

# St Mary's News



St Mary's Catholic Primary School  
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Executive Headmistress: Mrs D Titus

Friday 29 September 2017

He answered, "I will not"; but later he changed his mind and went. **Matthew 21:29**

## Catholic Life of the School

In this Sunday's reading from Matthew's Gospel, Jesus speaks to the chief priests and elders about the Kingdom of God.

Jesus uses a story about two sons to explain that we do not always respond to the Father in the best way. However, the Father waits for us and welcomes us whenever we have a change of heart and choose to turn back to Him.

God's desire for our lives is to become more like Christ. Our heavenly Father knows that we will make mistakes but he offers us the opportunity to change our minds and turn back to Him.

In your family prayer time this week, you may wish to reflect on behaviours that need to change. Ask God for help with this as he wants us to change so our lives may be filled with more joy.

*Dear Lord Jesus, grant me the courage to change what can be changed, the peace to accept the things that cannot be changed, and the wisdom to know the difference. Amen*



## Ms Rebecca Evans - R.I.P

Thank you to all the families of the St Mary's school community who attended the very sad occasion of Rebecca's funeral on Thursday 28 September 2017. Please keep Rebecca's family in your prayers.

## Online Safety

Schools, police, social services and other agencies are concerned at the ever-increasing volume of offences being committed against children through online devices. Children are also being exposed to activities which are completely inappropriate for their age.

From class discussions and e-safety learning, it seems that a significant number of children access the internet from their bedrooms without parental controls or monitoring.

**Parents are reminded that it is their responsibility to ensure their children are involved in age appropriate online activities and to keep their children safe when they are using mobile phones, tablets, laptops, games consoles etc.**

## Attendance

During week beginning 18 September 2017, Class 6H had 100% attendance. At their recent meeting, the Governors praised all the children for their commendable attendance record.

All children may arrive from 8.20am at their designated gates. Please take full advantage of this early arrival as it not only helps your child to prepare for their learning day but also eases congestion.

**Parents who choose to take their child out of school during term time will each be referred to Brent Education Welfare and may be issued with a £120 Education Penalty Notice Fine per child (reduced to £60 if paid within 21 days of issue date)**

*Please remember that if your child is absent from school, and we have not already been informed in advance, parents must telephone the school by 9.00am on every day of absence. This is a very important safeguarding measure to ensure we know the whereabouts of every child.*

*If a child's whereabouts are unknown or unclear, the school will contact Brent's Children Missing In Education team so they can carry out an investigation.*

## Star of the Week

| Name        | Class  | Reason for nomination  |
|-------------|--------|--|
| Magd        | EYFS 1 | Being kind to others and looking after his friends               |
| Lykagrace   | EYFS 2 | Excellent letter formation and outstanding phonics work          |
| Norah       | 1P     | For working hard in Mathematics and solving problems             |
| Arthurios   | 2M     | For excellent effort in his creative writing                     |
| Richard     | 3M     | For making everyone feel welcome in Class 3M                     |
| Oluwapelumi | 3Q     | For excellent manners and being helpful to others                |
| Ibrahim     | 4A     | For consistently working hard and always giving his best efforts |
| Dipisha     | 4G     | For always being very helpful in class                           |
| Jayden      | 5O     | For outstanding work in Big Writing and excellent manners        |
| Riel Mariz  | 5P     | For composing an excellent persuasive letter                     |
| Alfie       | 6H     | For having the courage to put himself forward for Head Boy       |
| Chamaya     | 6M     | For being a great role model to others                           |

## Head Boy and Head Girl

Last week, eight children in Year 6 delivered their election speeches as they campaigned to become Head Boy and Head Girl at St Mary's for 2017-18.

It was a very close finish but we do have a clear result:

**Head Boy:** Bobby    **Head Girl:** Saya    **Deputy Head Boy:** Alfie    **Deputy Head Girl:** Tiffany

This is a strong team that will support the very positive learning environment at St Mary's and promote the vision that our expectations are limitless.



## Parents Information

- Thank you to the parents who attended this week's Class 6M assembly. The children delivered a powerful message about the destructive forces of the hurricanes we have heard so much about recently. We keep the victims of such disasters in our prayers.
- **Parental consent forms:** We recently sent letters asking for parental permission for children to be taken on local visits such as our parish churches, the local libraries and the local parks. If children have not returned these forms they will not be allowed to take part in such visits. Please return the form; if you have lost it come into the school office for a new one.

## Safeguarding

St Mary's treats seriously its responsibility to ensure children are safe and well.

Where there is information causing a level of concern, the matter is discussed between the Executive Headmistress and Associate Head of School to determine if other agencies, such as Social Services, should be informed of the matter.

Where appropriate, parents are informed if the school decides to make a referral to Social Services. In line with their own procedures, Social Services may instruct the school that parents should not be informed in particular cases.

The school follows Social Services guidance with regards to referrals and information sharing to ensure our approach is child-centred.

### Senior School Prefects

Congratulations to David, Ranady, Hamza and Akliaya who have been appointed as St Mary's Senior School Prefects. We look forward to their contribution to the school community.



### School Photographs

We were delighted to receive our school photos back during the week. We are sure these special mementos of your child's school days are valued by parents. The deadline for returning your orders is **Friday 5 October 2017.**



### Macmillan Coffee Morning

Please make every effort to attend our Coffee Morning at 8.30am on Friday 6 October. Make a donation and then help yourself to as much tea, coffee and cake as you wish! As always St Mary's welcomes your very generous cake creations.

Also, on this morning, we will have a stall selling second hand uniform. To help us with this, we are asking parents to bring in any good quality unwanted uniform that you may have at home. Proceeds from the sale will go towards the Macmillan Appeal.



### St Mary's Mission Statement

At St Mary's Catholic Primary School we strive to create a stimulating environment so that by learning, playing and working together, we openly follow Christ's teachings. We seek to offer every person the opportunity to be a unique and valued individual, sharing and developing our belief in the teachings of Jesus through everyday relationships and mutual respect in our dealings with one another.

Our School Mission is as follows:

- We stand on holy ground
- We will always open our doors in welcome
- We will always love and care for each other as Jesus taught us
- We will always place the Word of God at the heart of our school
- We will always be witnesses to our faith by following in the footsteps of Christ