settings available when posting videos:

- 1. Public: anyone can view the video.
- 2. Private: video can only be viewed by users that you select.
- 3. Unlisted: only people who have the link to the video can view it.

What are the benefits and negatives of a YouTube channel?

Before allowing your child to start a YouTube channel, review the benefits and risks. This article discusses the pros and cons as well as provides recommendations to help minimise any risks:

https://www.brightcanary.io/should-your-kid-become-a-youtuber-weighing-the-pros-and-cons/

Further information

- https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/2802272?hl=en-GB
- https://parentzone.org.uk/article/youtube

Among Us

This game has been rated as PEGI 7, meaning it is not suitable for those under the age of 7. **However**, whilst the gameplay may be suitable, there are communication features available, where issues such as inappropriate language and bullying may arise.

Additionally, it is important to note that Among Us does have the option for in app purchases so please ensure that a password (that your child does not know) is required for all purchases.

Find out more about Among Us from Parent Zone:

https://parentzone.org.uk/article/amor g-us

The NSPCC discuss online games in more detail here:

https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keepingchildren-safe/online-safety/onlinegames/

Screen time and your family

Vodafone discuss screentime and what you should consider when setting your own rules in this useful article:

https://www.vodafone.co.uk/newscent re/smart-living/digitalparenting/screen-time-and-your-family a-guide-to-what-works-and-whatdoesnt/

Band Runner Game

Band Runner is a fun interactive game created by CEOP to help 8-10 year olds learn how to stay safer online. Your child can play it here:

https://www.ceopeducation.co.uk/parents/articles/band-runner/

Adoptive Parents Education Support



NOTE NEW TIME!

Now 9:30 – 11:00am

Coffee Morning

- Are you the parent of an adopted child?
- Are you aware of the educational support available for your child?
- Would you like the opportunity to discuss any educational issues? (Examples could include SEN, attendance, homework, friendships, or anything else!)
- Would you like to meet other adoptive parents?

Please come and join us on:

Wednesday 4th December 2024 9:30 – 11:00 am West Lea School, (Haselbury Campus) Haselbury Road Edmonton, N9 9TT

Please contact Jane Manning (contact details below) to reserve your space



To find out more contact: Jane Manning (Previously Looked After Children Officer): jane.manning@enfield.gov.uk









Welcome to Enfield Parenting Directory that focuses only on parenting and is a central place to look for parenting groups/programmes.

It is easy to use and accessible in different languages.

Scan this QR code



or

Click this link https://enfieldparentingdirectory.co.uk

to access Enfield Parenting Directory straight to your device







RISING TO

RECEPTION

Parent Learning Sessions





IMPORTANT DATES

15th January 2025 Reception application deadline

16th April 2025 You will find out which school your child has been allocated in the evening.



RisingtoReception@enfield.gov.uk

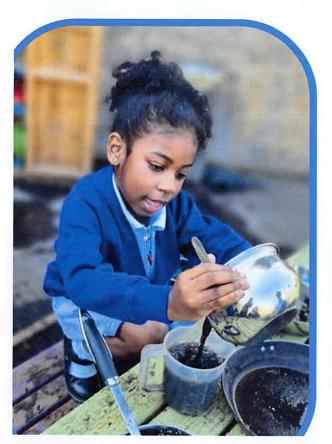


www.ecass.org.uk



s your child starting Reception in September 2025?

n Enfield, we have lesigned a programme o support you and your child to be ready for his important nilestone.



RISING TO RECEPTION

Are you worried about your child's development and readiness for school?



Is your child known to the preschool speech and language therapy team in Enfield?

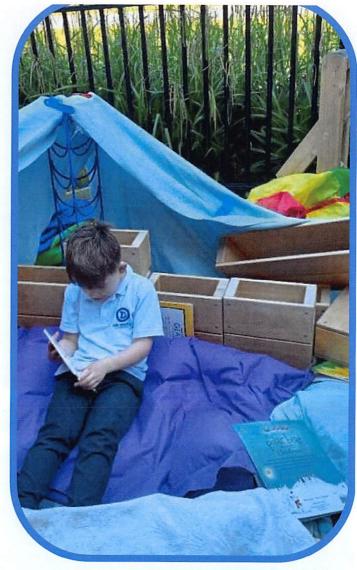


Is your child's birthday between 1st September 2020 and 31st August 2021?



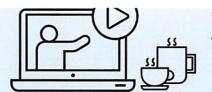
Please sign up for Rising to Reception events to receive invitations via text or email.

Invitations will come directly to your device for each session.



BETTER COMMUNICATION FOR ALL





Timetable of Events



8th November 10:00-11:30am 12:30-2:00pm

An Online Session

Enfield Admission team to inform and provide tips for applying for a place in Reception for 2025.



Our Voice Team A Parent/Carer forum providing strategies to support children with various disabilities in preparing for school.



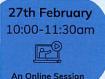
Special Educational Needs (SEN) Team and School SENCos to talk to you about EHCPs, the role of the school SENCos and other important things to know if your child has additional needs at school.



Special Educational Needs (SEN) Team and School SENCos to talk to you about EHCPs, the role of the school SENCos and other important things to know if your child has additional needs at school.



ECASS Occupational Therapist to explore how you can support your child to develop their skills and independence. To discuss the transition and typical expectations in Reception.



Enfield National Autistic Society A Parent/Carer forum sharing their personal experience of helping their children when starting school and their journey so far.

14th March 10:00-11:30am

Enfield Advisory Service for Autism discussing support for parents and addressing auestions about Autism. while exploring transitions.

26th March 10:00-11:30am **Early Years and SEND Inclusion Team** to discuss and provide you with strategies and tips to support your child's transition to Reception. Making parents and carers aware of the EYFS Transition booklets 'From home to school' and 'From a setting to school'



ECASS Occupational Therapist to explore how you can support your child to develop their skills and independence. To discuss the transition and typical expectations in Reception.



Enfield Communication Advisory Support Service This session will raise awareness of support available to your child through ECASS.



Enfield Educational Psychology Service They will share tips and strategies to help you to prepare you and your child for the changes ahead. This session has been planned to consider both child and parent emotional wellbeing.



Early Years Speech and Language Therapists to discuss and explore supporting your child with talking, listening and making friends.



An Online Session

Early Years Speech and Language Therapists to discuss and explore supporting your child with talking, listening and making friends.



Meet some of our fabulous school staff Meet a teacher from a local school, in Enfield, who will talk to you about your child's first year at school.

In July, Rising to Reception will conclude with a parent and family picnic with the ECASS team. Details to follow in the Summer Term!





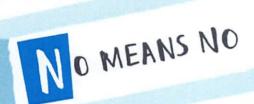
LEARN THE UNDERWEAR RULE



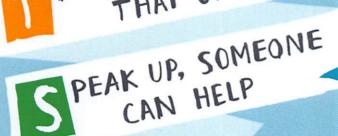




A LWAYS REMEMBER YOUR BODY BELONGS TO YOU











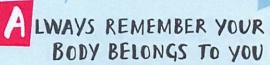
NSPCC Curuelty to children must stop. FULL STOP.

LEARN THE UNDERWEAR RULE

TALK PANTS AND YOU'VE GOT IT COVERED!

PRIVATES ARE PRIVATE

Parts of your body covered by underwear are private. No one should ask to see, or touch them. Sometimes doctors, nurses or family members might have to. But they should always explain why, and ask if it's OK first. No one should ask you to touch or look at parts of their body that are covered by underwear.



It's your body, no one else's. No one should make you do things that make you feel embarrassed or uncomfortable. If anyone tries, tell an adult you trust.

NO MEANS NO

You have the right to say 'no' – even to a family member or someone you love. Remember, you're in control of your body and your feelings are important.

ALK ABOUT SECRETS THAT UPSET YOU

Secrets shouldn't make you feel upset or worried. If they do, tell an adult you trust. You will never get into trouble for sharing a secret that upsets you.

S PEAK UP, SOMEONE CAN HELP

Talk about stuff that makes you worried or upset. An adult you trust will listen, and be able to help. It doesn't have to be a family member. It can be a teacher or a friend's parent – or even ChildLine.





NSPCC Cruelty to children must stop. FULL STOP.

CONSUMER SAFETY ALERT

Water Beads

Risk of serious harm or death







Water beads are small plastic balls that expand on contact with liquid and can become up to 400 times bigger. They are sold for various purposes, including toys. If swallowed, they can cause a blockage in the gastrointestinal tract that requires surgical removal but will not show up on X-ray, making it difficult to detect. If accidently inhaled, they can lead to coughing and choking.

Consumers are asked to be alert to the potential dangers of water beads to children:

- Always store them out of sight and reach of children
- Keep them away from young children under 5 years old
- Only let older children use them if closely supervised by an adult

Common names for water beads include aqua gel, biodegradable balls, floating pearls, gel beads, jelly balls, jelly water gems, sensory beads, silicone orbs, water absorbing beads, water balls, and water crystals.



Office for Product Safety and Standards

4th Floor Cannon House 18 The Priory Queensway Birmingham B4 6BS

Food Support in Enfield

Food Pantries

If you are finding your money does not stretch far enough and you are struggling to afford the cost of food, a food pantry can provide you with a heavily discounted food shop. To receive support from a food pantry you will pay a weekly membership fee (between £3.50 and £4.50), which will allow you to shop at the pantry each week. Pantries look similar to shops and you are able to select a certain amount of food based on your own food preferences. There are 5 pantries located across Enfield:

Enfield Town Pantry

Enfield Town Library 66 Church Street Enfield EN2 6AX

Open Thursdays and Fridays. Referral and selfreferral only through the Enfield Welfare Advice and support team. Visit www.enfield.gov.uk and search 'welfare advice and support' to find the referral form

Ordnance Road Pantry

Ordnance Road Methodist Church 100 Ordnance Road Enfield EN3 6BW

Open Saturdays, from 1pm to 3pm. No referral required. For more information, email ordnancepantry@gmail.com

Fore Street Pantry

Edmonton Methodist Church Fore Street Edmonton N9 0PN

Open Saturdays, from 11am to 1pm. No referral required.

Edmonton Green Pantry

Edmonton Green Library 36-44 South Mall Edmonton N9 OTN

Open Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Referral and selfreferral only through the Enfield Welfare Advice and support team. Visit www.enfield.gov.uk and search 'welfare advice and support' to find the referral form

Bounces Road Pantry

229 Bounces Road Edmonton N9 8LN

Open Wednesdays and Thursdays, from 9am to 3pm No referral required. For more information, email sadiyaam@hotmail.co.uk

Food Co-ops

Food co-ops are small buying groups, providing their members with free and affordable groceries, sourced in bulk and distributed at a very low price. Cooperation Town food co-ops are owned by their members and run according to local needs. Members decide collectively on how to organise and are responsible for the day to day running of the co-op. While each Cooperation Town co-op is independent, the network is designed to share resources and support across the movement. For more information on joining a food co-op in Enfield, email will@cooperation.town or call 07562 005011

Other Support with Food

For other support with food and to find out more about the local support available to help with rising living costs, please visit: www.enfield.gov.uk/helpingyou