



St Mary's C of E Primary School

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Newsletter No. 5

Friday 1st December 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Following on from my last newsletter, I'm writing to remind you of some important events coming up along with sharing some other news with you all.



Please come along to our school Christmas Fayre on Saturday!

If you're coming to the fayre, please consider helping as it will be much appreciated!

All of the funds raised will go towards the development of our playground spaces.

Climate Justice Exhibition:

We are so proud to announce that posters made by 4 of our children will be showcased in the Climate Justice exhibition at the Houses of Parliament next week! A huge well done to Manos, Alex (Y3), Adrina (Y1) and Mariia (Y5).



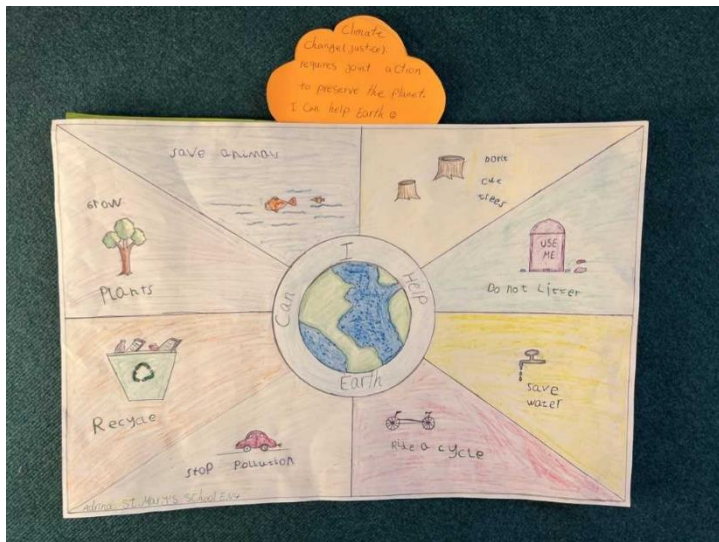
Mariia's idea is about cities, towns and villages being polluted and how hard it is for wildlife and animals to survive from everything bad that we have done to God's creation.

It's like a hand of smoke trying to get it. Any small action will help the world. You're never too small to make a change. We can all be agents of change.

Alex and Manos' poster featured a poem about our planet:

Our planet, our life
See the light, help keep it alive
We are only little, but we mind.
Do your part – be kind!





Adrina’s poster was all about ways that we can care for the world: recycling, growing more, trees, not littering, saving water, reducing pollution. Lots of ideas!

We are so proud of these children’s achievements and it’s clear that they have really thought about God’s creation in their designs. Global leaders attending the COP28 summit will be invited to see the posters at the Houses of Parliament. Thank you to everyone who contributed to our exhibition a few weeks ago.

Do you have a bike?

Barnet Council’s Parking team has arranged free Dr Bike sessions run by qualified bicycle mechanics in December. Members of the public can take along their bicycles to have a free, full safety check, which includes the condition of tyres, rims, gears, brake function and tyre pressure and adjustments can be made if required.

The sessions will take place on the following dates between 9am and 3pm.

Lodge Lane Car Park, North Finchley, N12	02/12/2023
Stapylton Car Park, Barnet, EN5	09/12/2023
Lodge Lane Car Park, North Finchley, N12	17/12/2023
Stapylton Car Park, Barnet, EN5	30/12/2023

Are you interested in starting a parents’ prayer group at school?

We would love to welcome any St. Mary’s parents that might be interested in coming together to pray in school. This group would be organised and led by parents, and we would provide a quiet space in school to host the group. We could offer most afternoons from 3pm until home time. We have had successful prayer groups historically and they have always been very informal and purposeful.



If you are interested in running or joining a group, please let Mrs Constantinou know this term.

Barnet Fostering:

Some children, despite the best efforts to keep them at home, may need to live elsewhere for a time. Could you give a child the opportunity to live in a safe loving home, near to all that is familiar and important to them whilst they adjust to being away from their home? If you are interested in finding out more about Barnet Fostering, [click here](http://www.barnet.gov.uk/fostering).

Collective Worship:

This half term, we have been reflecting on trust, trusting God and being trustworthy. We have also introduced the idea of ‘the light of Christ shining in our hearts’ and what that means to us. Every class has written their own prayer which captures their reflections from our worship so far this half term. I hope you enjoy reading them on the next page.

Dear God,
Thank you for creating
people we can trust.
Sorry for when we may
be unkind.
Please give us what
we need.

Amen
YR

Dear God,
Thank you that we have people we
can trust to love us and help us.
Sorry when we hurt people with our
hands or our words.
Please help us to be kind and look
after each other and our world.

Amen
Y1



Dear God,
Thank you for the people we trust.
We trust our friends, our family
and our pets.
We are sorry for when we don't
listen when people trust us.
Please help us to be trustworthy by
doing what we are asked and being
careful of others' feelings.
We will try not to argue, we will ask
for help, we will try not to snatch
and we will be compassionate.

Amen
Y2

Dear God,
Thank you for showing us your light to help us
to make the right choices.
Sorry for when we are tempted to do the
wrong thing. Sorry for the times when we have
not been trustworthy.
Please help us to shine a light on others to help
them like you help us. Please look after our
families and friends who take care of us and
who we trust. Please let your light shine upon
us. Please bring us hope so we can get through
the bad times so they become good times.

Amen
Y3

Dear God,
We turn to you when we are in the worst of
times.
Please guide us through darkness and show us
the light of Christ.
Sorry for all the things we have done wrong
and continue to lead our way to the
brightness.
We thank you when we pray to you and you
listen to our prayers.
Thank you for the wonderful world you have
created.
Help us to continue to guide us to helping
others shine.
May the light of Christ, shine in our hearts.

Amen
Y4

Dear Lord
Thank you for leading us towards the light.
Thank you for having trust in us to take care of
our wonderful world.
Sorry for damaging and hurting your precious
creation. Help us to take more care and show
love. We are sad there are unnecessary wars and
conflict going on in other countries. Please give
us hope that one day these will end and there will
be peace and safety for all on Earth.
Please let your light shine in the hearts of
everyone so there can be kindness and peace
everywhere.
We trust in you, Lord our God.

Amen
Y6

Our Father,
Thank you for giving us hope. If we have hope we
never give up.
Sorry for the times we haven't believed you and
have not had hope.
Please forgive us for all the bad things we have
done to your creation and keep us hopeful for a
bright future.

Amen
Y5

Christmas St. Mary's School Dates – Summary:

- Saturday 2nd December: School Christmas Fayre, 12-3pm
- Tuesday 5th December: Food Bank Donations to school (please bring in a strong plastic bag and take straight to class). Please give what you can and if possible, include some treats that children might enjoy.
- Thursday 7th December: Christmas Jumper Day. [Click here to donate.](#)
- Saturday 9th December: School Carol Concert at 4pm. Please let us know if you can come by [filling in this quick survey](#) if not already done so.
- Thursday 14th December: Infant Nativity – 2pm and 6pm (ticket booking has begun)
- Monday 18th and Tuesday 19th December: Junior Production at 7pm both days (ticket booking has begun)
- Wednesday 20th December: Christmas lunch at school
- Thursday 21st December: Christingle service in school and last day of term.
- **PLEASE NOTE THAT SCHOOL WILL CLOSE AT 3PM ON 21st DECEMBER.**

Book Donations:

Our Amazon Wish List can be accessed [here](#). We continue to add new books all the time. **If your child has a birthday coming up, donating a book might be a lovely way to celebrate!**

If parents would like to donate a book via Amazon, and they leave us a message on the page, then we will include a sticker inside the book to note who has made the donation.

As an alternative to the Amazon wish list, we have also worked with the Children's Book Shop in Muswell Hill to create a collection of St Mary's class wish lists: <https://www.childrensbookshoplondon.com/wishlists>. Once purchases are made, The Children's Bookshop will send books to school once a week for free, labelled with the child's name and class, but parents are also welcome to go into the shop and browse if they'd rather and take it with them immediately.

From all of us at St Mary's School, stay safe, stay well and our love and prayers are with you as always.

Wishing you all a restful weekend,

Mrs. Constantinou

