St Mary's Catholic Academy



Newsletter No.10 – Tuesday 7th May 2024

Whole School Dates for your Diary	
Thursday 9 May	10am Ascension Mass – St Mary's Church. All welcome.
Monday 13 May	Year 6 SATs week
Monday 27 – 31 May	Half Term – school closed
Friday 7 June	DATE CHANGE - Cultural Diversity Day – please read below
Mon 10 – Wed 12 June	Year 6 Briars Residential
Thursday 13 June	Year 4 Sleepover
Wed 19 – Friday 21 June	Year 5 Residential
Friday 28 June	Sports Day – see provisional times in newsletter no. 9 (see website)
Tues 2 and Wed 3 July	Year 6 Transition Days
Wednesday 3 July	St Mary's Transition Day – children visit new classes
Thursday 4 July	Class Photographs – winter uniform please
Wednesday 10 July	Summer Fair 2pm – 4pm
Wednesday 17 July	9:45am and 4pm Y6 Performance
Wednesday 24 July	10am Mass to Celebrate the Academic Year – St. Mary's Church
Friday 26 July	9am Final Assembly – Annual School Awards

Dear Parents and Carers,

How blessed we were to have lovely sunshine over the long weekend. I hope you were able to enjoy some outdoor time with family and friends.

Please read the whole newsletter. There are some important requests included. Thank you for your support.

Kind regards,

Anne-Maríe Bell

After School Club Collection and the School Car Park

Family members are regularly waiting in the car park and young children are running around the cars when staff are leaving. This is a safety concern. From now on, we



will aim to open the KS2 playground gate ready for dismissal. While waiting for the gate to be unlocked, please can we ask you to wait on the pavement and ensure your children wait alongside you.

Unfortunately, a staff member's motorised scooter was damaged last week by a young child who was allowed to step on the scooter and play, while their family member watched. I know this is an isolated incident, but please can we encourage respect of property that does not belong to you or your children. Thank you.

Clothes Collection – Winter Coats, Uniform

As the weather begins to improve, please can we make an appeal for any school uniform or winter coats your child may have outgrown. Passing on clothes that are in fair to good condition is a brilliant way to show care for the environment. School uniform donations will be washed and will be available at the Summer Fair in July. We will gratefully receive Trinity blazers and PE kits too.

Cultural Diversity Day – Friday 6th June 2024

Plans are underway to make our Cultural Diversity Day a true celebration of our community. To do this we need your help. We are looking for parents and carers who are willing to contribute by reading stories of different cultures, cooking cultural food with the children, taking part in arts and crafts from around the world. We would love to hear your ideas and for

you to take part in some or all of the day's activities, if anyone can.

Please use the form below or speak to either the school office or Dawn Moss about what you feel you might be able to offer. No matter how litter or large, your contributions will be gratefully accepted.



Thank you in advance of your support. Please follow the link below if you think you can help. <u>https://forms.office.com/e/x0jmkmaUpQ</u>

Peace Garden and Playground News

You may have noticed a few developments to the decking area between the KS1 and KS2 playground. Glenis, our resident school volunteer, is a kind, talented and eager gardener, who has been helping children to grow produce on site. Her knowledge is phenomenal and she is passing her passion of gardening onto the children, working with small groups each week.

Last year, I mentioned to her the desire to create a **peace garden**. Within a week or two, I was provided with a sketched-out plan of ideas from Glenis! This plan is now turning into reality. I hope you are enjoying the garden developing before your eyes. There are sensory and visual treats to enjoy and a sculpture will be unveiled later this week.

Glenis, Jane, John – THANK YOU! Thank you for making this space a very special place. We are very grateful. We have recently ordered a bench as a memorial for Rosa which will be a beautiful addition.



For the last couple of weeks, children have been encouraged to share both playgrounds at lunchtime. Both the younger and older children have enjoyed this experience, developing new skills and friendships. This means, all children will benefit from the peace garden too.

School Uniform

Just a few reminders, now the weather is getting warmer.

- Summer uniform can be worn now the weather is warmer. This is optional.
- Cycling shorts must not be visible if worn under school skirts. On cooler days, children are welcome to wear their winter uniform (tights, trousers).
- Skirts, dresses and shorts should be knee length
- No leggings please. Socks should be worn with summer dresses.
- No open toe footwear
- Sun hats and water bottles to be brought to school daily
- Sun cream to be applied before school on hot days
- Hair bobbles and decoration should be blue and minimal. Hair to be tied back.

Thank you for your support.