



St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

Living and learning, inspired by our faith
www.stmaryschiswick.org.uk

NEWSLETTER

Week 17 Friday 16th January 2026

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday 21st January – Year 5 Class Assembly – 9.05am
Monday 26th January – Year 3 Retreat – Reconciliation – in school
Wednesday 28th January – Year 6 Trip to Brentford Stadium
Thursday 29th January – Open Morning – 9.30am
Monday 2nd February – Year 3 Class Mass – 10.00am at Church
Tuesday 3rd February – School Library Service Visit
Wednesday 4th February – Year 3 Class Assembly -9.05am
Wednesday 4th February – Year 4 Trip to Gunnersbury Museum – Victorian Workshop
Week beginning Monday 9th February – Children's Mental Health Week
Monday 9th February – Year 6 Trip to House of Parliament
Thursday 12th February – Year 1 Theatre Workshop in school - 9.30am
Friday 13th February – KS2 Author Visit – Eve Wersocki-Morris -am
Friday 13th February – EYFS and KS1 Perform Drama Workshop – pm
Friday 13th February – Half Term – school finishes at 3.15pm

Year 6 Class Assembly

Year 6 led a wonderful Assembly this week which explored the meaning of our school Mission Statement – Living and learning, inspired by our faith. They spoke about the importance of treating each other with kindness, dignity and respect, also reinforcing our school values and illustrated this through role-play. Thank you to Mr O'Reilly and Ms McLaughlin for preparing them so well and for our Year 6 parents who attended the Assembly.

EYFS Writing Workshop

This week we had our EYFS Writing Workshop for Reception parents, led by Miss McAteer. She explained how we teach writing in school and how parents can support with writing at home. We have been focusing a lot on writing in school, using the DfE revised Writing Framework, which was published in July 2025. It emphasises the need to get it right from the start and focus on correct pencil grip, letter formation and transcription skills. Miss McAteer explained the importance of correct posture and pencil grip, and how physical exercises and tasks help to strengthen and develop core strength and hand muscles in preparation for writing. Our handwriting scheme Kinetic Letters can be found on class pages, so you can support your child with forming letters correctly at home. A copy of the

presentation can also be found on the Reception class page of our website. Thank you to Miss McAteer for sharing your wealth of experience in this area with us.

National Year of Reading

2026 is the National Year of Reading. It is a national initiative, which is designed to help more people rediscover the joy of reading. Reading expands minds, builds vocabulary and fuels creativity. Yet, with more distractions and less time, reading for pleasure is in decline across many groups. The National Year of Reading aims to change that, by reconnecting reading with everyday culture.

We are planning lots of exciting events throughout the year to promote reading for pleasure. Mrs Norris has booked an author to visit Years 3-6 in school later this term and we have theatre workshops booked for EYFS, Years 1 and 2. We will hold our annual Book Week later in the Spring Term and our Year 6 Reading Ambassadors will also be promoting reading throughout the year. Please keep reading to your child at home, let them see you reading and also make time to hear them reading every evening. If a child reads for 20 minutes a day, in 1 year they will have read over 1,800,000 words.

Clubs for Spring Term

If you haven't signed up for clubs yet, please take a look at our offerings for Spring Term clubs on our website. There is a wide variety of clubs available. This can be found in the Parents section. There are still a few places available. Please enquire at the Office if you need assistance.

Celebrations



Happy Birthday to Nell (Y6)

Star of the Week

Alessandro (N), All of Year 1 for wonderful writing (Y1), Benjamin (Y2), Eva P (Y3), Jack (Y4), Holly (Y5) and All of Year 6 for (Y6)

Teacher's Award

Androl (YR), Tommy (Y1), Lucas (Y2), Azariah (Y3), Harriet (Y4), Eben (Y5) and Nell (Y6)

Reader Award

Milan (YR), Leonor (Y1), Nyla (Y2), Sophia (Y3), Bianca (Y4), Jeremiah (Y5) and Hannah (Y6)

With Best Wishes for the Weekend,

Miss Keane NPQH

Headteacher