



Friday 27th March 2026

HEADLINES

St Mary's Catholic School

Happy Easter



Dear St Mary's Community,

May I start this edition by thanking you sincerely for your kindness and generosity in our annual Lenten Charity week appeal. This edition highlights the fun, friendship and wonderful memorable experiences for what has been a superb and stunning Charity week. With all the events and festivities raising over £8,000 for Across Paths and CAFOD this Lent, we are exceptionally proud. Thank you to all who contributed, generously donated, got involved, and purchased a hoodie to support and champion our students this Lent. Your support has made a real and meaningful difference, and it is a testament to the generous spirit of our entire school family.

As we journey towards Easter, we have had our Stations of the Cross as reflective worship, enabling all our students to experience prayer and reflection as we prepare our minds and hearts for Holy week. These moments of quiet contemplation and spiritual connection have been particularly special, allowing our students to engage deeply with their faith during this sacred season. It has been wonderful to witness the reverence and thoughtfulness with which our young people have participated in these reflective experiences.

Mrs Brewin and Mrs Rowan will be accompanying six of our Year 12 students on the Across Trust pilgrimage to Lourdes this Easter departing on Good Friday. This is a wonderful opportunity for our students to take part in a deeply meaningful and faith-filled experience, supporting those in need while strengthening their own spiritual journey. As they visit the Blessed Grotto in Lourdes, we kindly ask that they keep our whole school community in their prayers, along with all our families and intentions. We keep them in our prayers as they prepare for this special pilgrimage and wish them a safe and enriching journey.

As we look ahead to the remainder of the academic year, I would like to remind parents and carers of some important information. Our Year 11 and Year 13 students will be embarking on their Easter Revision programme. This is a crucial time for our examination candidates as they prepare for their final assessments. We encourage all students to make the most of the resources, support and guidance available to them during this period. Our staff remain committed to supporting every student in their revision journey, and we would ask that parents continue to encourage and support their children at home during this intensive period of study.

Finally, I would like to remind you that the Summer term commences on **Monday 13th April at 8.40am**. We look forward to welcoming all our students back and to another term filled with learning, growth and achievement. As we prepare for Holy week and Easter I keep in my prayers the families of St Mary's Catholic School.

Dear God, Your risen Son teaches love. I pray this Easter for our families to overflow with compassion. Help us show kindness, patience, and care, mirroring Your heart. Let our love deepen our bonds, reflecting Your glory. May we bless others with Your affection. Thank You for loving us first.

Thank you once again for your continued support of St Mary's. Your partnership with us is invaluable, and together we continue to nurture the talents and potential of all our students.

God Bless
Deirdre McHugh

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Monday 30th March - Friday 10th April

Easter Holidays

Monday 13th April

Summer Term begins

Thursday 16th April

Year 12 Parents' Evening

Thursday 23rd April

Year 8 Parents' Evening



GO 4 Schools

Click [here](#) to access your child's academic achievement and progress data.

LOVE - RESPECT - FLOURISH

CHARITY WEEK 2026



We are delighted to share the wonderful success of our Charity Week 2026, a truly uplifting and joyful occasion for our whole school community. Rooted firmly in our Catholic values of service, compassion and generosity, the week was a powerful reminder of what can be achieved when we come together with a shared purpose to support others.

This year's events were led by our dedicated Year 12 Mission Team, whose commitment and enthusiasm shone throughout the week. Under the guidance of Mrs Brewin and Mr D'Cruz, they developed strong leadership skills and organised a wide range of activities that brought energy, laughter and a strong sense of community spirit to the school. From the excitement of St Mary's Got Talent to the popular *Family Fortunes*, *Through the Keyhole* and *The Traitors*, there was something for everyone to enjoy.

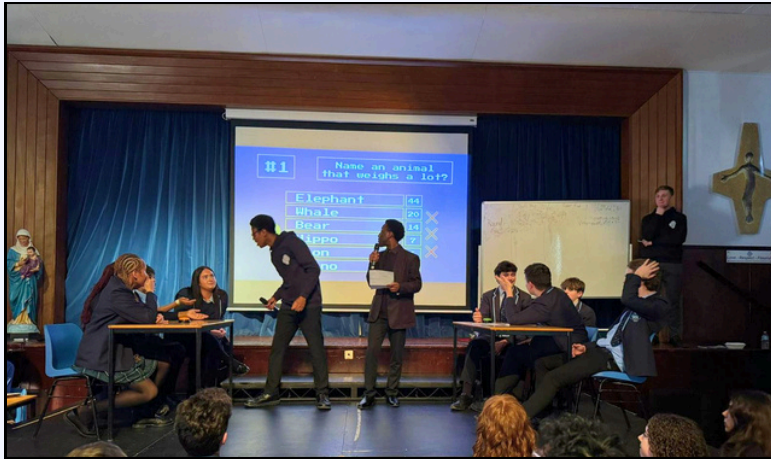
The highlight for many was the lively *Lip Sync Battle* between staff and Sixth Form students (please note that Teachers won for the second year running) alongside the much-anticipated *Soak the Teacher* event, which certainly kept spirits high and smiles wide. These moments of fun were matched by a deeper purpose, as students reflected on the importance of giving and supporting those in need.

Thanks to the generosity and active participation of students, staff and families, we are incredibly proud to have raised over £8,000 for our chosen charities: CAFOD and Across Paths. This remarkable achievement is a testament to the kindness and dedication of our school community, living out our mission in action and demonstrating the meaning of the Catholic Social Teaching of Community and Participation.

We thank everyone who contributed to making Charity Week such a meaningful and memorable success.



CHARITY WEEK 2026



Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

Congratulations and best wishes to our Y13 EPQ students on stunning quality EPQ presentations and projects. Sincere thanks and praise to Ms Compton, our dedicated EPQ teacher and co-ordinator, for her expertise and dedication!



Sixth Form Inter House Football and Netball Competition

We were delighted to see so many of our Sixth Form students take part in the recent House Football and Netball competitions. Students from Houses A, J, M and T came together for an afternoon of friendly but competitive sport, demonstrating fantastic enthusiasm, teamwork and House spirit throughout.

The event was a wonderful example of the key aims of our House System in action. Students fully embraced the opportunity to participate and to work alongside peers from Years 12 and 13, strengthening connections across the Sixth Form community.

Both competitions were played in excellent spirit, with students supporting and encouraging one another throughout the matches.

Football Competition Results 1st: A; 2nd: M; 3rd: T; 4th: J.

Netball Competition Results 1st: M; 2nd: A; 3rd: J; 4th: T.

After combining the points from both competitions, the overall results were extremely close. Congratulations to Houses A and M, who finished as joint winners with 26 points each.

Overall Results 1st: A & M – 26 points; 2nd: J – 10 points; 3rd: T – 8 points.

A huge well done to all students who took part. Your positive attitude, teamwork and willingness to get involved truly reflected the spirit of our House System and made the event an enjoyable and memorable occasion for everyone involved.



Year 9 Gaelic Football Masterclass

Year 9 students recently had the fantastic opportunity to take part in a Gaelic Football Masterclass led by the Hertfordshire Gaelic Football Development Officer.

During the session, students were introduced to key skills in Gaelic Football, including how to solo (bounce or toe-tap the ball while moving), as well as developing their hand passing and kick passing techniques. The session was engaging and highly active, with students showing great enthusiasm and a willingness to challenge themselves by trying something new.

This experience allowed our students to benefit from the expertise and specialist knowledge of a qualified GAA coach, helping them to develop their understanding of the game while building their confidence and co-ordination.

