



11th October 2024

Fortnightly Bulletin

St Mary's Catholic School



Dates for the Diary

Thursday 17th October

Year 7 Mass with Bishop Paul McAlleenan 7pm

Year 7 and Year 12 Invite Only parents evening

Friday 18th October

CAFOD Family Fast

Tuesday 22nd October

GCSE Art Trip

Thursday 24th October

Years 8, 9, & 10 Invite Only Parents Evening 4pm – 7.00pm

Friday 25th October

Year 7 retreat day

Half Term



Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you all sincerely for your kind wishes and prayers as we had our OFSTED inspection earlier this week. Following the Inspection, there is an external process of report writing and quality control that needs to happen by OFSTED before they provide their outcome judgements. I will be sharing the full OFSTED Inspection report with you once it is received.

This week we had the final of our Year group parent information sessions, which was our Y9 cohort. Having these meetings enables us as a school to talk through all matters curriculum, progress and safeguarding to work in partnership with you as parents in securing the best outcomes for your child.

A "Go4Schools" and talking parents through how to access and track your child's individual progress as live data has meant that you can fully engage with all aspects of school life for your child as often as you wish. Thank you to parents for prioritising and attending these fruitful evenings, meeting the Head of Year and Form Tutor teams to ensure more effective communication as part of our wider school community.

It was only fitting that we started the month of October prayers with the Feast of St Thérèse of Lisieux on 1st October with Sixth Form Mass in our parish church celebrated by Fr Marco. Therese saw herself as a child of God. She liked to keep things simple and focused as a child does. Trust, especially trust in God, is a childlike virtue. Therese's spirituality is simple and she calls it her "little way." She believed and taught us that life presents enough challenges and opportunities for grace. She teaches us that God is everywhere – in every situation and person – and in the ordinary, simple details of life. This is why "T" house is such a foundation saint for our school. A special thanks to our Sixth Form readers and musicians who made this Mass a truly prayerful and reverent occasion. During the month of October, in devotion to Mary our Mother, as a school we stop daily at midday for an adapted Rosary that is recited by every student and staff member in collective worship.

On Thursday 17th October we look forward to welcoming Bishop Paul McAlleenan to St Mary's to celebrate Mass for our Y7 Dedication Mass, an essential milestone in their school journey and receive a blessing from Bishop Paul as they start on their seven year St Mary's journey. I look forward to welcoming as many parents as possible to attend this very special event. I will be sharing photos of this occasion with you in the next few weeks.

Please do keep an eye on the important dates for your diary to ensure your attendance at key school events. I wish you and your families a resentful and relaxing weekend

God Bless,

Miss D McHugh

Heavenly Father,

We seek your divine blessing for both success and impact in our school.
May your favour rest upon us, guiding us towards improved and sustained progress for all learners
We pray we leave a lasting positive effect on all students entrusted into our care.

Grant us the wisdom and inspiration to plan and execute this academic year with excellence.
May it touch the hearts and minds of teachers and students inspiring them to positive actions and growth.

We commit our school into your hands, Lord,
We pray that it may be a source of success and impact beyond our imagination.
In your name, we pray.

Amen.

Introducing...

Mr Lawn

I'm Mr. W. Lawn, the new Subject Leader of PE at St. Mary's, and I'm passionate about inspiring students through the power of physical education. Growing up in the Yorkshire Dales, I developed a love for outdoors, sports and community that continues to shape my approach to teaching today. After completing my education, I have had the pleasure of working in Catholic education in York and then for a number of years, Hackney, Inner London.

In my early career, I held various roles that allowed me to hone essential skills in communication and leadership. These experiences not only prepared me for the challenges of teaching but also instilled in me the importance of creating inclusive spaces where all voices are heard. I pursued qualifications in education and leadership, which have provided me with a solid foundation to support both students and colleagues in their development.

As the Subject Leader of PE, I am dedicated to inspiring students through physical education, fostering a passion for health and fitness while developing their teamwork and leadership skills. I believe that sports play a crucial role in building confidence and resilience, and I strive to create engaging lessons that resonate with each student, regardless of their athletic ability.

Throughout my journey, I have had the privilege of working in diverse educational settings, enriching my understanding of different cultures and perspectives. This wider world experience has been invaluable in shaping my approach to teaching, allowing me to inspire students from various backgrounds to embrace their individuality while striving for academic excellence.

Outside of my professional life, I have a passion for a range of sports particularly rugby, which has taught me the values of teamwork, resilience, and discipline. I enjoy playing whenever I can and love sharing this enthusiasm with my students.

I am thrilled to be part of St. Mary's and look forward to working with the whole St. Mary's community to create an environment that empowers students to achieve their fullest potential while embracing the values at the heart of our Catholic education.



Mr Hutchinson

My name is Tom Hutchinson, I am the new Associate Assistant Headteacher responsible for Catholic life and Year 7. I have been a practicing Catholic all my life and have been involved in supporting people in their faith through work in my local parish. I know that faith grows through experience and ensuring that students have the opportunity to experience the richness and fullness of the Catholic faith is something that I am excited to get started with. Through form time prayer, assemblies, retreats, pilgrimages, trips and many other experiences, I aim to ensure that every student who comes through St. Mary's has had the very best Catholic education.

I studied History and Archaeology at Southampton University before completing my PGCE at St. Mary's University Twickenham. Over the course of my teaching career I have gained experience in supporting students pastorally through my role as a Head of Year as well as academically through History and RE teaching. Aside from my Catholic faith and my love of History, I also enjoy playing sport, especially football, tennis and cricket where I played international cricket for Guernsey while I was at school. My family is originally from the north of England, which explains why I am a lifetime fan of Newcastle United.

I look forward to getting to know all of you over the next few years and look forward to working with you to support the students of St. Mary's reach their full potential, spiritually as well as academically



Mass for the Feast of St. Therese of Lisieux:

All students in Sixth form attended mass on the 1st October to celebrate the feast of one of our form saints. All students also had French food in the canteen on that day and a quiz dedicated to St. Therese



Calling all Film Fans!

SCHEDULE FOR MATHS/STEM AND MFL FILM CLUBS ALL ON **THURSDAYS/FRIDAYS AFTER SCHOOL** BEGINNING AT 3.15.

SQUASH AND SNACKS PROVIDED. ALL FILMS ARE PG UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.

MFL FILMS WILL BE IN T11 AND MATHS IN K BLOCK

NUMBERS ARE LIMITED TO 30 STUDENTS.

SIGN-UP IS BY EVOLVE CLUB EMAIL (PER FILM). THIS COUNTS TOWARDS YOUR ST MARY'S AWARD

DATE	SUBJECT AREA	FILM	NOTES
11 th October	MATHS	THE STORY OF ONE (humorous and pacy but informative documentary about the history of the number 1)	ENDS 4.15. Suggested age group Y7-9 VAN K1
Thurs 17 October (Please note date change)	FRENCH	Sac de Billes	TCA, T11 'A bag of marbles'. WW2 drama
18 th October	MATHS	HIDDEN FIGURES (true story of 3 black American women mathematicians working on the NASA space programme in 1961)	ENDS 5.30 Suggested aged group Y9 and up (CWI)
13 th DECEMBER	ITALIAN	13th Dec - Una famiglia perfetta	CO'D Comedy Christmas film
24 th JANUARY	SPANISH	Del Revés 2	JC (Inside Out 2)
28 th MARCH	FRENCH	La Gloire de Mon Père	TCA T11 'My Father's Glory' Biopic
9 th May	MATHS	QUEEN OF KATWE (true story of how chess changed a Ugandan girl's life. Disney film.)	ENDS 5.20 Suggested age group Y7-9 (MAT)
16 th MAY	ITALIAN	16th May - Benvenuti al sud	CO'D Comedy /drama
23 rd MAY	MATHS	THE MAN WHO KNEW INFINITY (biopic about mathematician Ramanujan)	ENDS 5.05 Suggested age group Y10-13 (MBR)
13 th JUNE	SPANISH	Elemental	JC family/comedy
4 th JULY	MATHS	THE THEORY OF EVERYTHING (biopic about Stephen Hawking)	ENDS 5.20 Suggested age group Year 9 and up
11 th JULY	MATHS	OCTOBER SKY (true story of a boy who risked everything for his dream to build a rocket)	ENDS 5.05 Suggested age group Y7-9 (CWI)

Senior Interhouse Dodgeball Competition

This week saw our Sixth Form students participate in the Senior Inter House Dodgeball Competitions. The competition was very well attended, with students giving their best efforts for their house.

All students received positive house points for their participation and performance on the day.

Well done to all involved!

Mr Eddleston
House Coordinator

Results

Form	Points	Overall Position
A	7	3rd
J	3	4th
M	11	2nd
T	15	1st





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Six Week Course
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 2nd session 12:30 - 2:30pm
 3rd session 4 - 4:30pm
 (optional session for reflection and support if needed)

A level field trip to Hatfield forest

Students carried out investigations into carbon stored in two locations within the forest. This develop fieldwork skills to support independent investigations.



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