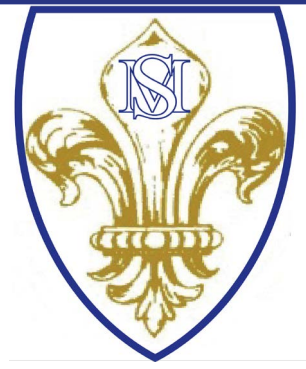


St Mary's News



10th March 2023

What a busy fortnight we've had... with warmer weather last week and snow this week I'm not sure if we're coming or going! We are truly into the season of Lent now and it's important to take a moment to remind ourselves that Lent is a time to grow and develop; a chance to draw closer to God through a time of discipline. Lent traditionally is a time of fasting, giving and praying; for us to consider – what did Jesus learn in the desert? Why did he go? He went because he knew that it would make him stronger and give him a sense of perspective. If he, as the Son of God, needed to do that – how much more should we? Something to consider as we travel through the season.

Parents Evening

It was great to see so many of you at Parents' Evening last week where you had an opportunity to discuss your child's learning with their class teacher and to look at their books. Thank you also for your feedback in the parent survey – we will respond and post the data in due course.

Peer Review

Last Tuesday we also welcomed Trust colleagues from Holy Cross and St Thomas of Canterbury to conduct our peer review. Our focus was on how we challenge various groups of children and the impact of that challenge. It was great to work with these colleagues and they were incredibly complimentary about our children describing them as "confident", "articulate" and "incredibly proud of their learning".

World Book day

Our Bedtime Story themed World Book Day was fabulous! The children looked amazing and so enjoyed all of their different activities. A huge thank you to Mrs Rodrigues for organising and we hope the winners enjoyed their World Book Day prizes.



Imran Kotwal

On Monday we welcomed Imran Kotwel, an Imam, who spoke to the children about Islam and to support their learning about other faiths. As he explained the five pillars of Islam, the children were absorbed in listening and the older children, particularly, were able to draw parallels to Christianity. As a school, one of our key values is respect. Learning about other faiths and displaying tolerance to those who have different beliefs is essential in order to learn to live together harmoniously and in peace. We are grateful to Mrs Smith for organising this Trust wide event.



Science Day

Today is science day, and as I type I can hear ooohs and aaaahs coming down the corridor! I have seen numerous science selfies, some very snazzy lab coats and videoed experiments being uploaded onto QR codes – fab-u-lous!! Thank you to Mrs Nixon for leading us in this and for continuing to raise the profile of science in our school.

Please don't forget to check upcoming dates and events on the website. Please click [here](#)

Have a wonderful weekend.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mrs V L McBrown'.

Mrs V L McBrown
Headteacher

Our prayers this fortnight are written by year 5 who have been learning about the Eucharist.



Dear Lord Jesus

Help us to understanding the true meaning of your death and of the Eucharist

Lord help us to know that being with you is when we receive and take your body and blood

Help us to have a genuine zeal t o know you more and spend true quality time with you.

Amen

By Samuel

Dear Father

Help us to celebrate and remember your sacrifice.

Please pour your blood, bringing me forgiveness and making me free from sin

Bringing your body makes me whole and makes me free.

I will always believe in the Eucharistic prayer and never forget the Last Supper.

Amen

By Adedamola