



ST MARY'S NEWSLETTER

End of Spring Term Newsletter

As the spring term draws to a close, we're taking a moment to celebrate some of the highlights and reflect on what a truly fantastic term it has been at St Mary's. From engaging lessons to memorable events, our students and staff have made this a term to remember.

Y5 Jupiter Project at St Pauls

Year 5 are once again very fortunate to take part in the Jupiter Project in partnership with St Paul's Girls' School. Over the next four months, each child will learn a musical instrument—cello, flute, clarinet, trumpet or violin— guided by specialist staff and student mentors. The project will culminate in a final performance, and we are very excited for the children to enjoy this valuable opportunity to learn an instrument.



Ukulele

Y4 had a music session where they explored playing the ukulele which is a small, four- stringed lute - family instrument of Portuguese origin. It's known for being relatively easy for beginners to learn basic chords quickly.



Y6 Assembly

Year 6 began the year with a beautiful assembly celebrating the Epiphany, also known as the Feast of the Three Kings. The children spoke confidently and performed with great reverence, helping us reflect on this important moment when Jesus our Saviour was revealed to the world.



Y5 and Y6 Football

Our Year 5/6 football team enjoyed a brilliant experience in the Fulham FC Foundation Cup, finishing a very respectable 4th out of 8 teams. After topping their group earlier in the year, the boys qualified for Finals Day, where they competed against other schools linked with the Fulham FC Foundation. The standard of football was extremely high, and our team rose to the challenge with determination and teamwork throughout. They represented the school with pride, consistently demonstrating the Premier League values of being fair, connected, ambitious and inspiring, both in their play and their conduct.



The Epiphany

On Thursday 8th January, we attended Mass together as a school community to celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany. Epiphany, also known as the Feast of the Three Kings, is celebrated on 6th January and marks the joyful moment when Jesus was revealed to the world. This feast commemorates the visit of the Magi, or Wise Men, who travelled from the East, guided by a star, to find and worship the infant Jesus. Their journey reminds us that Jesus came for all people. Traditionally, the Feast of the Epiphany is celebrated around twelve days after Christ's birth, bringing the Christmas season to a meaningful close.



Thank You for Your Generosity

Our wonderful parents and carers at St Mary's made incredibly generous donations towards our new school projector, raising a fantastic £560. This contribution will make a real difference to teaching and learning across the school. The generosity and ongoing commitment of our school community is truly appreciated, and we are very grateful for the continued support shown to our children and the wider school.



Friendship Workshop

Year 5 took part in a valuable workshop delivered by Hammersmith, Fulham, Ealing and Hounslow Mind, exploring healthy and unhealthy friendships, predictable and unpredictable behaviours, and real-life scenarios to test their understanding. The session offered excellent opportunities for the children to reflect on how we treat one another with respect and kindness, supporting the Catholic social teaching principle of human dignity and solidarity - caring for others as we would want to be cared for.



Y6 Into University

Y6 completed their week-long workshops at the Into University Centre. In the last week, Year 6 proudly concluded their five-day workshop with the Into University charity by celebrating their graduation day at the London School of Economics. The children enjoyed a truly inspiring visit, exploring the university grounds and learning about different faculties, while also having the opportunity to speak with people who work and study there. A real highlight of the day was presenting their work and graduating in front of their peers and parents – a wonderful and memorable achievement. "I thought the trip was amazing because very smart people go to that university and maybe I can go there one day". It was a fantastic day that encouraged ambition, curiosity and confidence in our Year 6 pupils as they looked ahead to their future.



Movie Night

Year 1 to Year 6 enjoyed a special movie night in the school hall, arriving in their pyjamas to relax together with popcorn, hot dogs and fruit juices. Our Nursery and Reception children had their own cosy movie nights in their classrooms. The whole evening was warm, comfortable and full of smiles, making it a truly memorable experience for everyone.



Tower of London

Year 4 enjoyed an exciting history visit to the Tower of London. The children explored the famous landmark, learning about its history, past monarchs and its role as a fortress, palace and prison. They were especially fascinated by the stories of the Tower's past and enjoyed seeing the Crown Jewels, bringing their history learning to life.



Digital Life Skills Workshop

We were delighted to welcome Open View Education to deliver an engaging Digital Life Skills workshop for Years 3-6. Through a range of drama scenes, pupils explored online behaviours and learned practical strategies for handling different situations they may encounter online. We are extremely grateful to the PTA for funding this valuable workshop.



Eco Warriors Trip

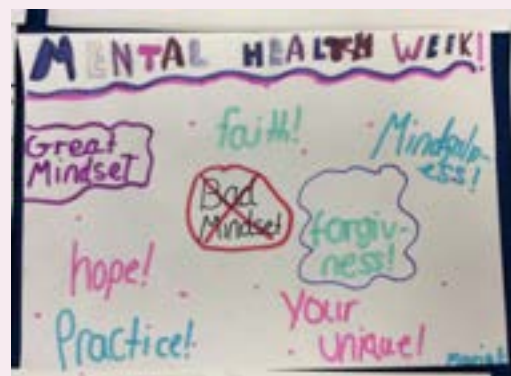
Our KS2 Eco Warriors had a fantastic trip to Phoenix Farm in White City. We held and fed chickens, collected eggs, tasted fresh honey from the farm's bees, and made clay animals. We even went digging and found millipedes and lots of wriggly worms!

The day reminded us that God calls us to care for His creation (Genesis 2:15). As Eco Warriors, we are learning to look after the world He has given us.



Children's Mental Health Week

The children had a mental health assembly run by ConnectEd. They discussed strategies they can use to help them navigate the difficulties of managing their feelings and emotions. The assembly was fantastic and children were engaged. After the assembly, all children had a lesson focused around how to take care of our mental health.



Year 5/6 Netball Tournament

Eight lucky children had the wonderful opportunity to represent our school in a borough netball competition held at Godolphin and Latymer Girls' School.

They took part in five exciting tournaments and showed fantastic teamwork and determination throughout.

It was especially pleasing to see the children confidently applying the skills and techniques they have been practising with Julia, our netball coach. We are very proud of their effort and sportsmanship!



Tennis

Year 1 have started their first tennis lesson this half term – and what a fantastic start it was! The children were super engaged and full of excitement as they began learning a range of new skills. They practised hitting the ball, using the racquet correctly, and even balancing the ball with great focus and determination. It was wonderful to see so many smiling faces and such brilliant enthusiasm as our youngest players took their first steps into tennis!



Chinese New Year

Reception had a wonderful week celebrating Chinese New Year! The children enjoyed tasting Chinese food and learning about this special festival.



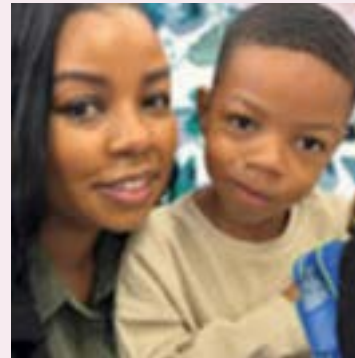
Extreme Reading Challenge

As part of World Book Day, the children took on the challenge of reading in a weird and wonderful place.



Mother's Day Breakfast

We were delighted to host a shared Mother's Day Breakfast in the school hall and we warmly invited our families to join us for this special occasion. This was a lovely opportunity to come together as a school community to celebrate and give thanks for the love, care and support of the wonderful mothers and mother-figures in our children's lives.



Ludovico Carta - London Marathon!

We are incredibly proud to share that one of our St Mary's parents, Ludovico "Ludo" Carta, is running in the 2026 TCS London Marathon to raise vital funds for the MS Society. Ludo is taking on the 26.2-mile challenge on 26th April 2026, supporting research, awareness and care for those affected by Multiple Sclerosis – a condition that currently affects over 150,000 people in the UK.



Year 4 Living Library

Year 4 visited St Paul's Girls' School this half term to take part in a "Living Library." Instead of borrowing books, the children had the opportunity to "borrow" students who acted as the "living books," sharing their knowledge and interests through short discussions. The children spoke with several different students, learning about a variety of topics such as sport, science,



Year 5 Into University

Year 5 visited Into University for an engaging morning session. The children were extremely well behaved and showed great focus throughout the activities. They learned about what a university is, explored different courses and study options, and discussed types of accommodation along with their advantages and disadvantages. They also discovered how clubs and societies allow students to pursue their interests. It was a wonderful experience, and the class will return later in the Summer term for a special Focus Day on a university topic.



World Book Day

We had a wonderful celebration of World Book Day across the school as teachers swapped classes to share some of their favourite stories. Mr Howell travelled from Year 5 to Year 1 to read the much-loved Australian tale Wombat Stew, bringing the story to life for the younger children. Mrs Gleason also left Year 6 to visit another class and read (book title to be added). It was a joyful way to share a love of stories and celebrate reading together across the school.



St Vincent's Care Home Trip

Year 5 had a wonderful opportunity to visit St Vincent's Care Home with TimeGivers, where the other half of the class were able to volunteer and give back to the community by generously giving their time to the residents. During the visit, the children coloured shamrocks together, read stories, and enjoyed meaningful conversations with the residents, bringing smiles and companionship to many. The experience reflected Catholic Social Teaching, particularly the importance of community and participation and recognising the dignity of every person, as the children showed kindness, respect and care for the elderly members of our community.



Citizenship Workshop

Year 6 visited Fulham Football Stadium for an engaging citizenship workshop run by Hammersmith and Fulham Council to help prepare them for secondary school. The children met professionals from the police, ambulance service, fire brigade and TFL, learning about how to stay safe in emergencies at home, on transport and in the community, as well as the dangers of illegal drugs and vaping.



Holy week visit to Marys Garden

The nursery class visited our school's Mary's Garden, where they listened to the story of Jesus in Gethsemane. This experience provided a calm and reflective environment that helped the children begin to understand the surroundings in which Jesus prayed, making the story more meaningful and accessible to them. Through being outdoors, the children were able to connect the natural elements around them—such as trees, quiet spaces, and stillness—with the events of the story, supporting their imaginative and spiritual development.



Y6 Drumming Performance

Year 6 delivered their final drumming performance to the whole school this week – and what a performance it was! Showcasing a vibrant samba beat from Brazil, the children performed with energy, confidence and an impressively high standard of musical skill. The rhythm and atmosphere were truly infectious, creating a joyful and dynamic experience for everyone watching.

One pupil shared, “It felt really dynamic and fun to do the performance today. I liked the samba beat and it made me want to dance – very South American!”

(Malik)

We are incredibly proud of Year 6 for their commitment and enthusiasm, and for such a memorable final performance.



Easter Fun

Year 4 had a wonderful day enjoying a range of Easter activities. The children had great fun decorating eggs, creating crafts and playing games together, showing fantastic teamwork and enthusiasm throughout. It was lovely to see everyone working so happily with their friends and fully embracing the celebrations.



Community and Participation

Y4 took part in a CST lesson focused on Community and Participation, where they discussed the different communities they belong to, such as their families, school, clubs, and local groups. Pupils enjoyed sharing their own experiences and listening to others, helping them understand how everyone can be part of different communities. They then designed colourful posters to represent these, including drawings and key words to show what their communities mean to them. It was a thoughtful lesson that helped the class see the importance of belonging and taking part.



Stations of the Cross

All classes had the opportunity to visit Holy Trinity Church to take part in the Stations of the Cross. This was a special and reflective experience for our pupils, allowing them to deepen their understanding of Jesus' journey to the cross during this important time in the Church's year. The children were respectful and thoughtful throughout, engaging beautifully in prayer and reflection. We are very grateful



Y2 Self-Portraits

In Art, Year 2 completed their final pieces in their self-portrait unit. The children carefully applied their colour mixing skills to create accurate skin tones, hair colours and eye colours, resulting in some truly thoughtful and individual portraits. It was wonderful to see their growing confidence and creativity, and we are very proud of the beautiful work they have produced.



Story Time for Reception

Reception enjoyed a lovely story time in the mushroom garden area, making the most of our outdoor space. The children listened beautifully as stories were brought to life in this calm and engaging setting. It was a wonderful opportunity to foster a love of reading while enjoying the fresh air, and the children were fully immersed in the magic of storytelling.



Y6 Buddy Time with Reception

Our Year 6 pupils have been enjoying their special Buddy Time sessions with Reception each Friday. This has been a wonderful opportunity for the children to build relationships across year groups, with our older pupils showing kindness, patience and leadership as they support and play alongside the youngest members of our school community. The Reception children look forward to this time each week, and it is lovely to see the confidence and sense of responsibility growing in Year 6.



CAFOD Lent appeal

We were delighted to welcome Miriam into school to lead a special CAFOD Lent Walk assembly, focusing on our Lenten call to give and support others through almsgiving. The children took part in a beautiful, interactive assembly that helped them to reflect on the importance of fundraising and helping those in need. It was a meaningful opportunity for our pupils to deepen their understanding of Lent and to be inspired to make a difference through their actions.





Easter Bonnet Parade

Our Easter Bonnet Parade was a wonderful celebration, filled with creativity, colour and joy. Although the weather meant we had to move the event into the hall, this did not dampen spirits, and the parade was still a great success. The children proudly showcased their fantastic bonnets, which were full of imaginative designs and thoughtful details. It was lovely to see the whole school come together to celebrate, and we were so impressed by the effort and enthusiasm shown by all. Thank you to families for your support in helping create such beautiful bonnets.



Mary's Meals

Mary's Meals recently visited the school to speak with the children about their inspiring work and the difference they make around the world. The children learned about how the charity began in Scotland and how it has grown to provide daily meals to over 3 million children globally.

The team also shared the special connection between the charity and our Mother Mary, helping the children to understand the values at the heart of their mission. Mary's Meals have invited our school community to support their work by donating any foreign currency that families may have at home. Envelopes will be sent out in the summer term to help families begin collecting for this meaningful cause.



Y6 Collective worship

To conclude our collective worship on the theme of Holy Week, Year 6 led a deeply reflective and prayerful liturgy focused on the Cross and the crucifixion. The children thoughtfully explored why Catholics venerate the Cross, recognising it as a symbol of Christ's victory over sin and death, and made meaningful connections between His Passion and our own experiences of suffering. They led the school in solemn and heartfelt prayers, creating a reverent atmosphere that invited everyone to pause, reflect and deepen their understanding of this important time in the Church's year.



Holy week Mass

We gathered as a school community at Holy Trinity Church to celebrate our Holy Week Mass, marking this sacred time in the Church's year. It was a beautiful and reverent occasion, giving our pupils the opportunity to come together in prayer and reflection as we journey through Holy Week. The children participated respectfully and thoughtfully throughout, and we are grateful to Fr Richard and the parish for welcoming us so warmly.



Easter Craft in Nursery

Our Nursery children enjoyed a delightful morning taking part in Easter craft activities. They explored a range of creative materials to make colourful and imaginative Easter-themed creations, developing their fine motor skills and creativity along the way. It was lovely to see their enthusiasm and pride in their work, as well as the joy they shared with one another during this special activity.





HAPPY EASTER

As we come to the end of a very full and rewarding Spring Term, we take a moment to reflect on all that our children have experienced, achieved and enjoyed.

This term has been rich in learning and opportunity across the school. From exciting trips and workshops to sporting events and musical performances, the children have embraced every experience with enthusiasm and confidence. It has been particularly special to see our pupils grow not only academically, but also in their creativity, resilience and independence.

Our Catholic life has remained at the heart of all we do. Throughout Lent, the children have taken part in meaningful acts of prayer, reflection and giving, deepening their understanding of faith and service to others. From collective worship and visits to Holy Trinity, to our CAFOD initiatives and Holy Week celebrations, it has been a term filled with spiritual growth and reflection.

There have also been many opportunities to come together as a community – from class assemblies and performances to events such as the Easter Bonnet Parade and Mother's Day Breakfast. These moments remind us of the strength and warmth of our St Mary's family.

As always, I would like to thank our dedicated staff for their hard work and commitment, and our parents and carers for your continued support and partnership. It is a privilege to work together to provide such a rich and nurturing environment for our children. We wish you all a peaceful and joyful Easter break and look forward to welcoming the children back for the Summer Term.

With every blessing,

Miss Black