

St Mary's RC Primary School



Friday 13th December
2024



@StMarys_SW8



Dear parents and carers,

We were proud to see our year 4 pupils perform on stage at Fairfield Halls this week. It is quite a special experience for them and was enjoyed by all. Well done year 4!

Congratulations also to our nursery and reception pupils, who shared the story of 'Whoops A Daisy Angel' for their nativity this week. The youngest children in the school certainly performed well and shared the important message of Christmas with us all-well done children.



On pages 4 and 5 this week, you will see a summary of our school development plan this year.

Our School Development Plan (SDP) is a strategic document that outlines our goals for improving educational outcomes. This year, we will focus on embedding a new phonics scheme to enhance early reading skills and ensure clear progression in early writing. Maximising the support provided by our teaching assistants is crucial for individual pupil needs, while our catch-up plans will assist those who may have fallen behind. We also aim to provide thorough inductions for new teaching staff. Finally, our robust feedback and assessment procedures will help monitor and enhance student progress effectively.

Tuesday 17th December

KS2 Advent Service at 2pm

Wednesday 18th December

KS1 Nativity at 2pm

End of term

On Friday 20th December school will close early for the Christmas break.

Nursery will finish at 12:45pm and Reception to Y6 will finish at 1pm.

Our Mission Statement

'A man took a grain of mustard seed and sowed it in his field. Indeed the seed is smaller than all other seeds but when it is grown, it is greater than the herbs, and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and lodge in its branches'
Matthew 13.31



Wednesday Word

The Wednesday word this week is **MERCY**

"God is merciful towards us. We too should learn to be merciful."

Pope Francis

Ten:Ten Resources

December 2024

Advent starts right at the beginning of December this year. It's a special time of year and more than just the 'busy run up to Christmas'. Why not take some time, amongst all the busyness, preparations and celebrations that anticipate the coming of Jesus, to pause, reflect and get ready to welcome Jesus with open minds, open hearts and open lives.

This newsletter shares some of the content children will experience in school throughout December and suggests ways for you to engage with them about it. We hope it is a useful resource for your family prayer time.

To read the December 2024 newsletter please click this link here-

<http://www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/parent-newsletter/>

Year of Jubilee

The Assembly for the first week of Advent introduces the Year of Jubilee, which officially begins on Christmas Eve with Pope Francis opening the [Holy Door](#) at St Peter's Basilica in Rome.

A Jubilee Year is an ancient celebration, now celebrated in the Church every 25 years. Pope Francis has named 2025's Year of Jubilee - **Pilgrims of Hope** and it's an invitation to place our hope in God's love for us and to share His love with others. It's a celebration of reconciliation and renewal.

But this is just a taster - you'll hear more about this Holy Year in 2025!



Maths Challenge!



Well done to Nylah and Mia for their great answers to the last challenge.

KS1 Challenge:

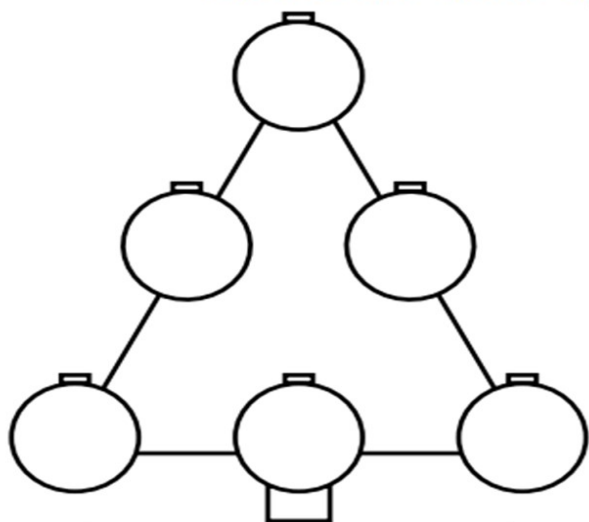
1. What if Santa has 10kg of toys in his sack? Every time he visits a house he leaves one tenth of the presents in his sack. How many houses does he visit before he has less than 5kg left?

- How many kg of toys does he leave at the first house?
- What about the fifth house?
- What patterns can you see?

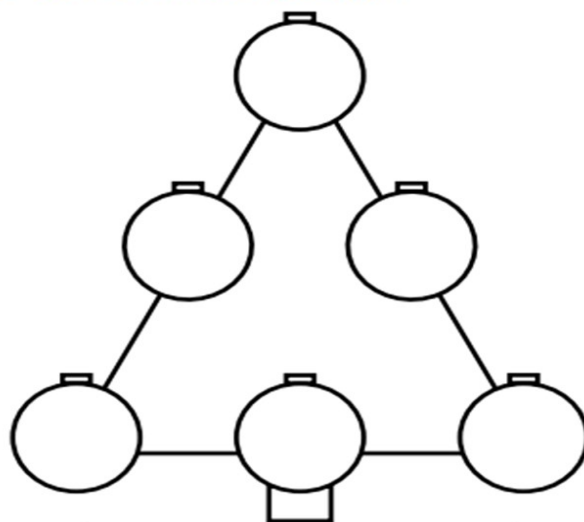


KS2 Challenge:

Write the numbers in the baubles so that each side adds up to the total shown



1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
Sides total = 12



1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
Sides total = 10



A summary of St Mary's School Development Plan 2024-25

Priority	How we aim to achieve it.
Upskill Teaching Assistants to support SEN pupils.	We will provide tailored training sessions focusing on effective strategies for individual learning needs and behaviour management. By empowering our TAs through professional development, we aim to create a more inclusive environment that enables every SEN pupil to thrive.
Develop early writing progression in the Early Years.	We will achieve this through a variety of engaging activities that promote communication and creativity, including storytelling, mark-making, and structured phonics sessions. By providing a rich language environment and opportunities for exploration, we will ensure that each child develops their writing abilities in a supportive and stimulating atmosphere, laying a strong foundation for future learning.
Provide a successful Catch-up plan for pupils below Age Related Expectations.	Our Catch-up Plan includes targeted interventions, personalised learning resources, and additional tutoring sessions. Our approach fosters a positive learning environment, enabling pupils to build confidence and achieve their full potential.
Successful induction of our new teaching staff.	Our induction programme includes tailored mentorship, collaborative planning sessions, and professional development workshops, ensuring that our teachers are well-prepared to meet the needs of our pupils.
Prepare for Catholic inspection.	This year we are focussing on ensuring that all children and families regardless



	<p>of Faith understand the School mission and respond to the Mission statement. To grow as a Catholic community in faith love and understanding prepared for the challenges ahead of them. We will support all new staff with their understanding of the RE curriculum so that pupils achieve and enjoy their learning and develop excellent knowledge understanding and skills because of high quality teaching Across the year we will support new staff to ensure that the range of liturgy and prayer provided to the children is of high quality and encourages their participation. We aim to create and renew our culture of prayer in a variety of ways so that all children, regardless of faith, can find the space and comfort they need.</p>
Develop and embed the school's feedback and assessment pedagogy.	We will achieve this by embedding regular formative assessments, providing constructive feedback, and encouraging self-reflection among pupils. Through targeted training for our staff, we ensure that these strategies are consistently applied, fostering an environment where every child feels valued and motivated to reach their full potential.
Successfully embed our new phonics scheme (Little Wandle).	We are engaged in regular training sessions and collaborative planning to ensure consistent implementation. Additionally, we are providing children with engaging phonics activities in the classroom and offering support materials for parents.



THE
READING
AGENCY

Winter Mini Challenge

Marvellous
Makers

Join the
Winter Mini
Challenge!



Get
rewards
for your
reading!



wintermini.org.uk



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

THE
READING
AGENCY

Celebrating
creativity

CREATE!



Sign up for here for



Online Winter Mini Challenge 2024



Read 3 books between

Sunday 1

December 2024 and Thursday 20 February 2025, log your
progress online and collect your certificate from
a participating Wandsworth Library.





St Mary's RC Primary School

Term Dates 2024 - 2025

**Please be aware that some dates differ from those published by Wandsworth.
These are our term dates for the academic year.**

Autumn Term 2024
INSET Day: 2nd September
First Day: 3rd September
INSET Day: 7th October
Half Term: 28th October to 1st November
INSET Day: 4th November
Last Day: 20th December
Spring Term 2025
First Day: 6th January
Half Term: 17th to 21st February
Last Day: 4th April
Summer Term 2025
First Day: 22nd April
Bank Holiday: 5th May
Half Term: 26th to 30th May
INSET Day: 2nd June
Last Day: 21st July
One INSET Day TBC



St Mary's RC Primary School

Term Dates 2025 - 2026

**Please be aware that some dates differ from those published by Wandsworth.
These are our term dates for the academic year.**

Autumn Term 2025
INSET Day: 1st September
First Day: 2nd September
Half Term: 27th October to 31st October
INSET Day: 3rd November
Last Day: 19th December
Spring Term 2026
First Day: 5th January
Half Term: 16th to 20th February
Last Day: 27th March
Summer Term 2026
First Day: 13th April
Half Term: 25th to 29th May
INSET Day: 1st June
Last Day: 17th July
Two INSET Days TBC



5 TICKETS
FOR £1



CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

ST MARY'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOL

20TH DECEMBER 2024
WINNER TO BE
ANNOUNCED

A superb Gingerbread House to be won!



5 TICKETS
FOR £1



The St John Bosco Salesian Spirit
Believe & Achieve

You are invited to our

Christmas

FESTIVAL OF LESSONS
AND CAROLS

Tuesday 17th December
6.00 – 7.30pm

Sacred Heart Church
Trott Street, Battersea, SW11 3PS




HeART
of
CHRISTMAS

FREE
FAMILY
CHRISTMAS
CRAFTS

SAT 14 DEC 1-3PM

**ART'OTEL 1 ELECTRIC BOULEVARD
BATTERSEA POWER STATION SW11 8BJ**

NINEELMSARTSMINISTRY.ORG