



March 2024 Newsletter

Through God's love and our Christian Values, we encourage each individual to love, respect and value God, themselves and others.

We encourage and nurture everyone to flourish and grow into the unique person God made them to be, ready to go out into the world to love others.

This is rooted in Jesus' words: Love one another as Jesus loved us.
(John 13 v 34-35)

Dear Parents, Children & Friends,

EASTER SERVICE:



Year 4 will lead the School Easter Service on **Thursday 28th March at 9:30am**. Our friends from Broadfield will join us.

All parents, grandparents and Governors are invited to join us. Church will be open for parents from 9:00am and a small selection of refreshments will be available as well as the final opportunity to buy raffle tickets for the Easter Draw.

CURRICULUM UPDATE:

Here are just some of the highlights from our learning this term:

Reception

The Reception class enjoyed making and eating pancakes this term. They have also been painting daffodils - learning how to mix lighter and darker colours. Whilst painting the daffodils, Reception children were encouraged to enjoy a moment of stillness - a 'now' moment - and appreciate the colours and beauty of the flowers they were observing and creating.



Now



St Mary's Church

England Primary School

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Tel: 0161 770 8309

E-mail: info@stmaryscecrompton.oldham.sch.uk

Website: www.stmaryscecrompton.oldham.sch.uk

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DEPUTY HEAD: Mr S Day BA (Hons), PGCE, NPQSL

Year 1 have been studying poetry and thoroughly enjoyed performing their poem. In RSHE Year 1 have been talking about their emotions and what makes us happy.



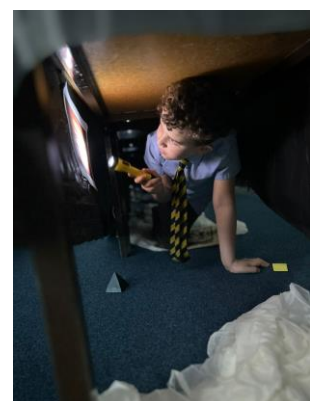
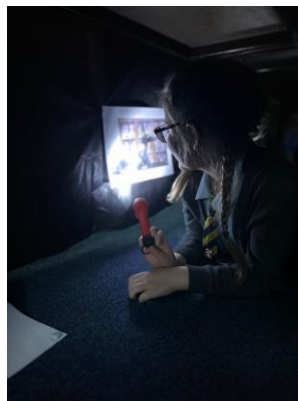
Year 2

Pupils have been finding out about oceans and continents. They had great fun making their balloon globes! They have also visited St Mary's church to learn about why the church is a special place for Christians.



Year 3

Year 3 have been historians this term. They have travelled back in time and become archaeologists like Howard Carter, re-enacting the discovery of Tutankhamun's Tomb. They will continue their learning and discovery about the Egyptians at Bolton Museum next term.





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Year 4

Year 4 have been thinking about trust in their RE lessons. Here the children are playing games, such as trust falls, conscience alley and trust directions all of which involve trusting one another. This has helped the children to understand who Jesus could trust and who betrayed him.



Year 5

Year 5 have been deepening their knowledge and understanding of the Vikings after they had a visitor for the day. The photograph shows a fire demonstration which was a highlight for pupils.



Year 6

As part of their science learning about light, Year 6 enjoyed a wonderful lesson delivered by Oldham 6th Form College. They also had the opportunity to make their own periscopes (and got to spy on the Head Teacher as well!)



EXTERNAL ASSESSMENTS:

External assessments include: Phonics in Yr1, Phonics resits in Yr2, Times Table Check in Yr 4 and SATs in Yr6. Please be assured that all of the above assessments are carried out in a safe and supportive environment. To reduce unnecessary pressure on our younger children, the assessments are presented as activities and 'special work'. Children, in all relevant classes, are already familiar with these types of activities and questions from work completed in class.

Year Six SATS are a more formal series of test papers; however, school staff can make reasonable adjustments in line with the guidance, where appropriate. **This year's Y6 SATs will take place from Monday 13th May - Thursday 16th May 2024. Please make every effort to avoid booking any holidays or appointments during this period. Full attendance is essential. Year 6 will be invited into school early on these days for toast and juice, allowing them time to socialise and settle. We will send more details closer to the time. We will also be arranging an end-of-the-week afternoon treat in recognition of all their hard work - details to follow.**

STAFFING NEWS:

I am delighted to share the news that Mrs Hepworth is expecting her second child. Mrs Hepworth will be with us until the end of the academic year, her baby is due in August. Mrs Hepworth will then take the following year as Maternity Leave.

The Governors are working closely with me to recruit a temporary Year 5 teacher and a SENDco whilst Mrs Hepworth is on Maternity Leave. Once arrangements are finalised I will share this with you.

ATTENDANCE:

Good attendance is of great importance for all our pupils and something we celebrate at the end of each term with badges presented to individual pupils.

Each month on the school newsletters we will also celebrate great attendance by class.

The class with the highest attendance this month is **Year 3** with 97% attendance!

Well done Year 3, keep up this magnificent achievement !

CLASS PHOTOGRAPHS:

Class photographs will take place on the morning of **Tuesday 21st May**. Please can all pupils wear full school uniform (no summer dresses). The photographs look very smart if **all** pupils are wearing their blue shirts and school ties.

In addition, the **Year 6** pupils will also have a very different but special type of photograph taken, as a memento of their last year at St. Mary's. **This photograph will also be taken on Tuesday 21st May.**

THEMED LUNCH DAYS:

The next themed lunch will be on Thursday 23rd May. Pupils have chosen a Roald Dahl theme. Please look for further communication as we return after the Easter holiday.



LIVING OUT OUR CHRISTIAN VISION:

Pupils continue to live out our Christian vision: 'Love one another as Jesus loved us' through their actions and the choices they make. Many of these are seen each and every day in the way pupils and staff interact with one another. Further examples are shared through the citizenship challenges. Here pupils have made special cards for neighbours, the elderly and those in care homes. They have thought about the environment and reminded adults at home about the importance of recycling. They continue to raise money for charities of significance to their families.



These actions have all been carried out without the expectation of reward, but instead with joy and compassion for others.

Throughout the term, with the support of the clergy, we have explored the Christian value of humility as one of the values which help us live out our core value: Love Ourselves.

Mother Katy and Father Paul have continued to lead Circle time where pupils have had time to reflect on the story of Jesus washing the disciples' feet and consider how we too can be humble.

Next half term, our Christian Value and focus for Worship is Respect.



Please see the link below for further activities linked to the value.

<https://www.stmaryscecrompton.oldham.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/respect.pdf>

We will continue to think about spirituality and what we mean by this. Pupils should be able to explore and share with you the 'Ow', 'Wow' and 'Now' moments that occur daily in our lives.

EXPERIENCE AFTER EASTER:

Pupils from Year 2 - Year 6 will have the opportunity to visit St Mary's Church. They will explore stations which explain what happens after Easter and the lead up to Pentecost. This will take place on Wed 24th April. This is an excellent opportunity for pupils to ask questions and develop their understanding of events and time to reflect.

The Citizenship Challenges:

Thank you to all pupils who continue to embrace the monthly citizenship challenges. We really enjoy hearing about what children have done and the difference they have made. School Council will send the next challenge this week ready for Easter. This challenge will ask children to plant seeds to help save our bees.

CITIZENSHIP

A reminder that those pupils completing 8 of the challenges (there are a possible 10) will receive a prestigious Citizenship Award Badge at the end of the academic year. Thank you for supporting St Mary's in making a small difference to our world.

ST MARYS' CHURCH AND SCHOOL COLOUR FESTIVAL:

This event is now well underway in its preparations and it promises to be another exciting event. Full details will be available after the Easter holiday. In the meantime **please save the date: Saturday 29th June**. If you can help in any way with the organisation of this event or help on the day, please let the school office know or a member of the clergy. We hope this will be an exciting event for the whole family to enjoy.



ST. MARY'S SUPPORT GROUP NEWS:

The next meeting for the Parent Support Group is on Tuesday 23rd April at 7:00pm in the North Star. Please come along all new ideas and new members are warmly welcome.

The next events for the Support Group are:

- **Easter Raffle** drawn on 28th March at the Easter Service - tickets available at the Easter Service or at the school office.





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- **Musical Evening - Friday 26th April** 7:00pm in St Mary's church. All school musical groups and the school choir will perform including a joint performance with Oldham Community Wind Band. **Tickets are available from the school or you can pay on the door, £5.00 per adult & £3.00 per child**

150 CLUB DRAW

Winning numbers at the last 150 club draw: 111, 27, 23, 73, 65, 4. Congratulations to all the winners. The next draw will be on Thursday 28th March and will include the bonus draw of £500.

We still have vacant numbers if you wish to purchase a number please enquire at the school office.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES FOR NEXT HALF TERM:

Monday:	Badminton	3:30 - 4:30pm Yr 5,6
Tuesday:	Infant Fun Club	12:00 - 12:30pm
	Junior Fun Club	12:30 - 1:00pm Yr3 - 4
	Football	3:30 - 4:30pm Yr 2,3,4
Wednesday:	Choir	3:30 - 4:30 Y3 - Y6
Thursday:	School Band	8:30 - 9:00
	Anna's Dance	3:30 - 4:15 Rec, Y1, Y2, Y3, Y4 (letter to follow)
Friday:	Gymnastics	3:30 - 5:00

FORTHCOMING DATES:

Tues 16 th April:	Y3 visit to Bolton Museum
Tues 23 rd April:	PSG meeting 7:00pm North Star
Fri 26 th April:	School Musical Evening at St Mary's Church 7:00pm start. Performers arrive 6:45pm
Wed 1 st May:	New Reception Welcome Evening
Mon 13 th May-16 th May:	Y6 SATs week
Fri 17 th May:	Y4 visit to the Mandir Temple
Tues 21 st May:	Class Photographs
Wed 22 nd May:	Robinwood Information Evening
Thurs 23 rd May:	Roald Dahl Themed lunch
	Non Uniform Day - donations of chocolate for the Summer Fair
Fri 24 th May:	Y5 to visit Castleshaw with Broadfield School

A busy time for all ! May I take this opportunity to wish you all a very restful Easter.

Kind regards,
P.A Hartley
Headteacher