

# ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

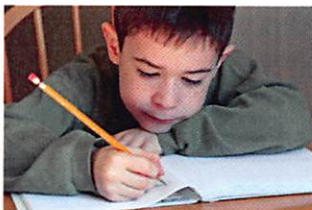


## NEWSLETTER

November 2022

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 you know Enfield Council are proposing a School Street for St Mary's Catholic Primary School on Durants Road between Alexandra Road and Bursland. You can see from the planters and signs where the School Street will begin and end.

A 'School Street' is an area transformed into a pedestrian 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 and received a permit or exemption.

**The proposed 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 the school terms only and will be operated manually using gates and marshals with the view to switching to a permanent camera enforced system in the future.**

Our next step is to recruit marshals. **We need your help! Please sign up at the school office to volunteer to manage the barrier areas in the**

**morning and / or afternoon when the School Street is in operation.**

**Volunteering is easy to do and a great way to get involved with the school community, meet other parents and our neighbours while you are helping to create a safer space for all of our children!**

### Key Activities for a Marshal:

- Managing a closure point, setting out, opening and closing the gates
- Managing vehicle access
- Escorting exempted vehicles through the closure
- Speaking to any members of the public who come along while the school street is in place.

**Training is provided for this very important voluntary role**

**Thank you to the parents who have already volunteered. We have been told that we need more volunteers before we can**



proceed with the training etc.

Further information on School Streets and how they operate (as well as updates) can be found at

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



### Parking

Parking difficulties around 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 Durants Road can be but please make every effort to park responsibly (preferably away from Durants Road) as you drop off / collect your child each day.

I hope that during the rest of this school term while we wait for our school street to start 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 parking away from the school and walking with their children.

For those adults who, despite all requests not to do so, are still blocking driveways and parking illegally please

***park away from Durants Road and walk with your child!***

Please try hard to:

- **Park away from Durants Road and walk with your child.** This is better for your general health and reduces the fumes and pollution around the school. 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 away from Durants Road.
- **Please do not sit in the car with the engine running.** This is not good for the health of others.
- **Never park in / across any of the 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 11<sup>th</sup> 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.

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/#>

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.



[Latest videos - KIDSONLINEWORLD.COM](#)

[Top Articles - KIDSONLINEWORLD.COM](#)

### 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.uk](mailto:nursery@stmarys.enfield.sch.uk)

[reception@stmarys.enfield.sch.uk](mailto:reception@stmarys.enfield.sch.uk)

[year1@stmarys.enfield.sch.uk](mailto:year1@stmarys.enfield.sch.uk)

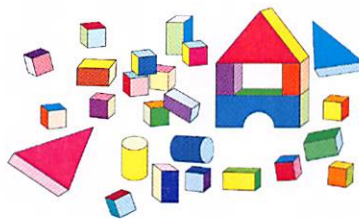
[year2@stmarys.enfield.sch.uk](mailto:year2@stmarys.enfield.sch.uk)

[year3@stmarys.enfield.sch.uk](mailto:year3@stmarys.enfield.sch.uk)

[year4@stmarys.enfield.sch.uk](mailto:year4@stmarys.enfield.sch.uk)

[year5@stmarys.enfield.sch.uk](mailto:year5@stmarys.enfield.sch.uk)

[year6@stmarys.enfield.sch.uk](mailto: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. We try to make sure the questions are not heavily reliant on formal mathematical knowledge but can be solved by logical reasoning.

[Primary Maths Challenge - PMC Past Papers](#)

(Mathematical Association)

### Thinking Skills

The current classroom displays include the use of the thinking hats.

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.

#### **Own Clothes' Day - October 2022**

£165.55 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 earrings 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 not permitted in school.

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

### Holidays and Absences

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 96.87%.

This is below our target of 98% but we know that some families have had to deal with

the usual bugs that are going around.

The class with the highest attendance in the first half-term was Year 5, St. Anthony (98.56%) very closely followed by Year 3, St. Cecilia (98.45%).

Next were Year 2, Fatima (98.11%), Year 6, St. Christopher (97.76%) and Year 2, Faith (97.06%).

Then Year 4, St. Peter (96.94%), Year 6, St. Catherine (96.83%), Year 3, St. Bernadette (96.67%), Reception, Grace (96.55%) and Year 5, St. Joseph (96.49%).

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

### Handwashing Advice



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/live-well/healthy-body/best-way-to-wash-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.org/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 us.

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 Lord:  
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 God.  
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/>

#### **Christian Meditation**

We appreciate what a challenging time this continues to be for many children and their families. 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/>

### Harvest

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.

Thank you for St Mary's Harvest Festival gifts to the Manna Centre. 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. Please find attached a poster thanking all who donated Harvest Festival gifts.

Like many organisations during the two years of Covid we have had to adapt our services. Thankfully, now that the threat from Covid is receding we have returned to our open-door policy. A breakfast, lunch and washing facilities are available 7 days a week, Housing & Welfare Advice five days a week, a clothing store one day a week and medical care one day a week. We also reopened our computer

room in mid-August. All of our services are free at point of use.

We are dependent on voluntary donations to raise approx. 85% of our annual £470,000 budget. Without your support we would be unable to offer the services we do. Any help you can give, financially or practically (food or men's clothing) throughout the year, 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

### Participating in Mass online

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.

### School Dinners



School meals cost £2.50 per day / £12.50 per week (from September 2016).



Please pay in advance (at least a week in advance) online using the Parent Pay system or ask the Office staff for a Pay Point card.

Remember that if your child has school meals (and is not entitled to free meals) and you don't pay for them the school has to find the money to pay your debt. Always pay for your child's meals.

Your child may be entitled to free meals. To qualify for free school meals parents or guardians must be in receipt of:

- Income support
- Income based job seekers allowance
- Asylum seekers subsistence payment (support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999)
- Child tax credit (but not working tax credit) only and have an annual income of less than £16,190

Please contact the school office if you feel your child qualifies for free meals.



Some Dates for this term

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November: Feast of All Saints - School Mass in church for Years 2-6 at 9.30am.

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November: Feast of All Souls - Years 5 and 6 to Mass at 9.30am.

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November and

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> November: Judaism workshops.

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November: Year 3 to parish Mass at 9.30am.

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November: Bring your Mum to School AM.

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November: Photographer in school - individual photographs.

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> November: Year 1 Christmas Performance AM (parents with babies and toddlers).

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November: Year 4 to parish Mass at 9.30am. Reception Christmas Performance AM (parents with babies and toddlers).

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November: Reception Christmas Performance AM (adults).

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November: Own Clothes' Day - items for Christmas Bazaar. Year 1 Christmas Performance AM (adults).

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> November: School Mass in church for Years 2-6 at 9.30am for Blessing of Advent Wreath.

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December: Years 5 and 6 to Mass at 9.30am. Year 2 Carol Service for parents / relatives, 9.30am (for Nightingale Hospice).

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December: Nursery Christmas Performance.

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December: The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary - School Mass in church for Years 2-6.

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December: Christmas Lunch.

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December: Christmas Class Parties PM.

Junior Carol Service in church, 5pm (for the Nightingale Hospice)

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December: Last day of autumn term - School Mass (Mrs. Derwin's 18<sup>th</sup> anniversary Mass) in church for Years 2-6.

Early Closing (12.45 Infants and 1pm Juniors). Own Clothes' Day.

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023: 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.

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.  
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 remain in our staff prayers at school every morning before school.

Miss M. Creed  
Headteacher



## St John Paul II Feast Day

We celebrated the feast of St John Paul II on 22nd October. For an entertaining animation on the life of this great saint see [Saint John Paul II, the Life of a Holy Pope - YouTube](#)

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

[Pope John Paul II Prayers : University of Dayton, Ohio \(udayton.edu\)](#)

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 grace-  
even if we are distant- of not  
becoming insensitive to your  
presence in our midst. Amen

## 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](#)

## Music Lessons

Parents are now able to renew and book music lessons and activities for Spring 2023 from the Music Store: <https://traded.enfield.gov.uk/musicstore>

Spring term music lessons in schools will start from week commencing 9<sup>th</sup> January and will include 9 lessons throughout the term. Saturday Centre sessions start on 7<sup>th</sup> January 2023.

The deadline for bookings is 4<sup>th</sup> December which gives parents plenty of time to consider and book their Spring term music options.

Best Wishes  
Enfield Music Service

## ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

**ADMISSIONS FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2022/2023**  
*Due to the fact that there are now fewer pupils in London (decrease in the population of children) and the issues with finding affordable housing (as is usually the case some of our families were moved out of London over the summer period and in the first half of this term) we currently have places in our Nursery, Reception Year 1 and Year 3 2022 year groups and some*

*places in some of our other year groups.*

**Thank you parents for recommending our school and helping to build up our pupil numbers. Some new children have joined us again this half-term. Please continue to do this.**

From our School Inspection Reports:

*'The leadership team has maintained the good quality of education in the school since the last inspection...Pupils make good progress from their various starting points...Their willingness to come to school is evident in their well above average rates of attendance...You have successfully maintained the above-average attainment by the end of Year 6 in reading, writing and mathematics...Teachers form good relationships with pupils, providing them with a wealth of interesting activities across the curriculum. Pupils concentrate well in class and are keen to work with each other...Pupils say they feel safe at school and know how to avoid danger in the wider community'(OFSTED Inspection, June 2018).*

*'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.*
- *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 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.

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

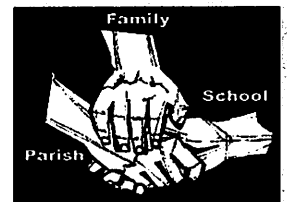




# St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

## EYFS Topic 2: From Advent to Christmas

### Autumn Second Half-Term 2022



Religious Education

#### Topic Theme: From Advent to Christmas

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

#### Learning opportunities include:

- Coming to know Jesus is God the Father's Son.
- Hearing the story of Christmas.
- Coming to know that Mary is the Mother of Jesus.
- Experiencing that a Church is a special place where God's people gather to pray.
- Experiencing liturgical celebrations in a variety of simple settings.
- Experiencing praying with others as a celebration
- 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

#### Monitoring opportunities:

Children's development will be monitored through observation and the collection of work samples for their portfolio.

#### 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. Your child's learning in religious education occurs best when the family and the school are engaged in talking about the same topics. Help your child by trying one or more of these activities while this unit is being taught:

- Talk to your children 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 and 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:

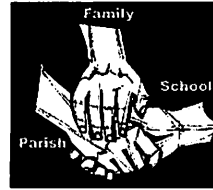
Have an Advent wreath as a focal point in your home. Light a candle for each week of Advent and pray 'God of light, help us to be people who walk with you towards the birth of your son'.



# St. Mary's Catholic Primary

## Religious Education Newsletter for Autumn 2022

(second half-term) – Years 1-6



### Religious Education

#### Key Idea: From Advent to Christmas

This framework of learning is intended as the second for the academic year 2022-2023 and the first of the Liturgical year, Year A. In keeping with the Liturgical year, this framework teaches the season of Advent as a time of preparation for the season of Christmas, according to the Gospel of Matthew. Pupils learn about the O Antiphons, said as part of Evening Prayer on the seven days before December 24<sup>th</sup>. Pupils finish this unit by learning Matthew's account of the birth of Jesus.

#### Attitudes and Spiritual Dispositions

*It is hoped that pupils will develop:*

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• An appreciation of the gift of God's presence born again into the world at Christmas.</li><li>• An openness to the incarnation in their own lives.</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• An appreciation of the truths contained in Scripture.</li><li>• A willingness to pray during Advent.</li></ul> |
|--|--|

#### 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.

- Talk to your children about your plans and preparations for Christmas. What place does belief that God came to live among us have in your Christmas?
- Ask your children to share the prayers they are saying at school with you. Include them in your bedtime rituals.

#### An idea for prayer at home

God of life,

Open our eyes to the coming of your light. Help us to grow in hope and give us the courage to hope for your presence in our hearts, hope for your peace in our world and hope for your promise in our lives.

We ask this through Christ whose birth we await. Amen.





THE MANNA DAY CENTRE

12 MELIOR STREET, LONDON SE1 3QP

[www.mannasociety.org.uk](http://www.mannasociety.org.uk)

Tele: 020 7357 9363

(Day centre for homeless people & those in need)

**A  
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 November 2022

## Anti-Bullying Week 2022

Monday 14th - Friday 18th November

The theme this year is Reach Out. The Anti Bullying Alliance have worked with Kidscape to develop resources to help you support your child:

<https://anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/anti-bullying-week/parents-and-carers>

## Early Years

Is your child online? It's important that devices are set up with age-appropriate parental controls and access is restricted to appropriate apps/content. **We would advise that children only access devices when you are with them.** Sometimes, regardless of what controls we have in place, children may accidentally view inappropriate content so it's important we are around to help them if they do.

The Australian eSafety Commissioner has published a short booklet including advice and guidance on how to navigate the online world with your child. This is aimed at parents/carers with children under the age of 5: <https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents/children-under-5/online-safety-for-under-5s-booklet>



## Roblox – updated PEGI rating

PEGI have announced a change to the age rating for Roblox. PEGI used to rate Roblox as 7+, however because of the huge level of user generated content within Roblox, PEGI have changed the rating to a Parental Guidance label (icon shown right). You can read more about this change here:

<https://pegi.info/news/pegi-changes-rating-advice-roblox>



### What is Roblox?

You can either use Roblox to create games or play games that other users have created. **As a lot of the content is user generated, it may mean not all games will be suitable for your child to view/play. It is important to set up Parental controls appropriate to your child.**

### Allowed Experiences - NEW

Roblox has introduced Allowed Experiences, which allows you to select age-appropriate experiences, so your child can only join experiences that match their age set. Please note that experiences above the age restriction set may be seen in search results. Age categories available are 9+, 13+ and all ages. You can find out how to set up Allowed Experiences here:

<https://en.help.roblox.com/hc/en-us/articles/8863284850196-Allowed-Experiences-Controls>

### What should I be aware of?

**Chat Facility** - Players can chat to each other on Roblox. You can add parental controls to turn this feature off completely or add restrictions.

**Virtual Currency** - Players can buy Robux (their virtual currency) to buy in-game upgrades or accessories. If you do not want your child to purchase them, then ensure you set the Monthly Spend Restriction to zero.

**Game content** – as mentioned, games are created by different users so sometimes the content may not be appropriate for your child.

**Blocking users and reporting** – ensure your child knows how to do this.

### What should I do?

- Play the game with your child.
- Explore the parental controls within Roblox and set as appropriate.
- Show your child how to use the Report Abuse system within Roblox to report inappropriate content and how to block other users.

### Further information:

- <https://corp.roblox.com/parents/>
- <https://parentzone.org.uk/article/roblox>



# Discord

Discord is a social networking app used by gamers to **chat to each other**. There can be in app purchases through Discord's premium subscription service. The minimum age to access Discord is 13. The Apple App store rates it as 17+. Discord is made up of servers, which are spaces for groups to chat, upload files and share images etc. Anybody can set up a server and they can either be public or private. Users can video call and send direct messages to other individuals or groups.

Children who play online games such as Fortnite may use Discord to chat about the game (**rather than the game's own chat facility**).

## How can I make it safer?

Discord have created this article, which outlines four steps to creating a safer account, including how to block users.

- <https://discord.com/safety/360043857751-Four-steps-to-a-super-safe-account>

## What do I need to be aware of?

We always encourage you to chat to your child to see why they use different apps/websites and ensure that they know how to block users and what to do if they see any inappropriate content. It is important to be aware that Discord does include video/voice calling which cannot be filtered. **Discord is used by an array of users and therefore adult content can be found on Discord as well as inappropriate language.** Discord have produced this article, which answers common questions:

- <https://discord.com/safety/360044149591-answering-parents-and-educators-top-questions>

## Further information

- <https://www.childnet.com/blog/what-is-discord-a-guide-for-parents-and-carers>

# Social Media Algorithms



Parent Zone have written this article explaining how algorithms work on social media. Algorithms influence what we see on social media platforms and predict what type of content we are most likely to interact with, thereby keeping us online for longer. There are benefits but unfortunately there are negatives, which are outlined in the below article:

<https://www.parents.parentzone.org.uk/>

[morearticles/what-are-social-media-algorithms-and-how-can-they-be-manipulated](https://www.parents.parentzone.org.uk/morearticles/what-are-social-media-algorithms-and-how-can-they-be-manipulated)

# Yubo

Yubo is a social network, which you must be over 13 years of age to join **although the App store rate it as 17+**. Those aged 13 to 18 years old must have parental permission and will join a separate Yubo community that is for under-18s. Yubo do use an age-verification system (you must take a photo of your face and then facial age estimation technology is used to check)

You make 'friends' by swiping right on someone's profile picture and if they do the same on yours then you can chat with them or stream live videos. **Due to the nature of this app, your child may come across content that is not appropriate to them.** If your child does use this app, then ensure they know how to use the app's reporting facilities and know how to block other users.

## What do I need to be aware of?

**Location:** Users have the choice to share their location. You can hide/show your location at any time (country will always be visible). Location is disabled for all users under 18.

**Live Streaming:** - this is when somebody broadcasts live (real time).

**Inappropriate Content**

**YuBucks** - Yubo's official Currency, can be used to gain additional functionality.

## Guides

Yubo have created the following guides we would recommend reading them before you allow your child to access this app. If you do not think this app is appropriate for your child, then talk to them and tell them why and what your concerns are.

**For Parents:** <http://parents-guide.yubo.live/>

**For Teens:** <http://teens.yubo.live/>

## Checklist

SWGfL and the UK Safer Internet Centre in collaboration with Yubo have created this checklist.

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/blog/introducing-the-yubo-social-media-checklist>





Over the weekend I heard on national radio a headteacher talking about how the school meals in their school had been regressing in quality and portion size because of the economic climate. As a result, I have felt it necessary to reach out and talk about this narrative and how Enfield Catering are responding to this and be clear in what we are doing and what we are not doing.

One of the key points being talked about is the **quality** and **quantity** of school's meals and how it is at threat of being diminished.

Enfield Catering are taking the approach of **not** reducing portions sizes. Portion sizes are set by the school food standards and this is the guidance we use and follow and are continuing to follow even with the rise of food costs.

Our commitment is to ensure that we are serving the correct amount of food to children, this does mean we are absorbing these rises, but we feel it would be wrong for this to negatively impact the children in reduced portions of food. Our offer is a main course, made up of a protein, starch and vegetable plus dessert & unlimited salad bar and bread. This is how it will remain.

Reducing portions is not a strategy we agree with nor are we looking to scope this in any operational way whatsoever.

Enfield Catering are **not regressing** on the **quality** of our meals. We are still using fresh produce and cook from scratch, on site daily. We are continuing this approach, again despite rising costs, we feel it would be wrong for this to negatively impact the children by providing worse quality food.

Other caterers may defer to using bought in, readymade items or ultra-processed foods to mitigate their costs, it is this that will impact on the quality of food that they serve. We are not doing this.

Diminishing food quality is not a strategy we agree with nor are we looking to scope this in any operational way.

We are committed to aspiring to be providing the best schools meals in the borough and continue to do this with fresh ingredients, school food standard portions, reflecting the food culture throughout the borough and connecting children with their food from farm to fork.

James Barrington BA(Hons)

**Commercial Operations Manger**

**Enfield Catering Services**



Winner Public Sector Awards 2022  
Contract Caterer of the Year

FINALIST 3M I

PART OF

*Schools*  
TRADED SERVICES

**ENFIELD**  
Council



## **INFORMATION: An update on the free flu vaccine and COVID-19 booster for school settings and local authorities**

The UK Health Security Agency is urging everyone [eligible](#) for a free flu vaccine and a COVID-19 booster to take up the offer as soon as possible ahead of what could be a winter with respiratory viruses circulating widely.

All primary school children and secondary school children in years 7, 8 and 9, will be offered the flu vaccine in order of school year (starting with the youngest first). The flu nasal spray will be used this year, which is usually given at school. GP surgeries are also inviting children aged two and three years old (age on 31 August) for this nasal spray vaccination at their practices. Most young children will not have encountered flu yet. This means they will not have built up any natural immunity to this virus, so it is particularly important for them to take up the flu vaccine this year.

All adults aged 50 to 64 years who are not in a clinical risk are now also eligible for the flu vaccine. The NHS will announce in due course when and how people in this age group will be able to get their free flu jab.

For COVID-19, the vaccine remains the best form of defence against the virus, and we encourage those eligible to come forward. Taking up both the COVID-19 booster and the flu jab is an essential form of protection against the most severe respiratory viruses in circulation this winter.



Dear Parent / Guardian,

**Your child's annual nasal flu vaccination is due**

The Children's Immunisation Team will be visiting your child's school on **11th November 2022**

**Live Attenuated Influenza Vaccination (Flu Nasal spray) – Reception to Year 6 children**

Flu can be an unpleasant illness and can cause serious complications. Vaccinating your child will also help protect more vulnerable family and friends by preventing the spread of flu.

More information: -

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/999276/PHE\\_protecting\\_your\\_child\\_against\\_flu\\_leaflet\\_information\\_for\\_parents.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/999276/PHE_protecting_your_child_against_flu_leaflet_information_for_parents.pdf)

**Flu Consent**

Please access the online consent form at the following link:

<https://www.enfieldhealthimmunisations.co.uk/Forms/Flu>

The unique code for the school is **ENF102036**

**The vaccine is administered as a nasal spray and is completely pain free for your child**

**Please note: The Flu Nasal spray contains porcine gelatine, however there is an alternative available as an injection. Please select this option on the consent form (link above). The injection will be administered at school, however if you prefer your child to be vaccinated in our clinic, please contact us before the school session (date above).**

**Vaccination information and consent forms**

We would be grateful if you could complete the e-consent form for the vaccination as soon as possible and no later than 48 hours before the school session (date above).

**If you prefer your child not to be vaccinated, please complete the consent form and select 'No' and we will no longer contact you for consent.**

Public Health England have a duty to protect the public from disease and this includes providing vaccination services which are fulfilled by NHS England working with Local Authorities and schools. This

duty allows schools to share basic contact information with NHS England so they can monitor who has and who has not had a vaccination.

Whilst we strongly recommend every child has their vaccinations, we will not do so without the appropriate consent for each.

If you experience any problems accessing the forms, please telephone 0208 702 3499 and the team will be happy to help.

The information provided on the submitted form will be securely held on the child's electronic health record until they are 25 years old.

The NHS Trust collects personal information to ensure that individuals receive appropriate care and treatment and to meet certain statutory obligations. This information is kept, together with details of the care provided, because it may be needed if you require treatment again. The Trust Privacy Notice provides more information relating to how your information is processed. Please see the following link <http://www.beh-mht.nhs.uk/privacy-notice.htm>


If you have any further questions or queries you can contact the Immunisation Team directly by phone or email, using the contact details at the top of this letter.

Yours sincerely,



CYP Nursing Care Group Manager





the  
national  
**sleep**  
helpline

**Does your child  
suffer with  
sleep issues?**

**Do you struggle  
with your child's  
bedtime?**

**Will your child  
not sleep in  
their own bed?**

**WE CAN HELP**

 **03303 530 541**

Sunday - Tuesday & Thursday 7pm - 9pm  
Wednesday 9am - 11am





**Around 50% of children will have a sleep issue at some point\***

## WHAT IS THE NATIONAL SLEEP HELPLINE?

In partnership with Furniture Village, The Sleep Charity has launched a brand new National Sleep Helpline to ensure that everyone has access to high quality, evidence-based advice.

## HOW CAN THE NATIONAL SLEEP HELPLINE HELP YOU?

- Run by a team of specialist trained sleep advisors
- Offer you some practical strategies and recommend services that could help
- Ensuring you understand how sleep plays an important part in your child's mental health and wellbeing
- Listen without judgement and help you decide what next steps are right for you
- Empower you with sleep knowledge so you can understand why your child might not be sleeping well and how that can change

**03303 530 541**

**Sunday - Tuesday & Thursday 7pm - 9pm**  
**Wednesday 9am - 11am**

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IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

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ENFIELD MUSIC SERVICE

# MUSIC LESSONS SPRING 2022

Bookings are now open for instrumental  
& vocal lessons for the Spring term 2022!

Visit the Music Store to book lessons and other EMS  
activities: <https://traded.enfield.gov.uk/musicstore>

The closing date to book lessons is 5th December

If you need to contact us please email  
[enfieldmusicservice@enfield.gov.uk](mailto:enfieldmusicservice@enfield.gov.uk)







# COME AND PLAY OPEN DAY

ENFIELD MUSIC SERVICE

TRY AN INSTRUMENT AS PART OF A GROUP

**SATURDAY 12TH NOVEMBER 2022**

FIRS FARM PRIMARY  
RAYLEIGH ROAD, N13 5QP

click

**TROMBONE**

9:30-10:15

here

**CLARINET**

10:30-11:15

to

book

**TRUMPET**

11:30-12:15



**FREE TO ATTEND**

PLACES ARE LIMITED PLEASE ENSURE YOU BOOK

FOLLOW US



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[HTTPS://TRADED.ENFIELD.GOV.UK/MUSICSTORE](https://traded.enfield.gov.uk/musicstore)

**SUITABLE FOR CHILDREN**

**IN Y4 AND UPWARD**