

Newsletter

Friday 25th March 2022



St. Mary's Catholic
Primary School

Dear Parents and Friends

Busy times!

We've had an exciting couple of weeks since I last wrote to you!

Ukraine Appeal

The children are still working hard raising money for those who are less fortunate than us both near and far. The children continue to walk a mile around the track every day and so far, have raised £630 for the CAFOD Ukraine humanitarian appeal. If you would like to donate please see this next link:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/st-mary-s-primary-school-marnhull1>



Red Nose Day



Thank you for your generosity on Friday 18th – we raised over £119. We were very impressed with how creative the children (and parents) were with crazy hairstyles – some looked good enough to eat! I did spend much of the day chuckling as the children paid to tell me some really rather funny jokes!!

Well done to everyone who contributed to making the day so successful.

Canon Mark O'Keefe

It was lovely to have a visit from Canon Mark O'Keefe on Tuesday 15th. He visited all the classes and had a chat with the children, who asked him some insightful questions. I was very proud of all the children.

Marnhull Green TEAMS

On Friday 18th, Tricia and Ros from Marnhull Green TEAMS came to school to deliver their very kind donation of books for our school library. These books are to support our learning about looking after the environment. The children really impressed them with their understanding of ways in which we can look after God's wonderful world.



Swimming Lessons

We are trying to organise a block of 4 weeks swimming lessons in the summer term for those children in **Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 who cannot swim 25m unaided**. Please can you let your child's teacher know if your child cannot swim 25m unaided by the **1st April**. Thank you.



Science Week

The children enjoyed undertaking a range of science investigations last week, as part of Science Week, which culminated in a whole school investigation into finding the best biscuit for dunking. The prize went to the mighty ginger nut!



New Climbing Wall

We have a new climbing wall! The School Council decided on our new addition to the playground, replacing the old one. The children were very eager to try it out! It was so lovely to see the older children helping the younger ones along the wall, so that they too could enjoy traversing along the routes.





New Life!

We have some new additions to our St Mary's family – 5 new chicks! Miss Gould has been looking after our eggs for 21 days now so it was thrilling to see them hatch! It's all been very 'eggsiting' watching the eggs start to wobble, hearing faint chirps, then a little crack, followed by a tiny beak poking through and finally freedom as the shell comes away from the tired little chick. Very soon after, the

chicks are up and some are still a bit wobbly, but the transformation a day later into little bundles of fluff. The children have all been keen to visit the eggs/chicks to see the progress made. These eggs were from the chicks we hatched last year, so it's great to see how the generations are thriving. It's now up to each class decide on a name for each of the chicks.

COVID-19 update

As you know, there have been a couple of positive cases of COVID -19 this week. Please continue to be vigilant with regards to symptoms and your children feeling unwell. We are continuing to ensure everyone practises good hand and respiratory hygiene; we are ensuring good ventilation of indoor spaces and maintaining appropriate cleaning regimes. Currently the guidance is:

Stay at home if you have COVID-19

Although the legal requirement to self-isolate has ended, people who test positive for COVID-19 or have symptoms of the virus should continue to stay at home and avoid contact with other people.

Children and young people with COVID-19 should not attend their education setting while they are infectious. **They should take an LFD test from 5 days after their symptoms started** (or the day their test was taken if they did not have symptoms) followed by another one the next day. If both these tests results are negative, they should return to their educational setting if they normally attend one, as long as they feel well enough to do so and do not have a temperature. They should follow the guidance for their educational setting.

[Read further guidance for people with COVID-19.](#)

Close contacts

Close contacts of confirmed cases are no longer advised to take daily lateral flow tests, but they should take steps to reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19. [Read more about what to do if you are a close contact.](#)

Testing

The Government no longer recommends twice-weekly asymptomatic testing in mainstream education and childcare settings.

At present, anyone with symptoms should continue to get a free PCR test and lateral flow tests can still be used for asymptomatic testing.

PTFA

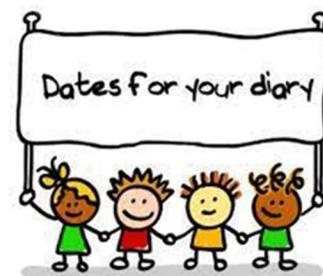
Thank you for the donations of school uniform. Our PTFA have been working hard behind the scenes sorting, washing and ironing items for our uniform sale on Friday 8th April. We are very lucky to have such a dedicated team! Please see attached poster.



Please follow us on Twitter @stmarysmarnhull – it would be great to increase the number of followers we have – we currently have 79 followers.

Dates for your diary:

- Thursday 7th April – Lent Day of Faith
- Friday 8th of April – PTFA Easter Bonanza
- Friday 8th April – last day of Spring term
- Monday 25th April – children return to school for Summer Term
- Monday 25th April – Class Photos
- Monday 9th – Thursday 12th May – KS2 SATs
- Thursday 19th May – May Procession 11am
- Friday 27th May – break up for Half Term
- Monday 6th June - INSET Day
- Tuesday 7th June – children return to school
- Wednesday 29th June – Whole School Mass Feast of Saints Peter & Paul
- Wednesday 13th July - End of Year Reports to Parents
- Thursday 21st July – end of term break up for Summer holidays



Term Dates 2022-23		Half Term holidays	Inset Days
Autumn Term 01.09.22 – 16.12.22	Children start school Monday 5th September 2022 Children break up for Christmas holidays on Friday 16th December 2022	Children finish for half term on Friday 21st October 2022 and return to school on Tuesday 1st November 2022	01.09.22 02.09.22 31.10.22
Spring Term 03.01.23 – 31.03.23	Children start back at school Tuesday 3rd January 2023 Children break up for Easter holidays on Friday 31st March 2023	Children finish for half term on Friday 10th February 2023 and return to school on Tuesday 21st February 2023	20.02.23
Summer Term 17.04.23 – 21.07.23	Children start back at school Monday 17th April 2023 Children break up for Summer holidays on Friday 21st July 2023	Children finish for half term on Friday 26th May 2023 and return to school on Tuesday 6th June 2023	05.06.23

God Bless

Sharon Betts
Headteacher