

# St Mary's RC Primary School



Friday 21st March 2025

Follow us on Instagram  
[@stmarysprimarybattersea](https://www.instagram.com/stmarysprimarybattersea)



Dear parents and carers,

Children from Years 4, 5 and 6 went to St George's Cathedral Southwark on Wednesday 19th March, joining other schools in a special celebration Mass for the Jubilee. The Mass was celebrated by Canon Victor Darlington. They sang beautifully and enthusiastically, filling the church with great joy. A special recognition is to be given to Mara and Nylah, who represented our school with pride. As part of Jubilee celebrations, the children were able to walk through the pilgrims' door of the Cathedral. We were also able to get our special school passport stamped. It was a memorable and uplifting experience for all involved!



Year 5 were fortunate to be invited to the Apple HQ this week at Battersea Power Station and attend Creative Pro Workshops at the Apple Retail Store. They thoroughly enjoyed the experience-it is year 3 and 4's turn next!



### Wednesday Word

The Wednesday word this week is  
**CHANGE**

"Lent helps us fight against any of our faults.  
We all can improve and change for the better"  
Pope Francis

### 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



### *The Jubilee Prayer*

Father in heaven,  
may the faith you have given us  
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,  
and the flame of charity enkindled  
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,  
reawaken in us the blessed hope  
for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us  
into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.

May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos  
in the sure expectation  
of a new heaven and a new earth,  
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,  
your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee  
reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope,  
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.

May that same grace spread  
the joy and peace of our Redeemer  
throughout the earth.

To you our God, eternally blessed,  
be glory and praise for ever.

Amen





## March 2025


March marks the beginning of Lent, a time in the Church that focuses on prayer, fasting and almsgiving (charitable giving).

This year also brings the added invitation to explore and grow our friendship with God through the celebrations of the Year of Jubilee.

The season brings an exciting opportunity to slow down, put the most important things first and experience the joy that God offers each one of us.

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

<https://new.express.adobe.com/webpage/8vmQWjL6A5sFJ/>

Which class has the best attendance and punctuality this week?		
Class	Attendance	Lates
Nursery	90%	1
Reception	86%	7
Year 1	89%	3
Year 2	92%	5
Year 3	94%	5
Year 4	99% 	1
Year 5	93%	2
Year 6	96%	5

Congratulations on your attendance Year 4! Keep it up!



## Important Spring term dates!



Tuesday 25th March	Y4 to Apple HQ
Wednesday 26th March	Y5 spelling bee
Thursday 27th March	Learn to Love to Read Biscuits and Books Coffee morning
Thursday 27th March	Parents Consultations-school closes at lunchtime
Tuesday 1st April	Y3 to Apple HQ

## Eco Ambassador Updates



The Eco Ambassadors at our school play a crucial role in promoting sustainability and environmental responsibility among the pupils. These dedicated individuals are tasked with leading various eco-friendly initiatives, such as organising recycling programmes and raising awareness about energy conservation. Collaborating with teachers, they strive to cultivate a greener school environment, encouraging their peers to reduce waste and appreciate the importance of caring for our planet. Through engaging activities and informative projects, the Eco Ambassadors not only educate their fellow students but also contribute significantly to fostering a culture of sustainability within the school community.

We are currently preparing to improve our food wastage in school-  
watch this space for more details.





# Maths Challenge!



New challenge:

KS1:



A bottle holds 500ml. If I drink half of the water, how much is left?

Can you write this as an equation?

KS2 - Inspired by Yohanna, Karolina and Funmi in year 5:



Southwark Cathedral has 50 rows of seats, with 12 seats on each row.

How many seats are there altogether?

Can you write an equation to show this?



# ST MARY'S BREAKFAST CLUB!



*For £2 per day per child we can offer a nutritious and healthy breakfast to ensure a positive start to the day! If you are interested in a place at Breakfast club for your child please speak to Molly in the office.*

**BAGELS  
CEREAL  
TOAST  
FRUIT  
AND  
MORE!**





## 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.**

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



## 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.**

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





# CCS Day

Wednesday 2nd April

Catholic  
Children's  
Society

## Bake Sale

This Lent our school is supporting the Catholic Children's Society

Every penny raised will help local  
disadvantaged children and families



learn to  
love to  
read



## BOOKS AND BISCUITS

A fun session for Year 4 and 5 children and  
their parents to talk about books and biscuits

9:00-9:40AM THURSDAY 27TH MARCH 2025

IN THE SCHOOL HALL

Children should register as  
normal and will then come to  
the hall. Parents can come  
straight to the hall to wait for  
their child.





# Sight tests for children are **FREE!**

Short-sightedness is increasing, globally and in the UK. It is now twice as common as in the 1950s and children are becoming short-sighted at an earlier age.

- **Over 20% of parents have never taken their child for an eye test**
- **It is also more common in children whose parents are short-sighted.**



**“We are so grateful that Elsie’s vision was checked at school when she was in reception”**

Children from South Asian and African Caribbean families also have a higher risk of developing short-sightedness.

The increase in close work such as reading, computers, small screens and spending less time outside has likely driven the rise in short-sightedness (myopia).

The College of Optometrists therefore recommend that children, particularly those aged 5 to 12:

- **Limit screen time**
- **Spend at least 2 hours every day outside**
- **Have regular sight tests**
- **When on the screen or reading - hold the device or book at least 30cm from the face**

The only way to prevent myopia from getting worse is with corrective lenses.

Public Health





This year the public health department of Wandsworth Council will be encouraging schools to take part in termly **“Disconnect to Reconnect”** weeks in schools.

## Please join us!

During these weeks schools will be encouraging pupils **and parents** to consciously turn off their phones, iPads, and other devices and engage instead in activities that foster connection.

The next **Disconnect to Reconnect** weeks are:

- 10th to 14th March 2025
- 9th to 13th June 2025

## School Vision Screening Service

Wandsworth schools offer Vision Screening in Reception Year. This ensures reduced vision can be identified and treated before vision is fully developed. Children found to have reduced vision are referred to either a local optician or hospital for further assessment.

If your child missed out on this service, please take them for an eye check up with your local optician.



Find out more, scan the QR or visit:  
[gov.uk/government/publications/child-vision-screening-information-for-parents](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/child-vision-screening-information-for-parents)





## Family Hubs Online Workshops for Parents/Carers Toilet Training

For parents with autistic children or children on the emerging  
needs pathway

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2025 1 - 2.15pm**

Emma Dreyer, Highly Specialist Occupational Therapist, will be sharing some information and helpful tips to support your child in their toilet training journey.

For parents with autistic children or children on the emerging needs pathway



Please book a place by either scanning this QR code or the link below

<https://forms.office.com/e/0BY4gqebB3>

For more information  
Hannah Skaife: 07974 586467





**RUN**  
**KIDS**  
**RUN**

**08.06.25**

# **RUN BATTERSEA RUN**

A 2KM FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES



AN AFTERNOON OF FUN & FITNESS TO RAISE FUNDS FOR YOUR SCHOOL  
WARM-UPS. GAMES. MEDALS. SNACKS

**SUNDAY 08 JUNE**  
2 PM - 4 PM

**MILLENNIUM ARENA**  
**BATTERSEA PARK**

[www.runkidsrun.org](http://www.runkidsrun.org)

### Save the Date!

We are also taking part in this years London Mini Marathon on Saturday 26th April.

We will have more information coming soon, keep your eyes peeled and watch our for more information!





 **SOCCER  
SCHOOLS**

# HOLIDAY COURSE



## EASTER

Fun, engaging, inclusive, safe football activity for Boys & Girls of all abilities, during the school holidays. Book now for our upcoming Holiday Courses by scanning the QR code or using the below website and course code.

[chelseasoccerschools.co.uk](http://chelseasoccerschools.co.uk)

### BATTERSEA PARK

WEEK 1: Monday 7th April - Friday 11th April (5 Day Course)  
09.30-3.00pm (09.00am Registration) School Year 1-8 Boys & Girls  
Cost £150.00 - Course Code: SS-BSP-L-97

WEEK 2: Monday 14th April - Thursday 17th April (4 Day Course)  
09.30-3.00pm (09.00am Registration) School Year 1-8 Boys & Girls  
Cost £120.00 - Course Code: SS-BSP-L-98

### ST DUNSTANS JUBILEE GROUND

WEEK 1: Monday 7th April - Friday 11th April (5 Day Course)  
09.30-3.00pm (09.15am Registration) School Year 1-8 Boys & Girls  
Cost £150.00 - Course Code: SS-SDUN-L-8