

# St. Marie's Catholic Primary School

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NEWSLETTER

28th March 2025

Dear Families,

This week's gospel is the story known as the Prodigal Son. It's about a son who did lots of things wrong, but who went to say sorry, and so his father forgave him.

**Loving God, we know that you always love us and are ready to forgive us. Help us to be truly sorry when we get things wrong and to do all that we can to make the world a more loving place. Amen.**

## This week's Gospel – from Luke



One day when many tax collectors and other outcasts came to listen to Jesus, the Pharisees and the teachers of the Law started grumbling, "This man welcomes outcasts and even eats with them!" So Jesus told them this parable:

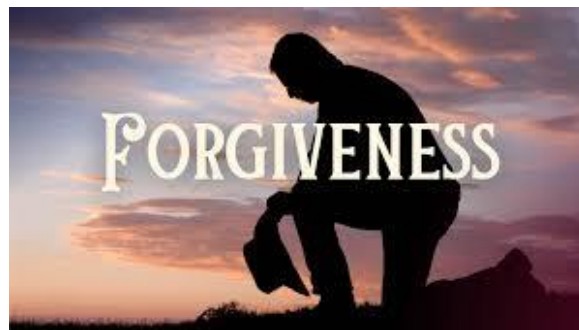
"There was once a man who had two sons. The younger one said to him, 'Father, give me my share of the property now.' So the man divided his property between his two sons. After a few days the younger son sold his part of the property and left home with the money. He went to a country far away, where he wasted his money in reckless living. He spent everything he had. Then a severe famine spread over that country, and he was left without a thing. So he went to work for one of the citizens of that country, who sent him out to his farm to take care of the pigs. He wished he could fill himself with the bean pods the pigs ate, but no one gave him anything to eat. At last he came to his senses and said, 'All my father's hired workers have more than they can eat, and here I am about to starve! I will get up and go to my father and say, "Father, I have sinned against God and against you. I am no longer fit to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired workers."' So he got up and started back to his father.

**LEARNING THROUGH FAITH, LOVE AND RESPECT**

“He was still a long way from home when his father saw him; his heart was filled with pity, and he ran, threw his arms round his son, and kissed him. ‘Father,’ the son said, ‘I have sinned against God and against you. I am no longer fit to be called your son.’ But the father called his servants. ‘Hurry!’ he said. ‘Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and shoes on his feet. Then go and get the prize calf and kill it, and let us celebrate with a feast! For this son of mine was dead, but now he is alive; he was lost, but now he has been found.’ And so the feasting began.

“In the meantime the elder son was out in the field. On his way back, when he came close to the house, he heard the music and dancing. So he called one of the servants and asked him, ‘What’s going on?’ ‘Your brother has come back home,’ the servant answered, ‘and your father has killed the prize calf, because he got him back safe and sound.’

The elder brother was so angry that he would not go into the house; so his father came out and begged him to come in. But he answered his father, ‘Look, all these years I have worked for you like a slave, and I have never disobeyed your orders. What have you given me? Not even a goat for me to have a feast with my friends! But this son of yours wasted all your property on prostitutes, and when he comes back home, you kill the prize calf for him!’ ‘My son,’ the father answered, ‘you are always here with me, and everything I have is yours. But we had to celebrate and be happy, because your brother was dead, but now he is alive; he was lost, but now he has been found.’”



## The Big Lent Walk

Thank you for sponsoring the children in doing the Big Lent Walk. So far, we have raised over £400 for CAFOD! A fabulous amount for a great cause! The children are loving walking around the big field at lunch time with their friends in the sunshine, supported by our volunteering staff.

## Exciting Raffle!

We are raising money for some new P.E jackets for our staff, including caretaker Mr Bill and our Wigan School Games Organiser Gareth Edwards, so that they can look smart when representing St. Marie's in the community and around our school.

In order to help, we have been gifted two signed Wigan Warrior Rugby Shirts. These have been signed by Jai Field and Bevan French!

Thank you so very much for this wonderful donation!



If you would like to win one of these fantastic prizes, we will be raffling the shirts.

Raffle tickets will cost £1 and are available on Parent Pay. We will draw the raffle on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> May in Golden Book Assembly.

Please support if you can!

## Other news this week at Saint Marie's

Year 4 had a wonderful time at the Anderton Centre! The children had a go at a range of activities. Their attitudes and behaviour were excellent! We are very proud. For some it was the first time sleeping away from home. The children showed independence and resilience. They were a fantastic team and were so caring towards each other.

Well done Year 4 and thank you to our staff for supporting them.







**Pre-School** – Pre-school have used their imagination to build their own toy shop. The children pretended to be shopkeepers and said "3 pennies please".



**Reception** – enjoyed an educational visit to 'Imagine That' in Liverpool. They explored the different role play and loved especially exploring the science room!





Year 1 - this week made 2-digit numbers with sticks and leaves.



Year 2 - This week in science the children looked outside for micro habitats.





**Year 3** - the children loved their music taster lesson with Mrs Lord, our specialist music teacher who comes to teach Year 4 each week how to play a range of percussion instruments.

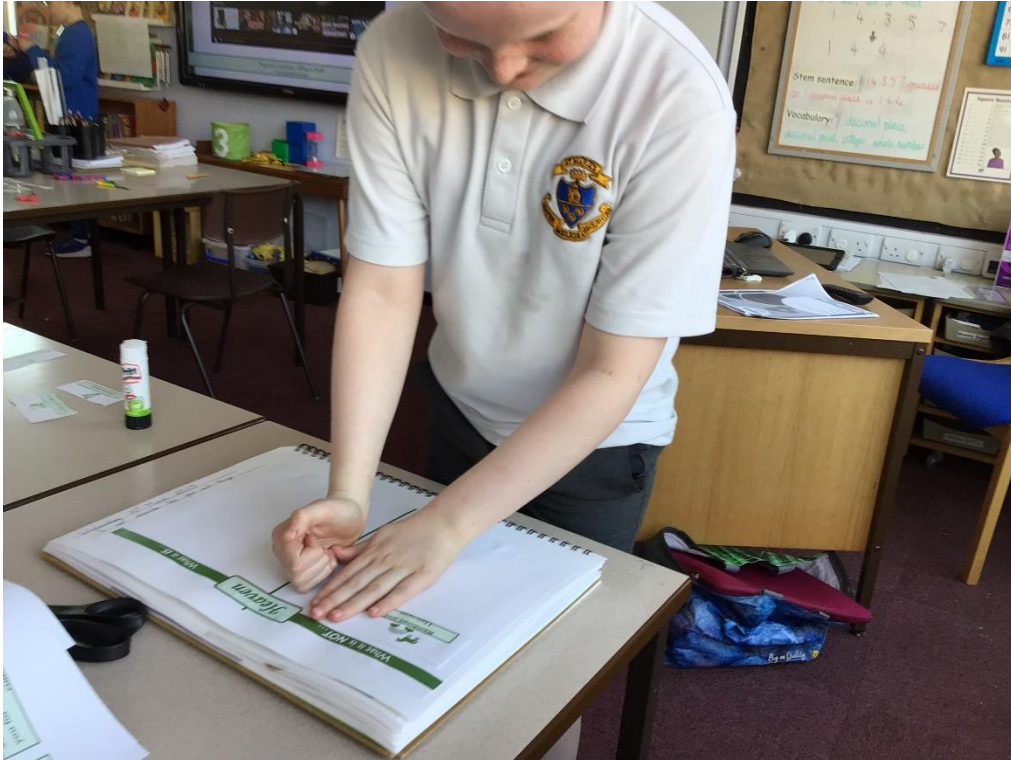


**Year 4** – had a wonderful time at the Anderton Centre.





**Year 5 -** In their "To Know You More Clearly" R.E work, the children thought about how they might describe heaven.



**Year 6 -** have been investigating and measuring shadows, looking at a fair test and finding the 'mean' result.





Some children represented the school in a New Age Curling competition. They finished in 3<sup>rd</sup> place. Well done!



Our Year 6 leaders and Mr Edwards ran an intra school sports skills competition. Well done to everyone involved!

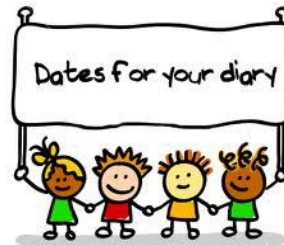






## School gates

Parents - please be mindful not to use the large vehicle gates when entering or leaving the school premises on **foot**. This activates the sensors keeping the gates open for longer than necessary which is potentially a security risk. Thank you for your cooperation.



**Dates for your diary** - any highlighted dates show new information that has been added since last week's newsletter.

Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> April	PTFA Easter Bingo for families 6pm School hall
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> April	Year 5 Lenten Collective Worship for families 9am in school
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April	Easter Reflection by Year 3 and 4 in the school hall 9.10am Families welcome to watch
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April	Year 6 Lenten Collective Worship for families 9am in school
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> April	Year 6 go to Mass at church. Families welcome. 9.30am start
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> April	Hot Dog Friday run by PTFA Break up for Easter 3.15pm

## **Mass during Lent**

Throughout Lent, each of our Key Stage 2 classes will go to Mass at St. Marie's Church. If any parents would like to walk with us from school, please notify your child's class teacher. Families are also welcome to meet us at church. Mass begins at 9.30am on these Fridays.

## Special Sunday Mass



Please save the date – **Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> June.**

Mass at St. Marie's Church on this date will be a family Mass involving our school community. All children, families and staff are warmly invited. The children will be involved in the Mass. The Year 4 children who will have made their First Holy Communion earlier in the month are invited to wear their special clothes again. More details to follow. Please save the date – 11am start. All year groups are invited.

## Attendance Matters at Saint Marie's

Class	Attendance %
Reception	95.8
Year 1	94.6
Year 2	96.9
Year 3	95.3
Year 4	94.3
Year 5	95.5
Year 6	94.4

**Our school target is 96.5%. Please be mindful of not booking holidays in term time. Every day off school has a negative impact.**

**All children will get a letter to bring home next week detailing their individual attendance. Please look out for this.**





## This week's Golden Book children:

Pre-School – **Yeva** for developing her confidence in communicating and joining in learning with a lovely smile.

Reception – **Mollie** for always being creative.

Year 1 – **Poppy** for adapting well to change.

**Evie** for excellent work in all areas!

Year 2 – **Harley** for working hard this week.

**Emily** for being a good big sister and always trying her best.

Year 3 – **Jenna** for always being a good friend.

Year 4 – **Jenson** for trying hard at all the Anderton Centre activities.

Year 5 – **Joseph** for showing courage! Well done.

Year 6 – **Liz** for speed in grammar work.



Well done children!

Have a lovely weekend everyone.

**With very best wishes**

**Mrs Jackson**