

# St. Marie's Catholic Primary School

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NEWSLETTER

10th January 2025

Dear Families,

## Happy New Year!

We have had a snowy return to school this week! Thank you for getting the children to school despite some challenging conditions, and thank you so much to our staff too!

It has been lovely to see the children back, ready to learn and be with their friends. Today we even managed to have some fun outside. Seeing the children enjoying themselves in the snow really put smiles on our faces!

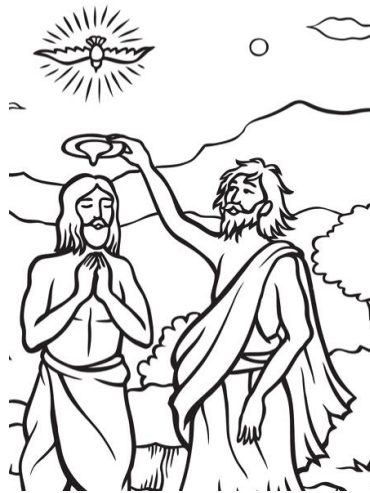


**LEARNING THROUGH FAITH, LOVE AND RESPECT**



## This week's Gospel - Baptism of The Lord

God of heaven and earth, you sent your Son Jesus to lead us to you. Send your Holy Spirit into our hearts so that we may have faith and courage to follow Jesus in all that we do. Amen.



**Gospel:** Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

People's hopes began to rise, and they began to wonder whether John perhaps might be the Messiah. So John said to all of them, "I baptize you with water, but someone is coming who is much greater than I am. I am not good enough even to untie his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

After all the people had been baptized, Jesus also was baptized. While he was praying, heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit came down upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my own dear Son. I am pleased with you."

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**God of all, we give thanks for your love. Fill us with your Holy Spirit and help us to show your love to others in all that we do. Amen.**

## IMPORTANT – SECURITY

In the light of the events that happened in Southport last summer during a holiday club session, we have had new security fencing installed at St. Marie's which has been funded by Liverpool Archdiocese.

This fencing system will also assist with ensuring the safety of the children and parents walking to and from school via the car park and drive way. The new fencing is an electronic system which will go live from **Monday**.

### Before School

The right -hand pedestrian gate (as you approach school) will be open as normal from 7.30am to 9.10am, after which this will be closed. From 8.40am the other pedestrian gates will be opened for ease of access for the majority of families arriving.

The vehicle gate will be closed and staff will open the gates to enter in their vehicles with their passes. **No parent vehicles will have access.**

### During the day

Both the pedestrian gates and vehicle gates will be closed. If visitors/parents arrive at school they must use the pedestrian entrance on the right and press the intercom which alerts the office. CCTV will allow the office staff to identify who is there and electronically open the pedestrian gate. The vehicle gate will remain closed during the day to all but staff and deliveries who will need to use the intercom system.

### At the end of the school day (3.15pm)

Both pedestrian gates will be opened from 3pm – 3.30pm. Again, the vehicle gate will remain closed except for staff who have to leave.

### After school Club and extra -curricular clubs

The right- hand pedestrian gate will be open but all other gates will remain closed. Parents/Carers picking up from extra -curricular clubs will come to the main office entrance and after school pick-ups will collect from pre- school using the doorbell on the Pre-School gate to alert the staff.

### Pre school

Some pre-school children leave at lunch time, 2pm and 3pm. To facilitate these earlier pick-ups the doorbell on the pre-school gate should be used once the office has opened the pedestrian gate to let a parent onto the site.

**The gates may cause some inconvenience for some parents as parent vehicles will no longer be permitted on site. However, we hope that you will understand that this is for the safety of all concerned.**

**Please factor in some extra time for drop off/pick up if you do come to school in the car.**

Parents who have children with additional mobility needs – could you please contact me about the adaptations we will make to these arrangements in order to support you in arriving/departing safely with your child.

**Thank you in advance all parents for your understanding and cooperation. Safety has to be our priority. Please communicate the new arrangements with your family members who may drop off/pick up from school (i.e. grandparents).**

## Other news this week at Saint Marie's

Pre School - The children have used their imaginations to create sand cakes



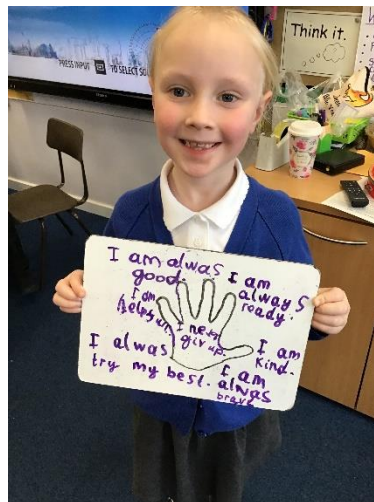
Reception - have been thinking about feelings using Zones of Regulation



Year 1 - have been exploring the history of Florence Nightingale. How would being a doctor or nurse be different then?



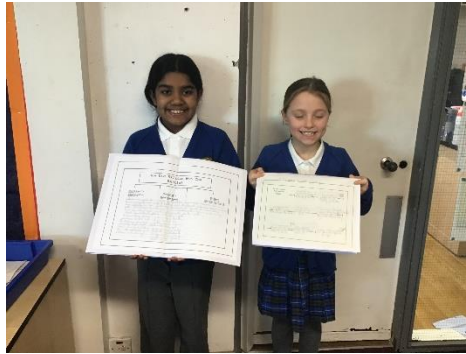
Year 2 - in PSHE have been thinking about how they can be similar and different and what makes us all unique



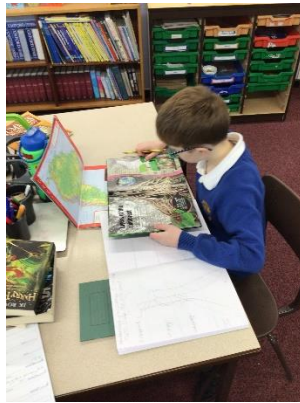
Year 3 - debated if they would rather live in Athens or Sparta



Year 4 - begun learning all about the Normans and the Battle of Hastings



Year 5 have been researching the different layers of the rainforest in Geography



Year 6 have been using an atlas to find lakes as they are finding out about the Lake District



Thank you to the dedicated PTFA group who met on Wednesday evening.

The next event they have planned is 'Break the Rules Day!'

On Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January, children are invited to break some school rules – each rule they break will cost 50p (payable on Parent Pay from next week). What rules would the children like to break?

Only water in water bottles (juice instead?). Hair tied back (wear hair in an unusual style?). No teddies in school (bring your cuddly toy to school?). Please see below for more details.

The children loved this day last year and 'pupil voice' let us know that the children wanted to do it again! Please support us where you can.

## On Friday February 24<sup>th</sup> you can break these rules!

- School uniform must be worn
  - No slippers in class
- Hats are not to be worn in the classroom
  - No nail varnish
- Temporary tattoos are forbidden
  - No face paints/make up
- Only healthy snacks to be brought from home for snack time
- Sensible hairstyles only e.g no hair dye, back combing etc
  - Water only in drink bottles
  - No teddies in the classroom



## QUIZ NIGHT

You are invited to a QUIZ NIGHT on Friday February 7<sup>th</sup>

This is our first quiz night which promises to be great fun!

A chance to enjoy an evening with St. Marie's friends and join in the quiz!

Cash prize and fun games between rounds.

Join in as a couple, group of friends or team of up to 6 people.

Please bring your own drinks and nibbles (also paper cups or plastic glasses please).

**This event is for adults only.**

Tickets £5 per person, available via ParentPay from next week.

*Thank you for your continued support.*

## **Families – a message from the PTFA -**

**Your generosity over the last few years alone has enabled us to pay for an outdoor learning classroom, beautiful playground markings, library books and a wonderful sensory garden in memory of our dearly loved Mrs Scott. As well as these, we have been able to continue to supplement school trips so that they usually cost no more than £10 per child.**

**Thank you so much.**

## **School Games Organiser (SGO)**

'School Games Organisers' work across the country to support schools in their local area with sport and physical activity. Each School Games Organiser needs a host school which they use as a base. St Marie's applied to become the new host school this year and we are proud to announce that we were successful!

Just before Christmas, we advertised, interviewed and recruited our new SGO for our area of Wigan. We are thrilled to announce that **Mr Edwards** was the successful candidate. He will be joining our school team on Monday 13th January and we are really looking forward to welcoming him.



## **Attendance Matters at Saint Marie's**

**Please find below the attendance figures for the week ending the 20<sup>th</sup> December 2024.**

Class	Attendance	Number of lates
Reception	95.0	0
Year 1	94.8	3
Year 2	95.9	0
Year 3	94.9	3
Year 4	94.2	1
Year 5	95.0	7
Year 6	94.1	0

**Our school target is 96.5%. Please be mindful of not booking holidays in term time. Wigan L.A have begun to issue fine.**

**[Every day off school makes a negative impact on the education of your child.](#)**



## Dates for your diary -

Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> January	Parents' meeting about Low Bank Ground 5.30pm
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> January	'Break the Rules Day'
Week beginning 3 <sup>rd</sup> February	Children's Mental Health Week
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> February	Quiz night for Parents/ Carers 7pm
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 6 go to Low Bank Ground, Coniston, for the week
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> February	Half term Week
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March	Holy Communion meeting for Year 4 at school 5.15pm – 6pm
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> March	Ash Wednesday – Father Joseph visits school 2pm
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> March	Holy Communion meeting for Year 4 at school 5.15pm – 6pm
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> March	Holy Communion meeting for Year 4 at school 5.15pm – 6pm
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 4 go on residential to the Anderton Centre
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> April	Break up for Easter

### **This week's Golden Book children**

Pre-School – **Jesse** for lovely listening during group time. He happily joins in singing nursery rhymes.

Reception – **George** for being sensible and always helping others.

Year 1 – **Francesca** for lovely art work and her new confidence.

Year 2 – **Reuben F** for concentrating well in lessons and good verbal answers.

Year 3 – **Evelyn** for never giving up in maths, even when it gets tricky.

Year 4 – **Isaac** for working hard to follow instructions and improve behaviour in P.E.

Year 5 – **Sam** for stepping up to maths challenges this week!

Year 6 – **Ed** for enthusiasm during topic work. Well done!



Well done children!

With very best wishes

Mrs Jackson