



St Mary's Matters

Striving for Excellence in all that we do,
as we learn to live like Jesus.



A Message from our Headteacher

Dear Parents

We reach the end of the spring term and think of all that has happened in the last few months: the arrival of 'grass' and the trim trail on the playground; science week; visits from the emergency services and a variety of cars and bicycles; trips to an airport, a Roman Palace and back in time to the Weald and Downland. So many opportunities and so much learning has taken place. We ended the term with Spirituality week, which has seen the children explore the theme of 'Giving' through art, drama and teamwork. Every single child has grown, not only in their understanding but also in their confidence to share their learning and ideas with others. After what has been another very busy term in school let us all take time to relax, refresh and reflect on the real meaning of Easter.

Easter symbolizes the renewal of life. I wish you and your family the renewal of life, love and happiness. May the spirit of the Lord fill your home this Easter and all the rest of your days.

Remember Easter is more than just eggs. It is also about peace, love and family. Easter is God's blessing to the world. It is His way of telling us that love and hope still exist in the world.

I wish you all a happy and restful Easter and look forward to see you in the summer term.

Mrs G Irvine



Summer Term Events

St Bernadette Feast Day : Monday 16th April

St Clare class Visit to Oliver's Wand Shop : Tuesday 17th April

St Kateri class Visit to Oliver's Wand Shop : Wednesday 18th April

St Josephine class Visit to Oliver's Wand Shop :

Thursday 19th April

Pentecost Mass : Monday 21st May, 1:15 p.m. at St Mary of the Angels Church **(Parents/Carers welcome)**

Class Photographs : Thursday 24th May

Deanery Children's Council : Thursday 7th June

Year 5/6 Visit to Harry Potter Studios : Thursday 14th June

Year 6 Residential : Wednesday 20th - Friday 22nd June

Good Shepherd Celebration : Wednesday 20th June

Invited children only

Year 3/4 Visit to Tilgate Park : Friday 22nd June

Whole School Mass : Friday 29th June **(Pupils only)**

St Clare Feast Day celebration : Wednesday 11th July

Year 5 Deanery Children's Conference : Thursday 12th July

St Kateri Feast Day celebration : Friday 13th July

End of Year Mass : Monday 16th July, 1:15 p.m. at St Mary of the Angels Church **(Parents/Carers welcome)**

Year 6 Leavers' Mass : Thursday 19th July, 6:00 p.m. at the school
(Year 6 pupils and their parents/carers only)

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while shopping for yourself!**

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Attendance

from 4th September to 22nd March



Reminder

The old £10 note went out of circulation officially at 11.59 pm on 1st March 2018 and the school is no longer able to accept them.

The school is also unable to accept the old (round) pound coins.



Parish Update

HOLY WEEK – THE SACRED TRIDUUM

Holy Thursday (29th March): Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7.30pm

Good Friday (30th March): Children's Way of the Cross at 10.30am

Ecumenical Walk of Witness: gather 11.30am at Salvation Army (Crescent Road)

Solemn Liturgy of the Lord's Passion at 3.00pm

Easter Vigil (31st March): First Mass of Easter at 8.30pm

Easter Day Masses at 8.30am and 10.30am (**NO** 5.30pm Mass today)

Confessions available every day after Masses.

Shoes for Uganda

Many thanks to all parents and children who donated shoes for the recent appeal from St Mary of the Angels' Justice and Peace Group. These will be distributed to prisoners, refugees in camps especially, and school children who walk barefoot to school daily in the tropical sunshine in Uganda.

House Points

Totals to date

Senario 2,856

Walsingham 2,352

Lourdes 2,188

Fatima 2,156



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Staffing Update

Easter is a time for new life and moving on.

We are sad to be saying goodbye to Mr Griffiths-Ozane who is leaving us to start a new career as a plumber – we wish him lots of luck and plenty of leaks!

Mrs Litvaitis has started her maternity leave at the end of this week – we wish her well and look forward to hearing the news of her new arrival.

Many of you, I'm sure, will have noticed that Miss Williams is pregnant; she will be starting maternity leave in May, therefore Mrs Gale will be working with St Bernadette class on Thursday afternoons and Fridays when we return from the Easter break.

We are also very excited to share with you that Ms Harding is expecting a baby - much later in the year so she will be with us until the end of the school year. We look forward to watching her bloom as she grows over the coming months.



Summer Term 2018

Monday 16th April - Friday 20th July*

Half Term Break :

Monday 28th May - Friday 1st June

Inset Days:

*Monday 23rd & Tuesday 24th July 2018

For parents/carers who like to book their holidays well in advance, these are the school holidays for 2018-2019:

Autumn 2018 Half Term Break

Monday 22nd October - Friday 26th October

Christmas 2018 Break

Monday 24th December - Friday 4th January

Spring 2019 Half Term Break

Monday 18th February - Friday 22nd February

Easter 2019 Break

Monday 8th April - Monday 22nd April (Bank Holiday)

Summer 2019 Half Term Break

Monday 27th May (Bank Holiday) - Friday 31st May

Summer Term Ends Friday 19th July 2019

EYFS Update

This term the children in EYFS have been impressing all their teachers with their confidence, Independence and 'can do' attitude.

In the spirit of building on all this positivity, we would now like the children to come in to class on their own in the mornings. This will enable the children to get down to learning quicker and help them to organise their own belongings, change reading books, etc., independently. These little challenges in the summer term will help to prepare them for their transition to Year 1.

Teachers will still meet children at the door and therefore will be on hand if parents/carers need to pass on important messages before school.

Thank you in advance for your support with this.

With the weapons of LOVE,
God has defeated
selfishness and death.

-Pope Francis-