



St. Mary's Catholic Academy

April 2025

Messenger



Dear Parents,

During this season of Lent the children have been actively involved in delivering prayer services as part of their Lenten observance. These prayer services have been a beautiful opportunity for the children to engage in reflection, prayer, and spiritual growth, as they learn the deeper meaning of this season leading up to Easter. We encourage you to continue to support your child's participation during this special time. Consider discussing the themes of Lent at home, such as self-reflection, kindness, and giving to others, and how they can live out these values each day.

Thank you to all our parents in supporting the school's uniform policy, your support is greatly appreciated. After the Easter holiday the children are more than welcome to wear the summer uniform, as in line with our school uniform policy. Girls can wear **navy blue** gingham dresses and the boys can wear grey shorts. Please see the school website for further details [St Mary's Catholic Academy - School Uniform](#)

We have recently had a number of haircuts that have not been in line with school policy. As the uniform policy states, 'Hair should be conventionally cut with no visible lines and should be an appropriate length (not shaven or less than grade 2). Please ensure that you inform your child's is aware of this policy.

We are grateful for your ongoing support as we work together to help our children grow in faith and spirit during this meaningful season. We ready do wish you all a very happy and holy Easter.

School will be closed for Easter, Friday 11th April and we will look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Monday 28th April.

God Bless,

Mrs Statham



In this week's Gospel we hear how Jesus offers those who have sinned a fresh start. This exemplifies the Christian belief in the redemptive power of forgiveness and the transformative nature of God's love. During this time of Lent, God calls us to be hopeful and positive in our relationships with each other.

IMPORTANT



We will gradually be transferring our emails and text messages from Scopay to Arbor next term.

Please ensure you have created an account. (speak to the office If you do not have access and we will send an invite).

Please check your junk email box, incase any emails appear in there.

Absence

If your child is absent from school, please telephone the school on 01782 234820 or email office@stmarysnewman.co.uk before 9.30am.

Thank you.



Please click on the link below to make a donation for our Big Lent Walk on the 11th April. A small donation can make a BIG difference.

Let's see if we can exceed our £200 target!

[Please click here to donate](#)

St Mary's Catholic Parish Easter Services

- Saturday 12th April 6pm
- Palm Sunday 13th April 10am
- Maundy Thursday 17th April 7pm
- Good Friday 18th April 3pm service
- Easter Vigil Saturday 19th April 7pm (no morning mass today)
- Easter Sunday 20th April 10am



The Mini Vinnies raised £179.10 at the cake sale. All proceeds will go towards 'The Good Shepherd Father Hudson Appeal' Thankyou for your support.

We are offering free workshops next term in partnership with the Family Hub. Please look out for the letters, which will be emailed to the relevant key stage.



Parent Notice

When collecting your child(ren) from Care Club, please keep to the right of the playground, where the picnic tables are, as other clubs will be using the playground at the same time.

Thankyou

To view term dates for the remainder of the academic year please click on the link below:

[Click here for term dates](#)



Chocolate Bingo 8th April

£2 for two games

Please bring cash to the school office in exchange for your raffle tickets.

In 2024 Operation Christmas Child UK sent in an amazing **241,015** gift-filled shoeboxes to Children around the world. St. Mary's contributed with **116** shoeboxes!

The pupils that have put a barcode in their shoebox should have received an email with the destination of their shoebox.

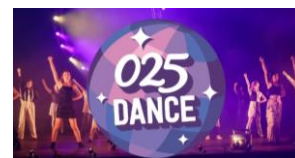
Thank you for your generosity.

We will be introducing a new menu next term.

[Click here to view the new menu](#)



A selection of KS1 pupils attended a taster session at Angela Beardmore Dance Studios. The session provided an opportunity for younger children to take part in a dance session. They had lots of fun and learnt some new dance moves!



Our Dance 25 children were amazing on Monday's performance at the Victoria Hall. They were energetic, enthusiastic, dynamic and brilliant.

Everyone had a fantastic time!



Celebration Assemblies are held at 9.05am, you can view these on our website calendar:

[click here to view the calendar](#)



Well done!



Well done to Charlie who represented Burslem in the Inter-town cross country race where he came in 4th position. A fantastic achievement!



Some children in Y5/6 took part in a handball tournament at Dimensions against other schools in the collegiate. They had lots of fun and finished in the top 3.



Well done to our Y3 and Y4 Handball superstars! Despite the bad weather at times the children demonstrated great resilience, determination and team work. Well done everyone!



A selection of pupils took part in the 'Sports For All' event at Excel Academy last week and took part in a range of activities. They had a great time!



The children did a fantastic job representing St Mary's at the Burslem Town Swimming Gala. Overall, the St Mary's team achieved second place with the boys coming in 1st in the boys' races. Congratulations to all entrants. We look forward to seeing who has made it to the City Finals!



Awards



We would like to congratulate all of the children who have received awards

Year	Headteacher	Reading	Maths	Goldfinch
Nursery	Ava-Grace Somtochukwu	Thomas Elias	Sophia Eusef	Myla Fikunayomi
Reception	Trixie George	Raidyn Ellis	Adesuwa Eisa	Freya Amelia
Year 1	Aneiky Scarlett	Bonnie Havvana	Sofia Amari	Nicolas Ralf
Year 2	Isaac William	Aurora Ruhaab	Jasper Damien	Henry T Carter-Rose
Year 3	Earlene Elliot	Finley Lubelihle	Bernardo Aaron	Imogen Smith
Year 4	Ruby S Jenson	Ellie Gloria	Rayan Jeron	Ruby M Philippa
Year 5	Joe Teddy	Jack Samuel	Tate Ellie	Aubree Leah
Year 6	Lucas B George	Jemimah	Ese Evie	Wyatt Urenna



Save the date



Spring Term 2025

Date	Event
Tuesday 8th April	Foundation stage Easter Bonnet Parade 2:30pm
Thursday 10th April	End of term assembly 1.45pm
Friday 11th April	Stations of the Cross Liturgy
Friday 11th April	School closes

Summer Term 2025

Date	Event
Monday 28th April	School opens for Summer Term
Tuesday 29th April	Y2 Swimming (x5 weeks)
W/C Monday 5th May	Vocations/Careers week
TBC	Y2 SATS - month
Monday 5th May	School closed to pupils - Bank Holiday
Thursday 8th May	Nursery-year 2 - Phonics watch me learn

FREE BOOKS
FOR YOUR SCHOOL
WHEN YOU BUY AT
THE BOOK FAIR!

A POP-UP
BOOK-STORE WITH
HUNDREDS OF
BOOKS FROM
JUST £2.99

COME TO THE

BOOK FAIR



ONLY
£2.99

£6.99 **£2.99**



NEW

£6.99



From
CBeebies
presenter
George
Webster



NEW

£7.99



NEW

Hardback
only
£7.99

£12.99 **£7.99**



NEW

£6.99

A LAUGH OUT
LOUD new
illustrated series



NEW

Hardback
only
£9.99

£12.99 **£9.99**

IN
CINEMAS
FEBRUARY
2025

Date:

*Friday 2nd May
to
Wednesday 7th May*

Scan the QR code
to pay online!





Scouts 
51st Stoke on Trent &
Newcastle (1st Smallthorne)

Squirrels

OPEN EVENT

Join us for challenges, crafts, games, and fun!



Aged between 4 and 6 years?

At Squirrels you can try new things, learn skills for the future, and make friends! Come and see what we have to offer!



Can you help?

Squirrels is run by a team of volunteers and we need you to help us with our new Squirrels Drey! Whatever time you can spare, whatever skills you can bring to the table. Find out about how you can get involved!

Come and see what Squirrels is all about!



Wednesday 30th April 2025



5.30-6.15 pm



The Scout Hall, Camp Road, Smallthorne,
ST6 1LF- Opposite The Salvation Army



Smallthorne51st.scouts@outlook.com



Let us know you're attending using the QR code, or send an email.

Not Squirrels age but still interested? We also have spaces in Beavers, Cubs, and Scouts. Or want to know about our other volunteering opportunities? Contact us to find out how to join our Scout group!