



Care, Grow and Flourish
in God's Loving Hands

St Mary's C of E Primary School

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Newsletter No. 8

Friday 19th March 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this newsletter finds you all well and that you have all found some time to enjoy the Spring sunshine!



Food Bank Donations:

In line with our focus value of Service this half term, we would like to invite parents and carers to bring donations for us to share with the Chipping Barnet Food Bank. Please bring donations to school on Monday 23rd March. Children should bring any donations to classrooms in a strong plastic bag. If you feel able to, please include any Easter treats for children who might otherwise go without.

Urgently needed food items:

- Tinned Vegetables
- Pasta Sauces
- Tinned fish
- Coffee
- Toilet rolls



New Management Information System:

We have recently moved over to a new system in school called Arbor. Next week, we will be sending home student information forms for you to check. Please update with any new information and return them to the school office. Many thanks.



Parent Surveys:

At the end of next week, we will be inviting you to share your thoughts with us about our school. As always, your engagement with surveys is really valuable. Watch out for a text alert about this.

Collective worship: Prayers for countries in conflict

This week, we have taken time together to think about places around the world where there is war and conflict. Whilst this is out of our control, we have reflected on how we can bring peace to the places and people around us. Some children have written beautiful prayers to take their worries to God. Here are two anonymous examples:

*Dear God,
Please help everyone at war
and help people in need.
Amen
(Y4 pupil)*

*Dear God,
I show Your love by letting others play, if someone gets hurt I help them. I pray that
people in different countries that are fighting stay safe and that the fighting stops.
Amen
(Y2 pupil)*

If you would like advice on how to discuss these issues with your children at home, please click on the following links:

<https://www.savethechildren.org.uk/blogs/2022/how-to-talk-to-children-about-war>

<https://www.unicef.org/parenting/child-care/how-talk-your-children-about-conflict-and-war>



The Grove – After School Club:

The Grove runs every day in term time except on INSET Days, Bank Holidays, our annual May Day celebration, and on the last day of each term (as we close early on those days). It operates from home time until 5.45pm and is run by our own staff who know the children well.

It is based in the school hall and the children can be collected at any time between via the school office.

Children can access The Grove either immediately from the end of the day or straight after another club has finished.

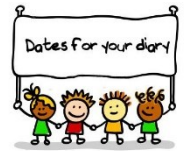
[Click on the poster to find out more](#), including how to book. Please note that for same day bookings, we ask you to call the office.

Easter Camp at St. Mary's: Come and join Mr Kerr and the team for 2 weeks of fun, sports, arts and more. St. Mary's School is once again hosting an All for Sport camp during the Easter holiday. [Click here](#) to book.

- Week 1: Monday 30th March-Thursday 2nd April
- Week 2: Tuesday 7th April-Friday 10th April

Dates for your diary:

- Y4 Parent Consultations: 23rd and 25th March
- **Donations to Chipping Barnet Foodbank as commitment to others in Lent: w/c 23rd March**
- Robotics Workshops in school for all classes: 24th March
- Y5 djembe performance: 9.10am on 25th March
- Holy Communion in school: Thursday 26th March
- School closing for Easter: **3pm** on Friday 27th March and Y3 Cake/Fruit sale



Key dates for Summer Term - planning ahead:

- INSET day: Monday 13th April
- Children back to school: Tuesday 14th April
- Y2 and Y3 Disco: Friday 24th April May Day: Friday 22nd May
- Sports Day: Tuesday 23rd June



Palm Crosses – gifts from St. Mary's Church: As a gift from St. Mary's Church all children will be offered the gift of a palm cross to take home at the end of next week.

As we approach the Easter break, I'd like to take this opportunity to wish you a 'Happy Easter' and to share how some of our families might greet one another:

- Rastakhiz Massih mobarak – Persian
- Buona Pasqua – Italian
- Joyeuses Pâques - French
- Χριστός Ανέστη (Christos Anesti) – Greek
- Gezuar pashket - Albanian
- Feliz Páscoa – Portuguese
- Diriliş Bayramın kutlu olsun – Turkish
- Paşte fericit – Romanian
- Su Šventom Velykom (soo shwaentom Valeekom) – Lithuanian
- Radosnych Swiat Wielkanocnych - Polish

An Easter Prayer

God of compassion and mercy,

Let the story and life of Jesus come alive into our hearts.

Let us see that even the most dangerous and darkest things will pass away like shadows won by your love and light. Let us rejoice in the resurrection of Jesus, in His love on the cross, in His forgiveness unto death, and in your light breaking forth like the dawn. Send your Holy Spirit in us that we may share with all your faithful love Amen

Thank you as always for your support.

Remember that even with faith as small as a mustard seed; we can do anything!

Maria Constantinou

Headteacher

