

St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

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St. Mary's Gospel Message this week is

'Listen to what God is asking you to do, then go out and do it.' Matthew 21:28-32.

Please take a few minutes to discuss this with your child at home. We have focused on it in school this week.

This week...

This week we appreciated God's wonderful creation again, with some special visitors to our forest! Deer, foxes and squirrels! We are so lucky!

There was some interesting science work going on, all about the digestive system...



Year 3 found out how challenging it is for palaeontologists to excavate fossils without damaging them!



If you wish to attend mass, please see the details below. If you feel that you do not wish to do this at present, then you can register for an online Children's Liturgy with CAFOD at:

<https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Children-s-liturgy>

TT Rock Stars

We all know that times tables are a vital in supporting so many strands of mathematics. Please encourage your child to access TT Rock Stars as often as possible and watch this space for upcoming competitions!

Upcoming Events

Date	October
5th	Nasal Flu Vaccinations
6th	World Cerebral Palsy Day
12th	Virtual Children's Harvest Festival
W/B 12th	Tameside Mile Competition
22nd	School closes for half term
23rd	Staff INSET Day
31st	Deadline for Year 6 High School Applications

Harvest

We will be unable to hold a Harvest Festival this year, in the usual way. However, perhaps more so than ever, people in our local community and beyond need our help. This is exactly what we have been reflecting on in our Gospel message this week. Therefore, the children will be sharing in a virtual assembly on Monday 12th October and we will be asking them to bring in tins to support our local foodbank, amongst other charities. Details of this will follow.

COVID-19

I will continue to update you in line with new Government and local guidance. Please remember that all measures we put in place are to keep our whole school community safe. It is a difficult time for all of us and families have differing views on how systems should be implemented. Please rest assured that decisions we make as a school have been given careful consideration and that we are continually checking local and Government guidance.

- Children do not need to wear face coverings whilst in school, or on the playground.
- Where possible, only one parent must come on to the school grounds to collect your child.
- If older siblings are collecting children, please can they come on to the playground alone (not with their high school friends).
- Please remember to maintain social distancing whilst on the school grounds. All adults on the school premises are required to wear a face covering.
- Please ensure that no children use the outdoor play equipment at home time.

St Mary's Church

St Mary's Church is open for mass. Numbers are limited in Church, due to social distancing. However, Fr Oliver would love to see families returning to mass. If you would like to attend mass, please 'book' a slot, by emailing: john.storey6@btopenworld.com

Please be aware, that COVID measures are in place

- masks must be worn
- sanitise hands on entry
- wait to be seated by the stewards
- communion after the final blessing
- for communion remain seated until stewards indicate that you can approach the altar
- leave church immediately after communion, sanitising hands on exit



MacMillan Coffee Morning

Thank you so much for your support towards this wonderful charity. With your help, we managed to raise an amazing £312.11!

Sport and Fitness

As a school, we are extremely proud of our sporting achievements. We have been awarded the National School Games Award and the Virtual School Games Award, in recognition of our efforts last academic year.

This year, we have signed up for the Tameside Mile Competition. During the week beginning 12th October, the children will take part in a cross country mile race (during PE time). All children who participate will receive a certificate. The top 10 times will receive family group points and the top 4 times will be sent in to Tameside Sport's Development Team.

We have also signed the Pledge Certificate for Girls' Football and will aim, as far as possible in the current climate, to show our commitment to growing girls' football.

Mr Furness (our sports coach) is trialling a fitness programme on behalf of Tameside, with some of our children. The children wear a band, a bit like a 'FitBit' for part of the school day and their movement and steps are monitored. All of the data is encrypted and bands are sterilised before coming in to school. Tameside are responsible for collating all of the data. The aim of the pilot is to improve children's fitness across the Local Authority and motivate them to become more active! For more information, visit:

<https://www.iactivekids.co.uk/>

