



# St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

*Living and learning, inspired by our faith*

[www.stmaryschiswick.org.uk](http://www.stmaryschiswick.org.uk)

## NEWSLETTER

**Week 15 Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2025**

### UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December – End of term – **school closes at 1.15pm**

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January – INSET for staff. School closed for pupils

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January – Term begins – 8.45am**

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January – Mass for Y2-Y6 – Feast of the Epiphany – 10.00am at Church

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> January – Open Morning – 9.30am

Week beginning Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January – Spring Clubs commence (Breakfast Club and After School Care available from 6<sup>th</sup> January)

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> January – Writing Workshop for Reception parents – 2.45pm

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> January – Open Morning – 9.30am

### **KS2 Carol Service**

This week we gathered together as a school community for our annual KS2 Carol Service in Church. All children from Years 3 to Year 6 were involved, with Year 5 leading the Service and taking on acting and narrating roles. It was a very joyful event where we all came together as a school community – children, parents, governors and staff - to prepare for Christmas through carols, mime, prayer and Scripture. The children read the Scripture Readings with real meaning and confidence and the singing was uplifting. Thank you to Miss Scannell for preparing and leading the Carol Service and to all of our staff who worked with the children to prepare them with the singing and responses, or who helped with supervision on the nights. Thank you too to everyone who attended the Carol Service and to our Year 6 parents for organising the mince pies and mulled wine in the Parish Centre. I would also like to thank Fr Jakub for his lovely Blessing for us all and for attending the Carol service.

### **EYFS Travelling Crib**

To help us remember the Christmas Story, children in EYFS were invited to join our special project called The Travelling Crib. Each evening in Advent, a child took home The Travelling Crib to share with their family. The crib was set up in a special place, with a simple song to sing, a prayer to say and a candle to light.

We remember the journey Mary and Joseph made to Bethlehem, and as a school family take time to stop and think about the true meaning of Christmas. We also made time to make some very special festive bunting to bring Christmas cheer to St Mary's Convent and Nursing Home. This was very gratefully received! Thank you to Miss McAteer and Miss Brownscombe

for organising these beautiful projects, what a special way to reinforce the story of Christmas!

### **Year 6 Trip to Paris**

Last week, Year 6 enjoyed an unforgettable trip to Paris! During the week, the children took part in a wide range of exciting and enriching experiences. They explored France's history with a visit to La Coupole, and soaked up the Paris' culture at the iconic Eiffel Tower and in the vibrant streets of Montmartre. A real highlight was visiting a local town, where pupils practised their independence by exploring a traditional market and buying their own lunch. The group also enjoyed a delicious visit to a chocolate factory, learning how chocolate is made (with a few tasty moments along the way!). Religious education came to life through visits to the beautiful Sacré-Cœur and the historic Notre Dame, giving pupils the chance to reflect in some of Paris's most famous landmarks. The trip ended on a high with a magical day at Disneyland Paris, which was filled with smiles, excitement and lasting memories. The children were a credit to the school throughout the trip, showing enthusiasm, curiosity and excellent behaviour. It was truly a wonderful week for everyone involved. A very special thank you to Mr O'Reilly, Miss McLaughlin and Mrs Bell for accompanying our children on this trip and taking such good care of them.

### **Year 5 Theatre Trip – The Railway Children**

Year 5 recently enjoyed a fantastic trip to the Tabard Theatre to watch a live performance of The Railway Children. The visit supported our English curriculum and gave the children the opportunity to experience a classic story brought to life on stage. The children were extremely engaged throughout the performance, following the storyline closely and responding thoughtfully to the emotions portrayed. There were some particularly moving moments, especially when the children were reunited with their father, which many of the children found very emotional. A highlight of the performance was the high level of audience participation, which the children thoroughly enjoyed. They joined in enthusiastically by cheering when the children in the story were awarded, waving as if they were passengers on the train, and reacting with excitement when the theatre lights turned on the audience to make it feel as though the train was rushing towards us during the avalanche scene. Year 5 represented the school wonderfully with their excellent behaviour and enthusiasm. It was a memorable experience for all and a fantastic way to bring literature to life! Thank you to Miss Scannell and Miss McLoughlin and the parents who accompanied Year 5 on the trip. A good time was had by all!

### **Mass for the Feast of the Epiphany – Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January**

Years 2 to 6 will be attending 10.00am Mass on this morning. If you are able to join us for Mass and can help with walking the children to and from Church, please inform the office. Thank you very much for your ongoing support.

### **School Attendance**

As you know, we are required to submit our attendance data to the Local Authority each week. We were visited last week by our Local Authority Attendance Officer, and I am very pleased to report that our school attendance for this term is at 96%. Thank you to everyone for your continuing effort to achieve this. It is essential that children are in school regularly and on time so that they can achieve their full potential for learning and development. We return to school on **Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January at 8.45am** and look forward to seeing you all then.

## **Celebrations**



**Happy Birthday to** Benjamin (Y5), Leavana (Y2), Unum (Y4), Maddie (Y5), Viktorija (Y6), Mila (YR), Gabriel (Y4), Hendrix (Y2), Leksi (Y5), Ariya (Y1) Tommaso (YR), Daniel (Y6), Hugo (Y6), Bella (Y3), Lana (YR), Leona (Y3), Nathan (Y5), Sadie (Y5), Valentina (Y5)

## **End of Term Awards**

Lia and Jack (YR), Paul and Mia (Y1), Lily and Eddie (Y2), Bella and Santi (Y3), Leo and Lottie (Y4), Lilly and Edward (Y5) and Guiliano and Josephine (Y6)

## **Exemplary Behaviour Award**

Stepan (Y2), Catalina (Y3) & Roman (Y4)

## **Winning House for Dojo Points**

St Joseph's – 4,899 points

**Wishing you all a joyous Christmas and New Year with your families,**

Miss Keane NPQH

Headteacher