



Work, play, pray - together

St. Mary's RC Primary School



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Easter Newsletter

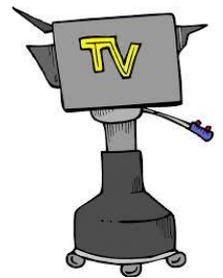
This has been a rather brief but packed Spring Term. As I type this newsletter Mrs Slack is still busily selling raffle tickets for our Easter egg raffle and a huge thank you to her for organising this. Well done to our families in nursery who have been working together to produce a fantastic range of paste egg creations. It has been a family activity for sure and an opportunity to take a step backwards in one way in that we leave behind all of the technology we have at our fingertips to get out the coloured pens, paper and glue. Our Head boy and Head girl has a very tough job ahead of them for judging.

Easter Liturgies.

We have had the most wonderful liturgies this week organised by Miss Burn and lead by the children from Year 2 to Year 6. We have had a healthy turn out of parents and carers and the children's behaviour has been exemplary. The Liturgies are a central part of our Holy Week preparations along with focused work in class as we look forward to the great celebration of Easter. We end today with our Easter Day Liturgy and there may be a little treat in store for all of the children in school.

'Made in Tyne and Wear TV'

Today the famous school reporters "shoot" their final newspaper report from the lovely Roker Hotel in Sunderland. All of the children who have taken part have been absolutely fantastic and I am sure we have some future journalists, presenters and TV crew in the making. Remember to watch out for them on the Made in Tyne and Wear Channel. After the holidays there will be a link on our school website to the different broadcasts.



Parents Day.

Thanks to parents who have signed up for their slot to speak with the teacher about their child's progress. There are many things to discuss, even more so for children in classes further up the school as the realities of the demanding new curriculum begin to become clearer. The level of challenge for the current Y6 and Y5 pupils, which cascades further down the school to our youngest pupils, is significantly more demanding, and the situation here is being replicated in every Primary school in England and Wales. Staff have worked extremely hard to plan, prepare and deliver the challenging framework and the children are all responding well. Special mention must be made of a considerable group of children who arrive early in school each day to receive additional support and tuition and to their families who have to get up that bit earlier to enable the children to get to school earlier. Very Well Done to all of you - it's the final push in many ways for the Y6 children and I think we are all looking forward to mid-May when we can really catch up on all of the fun elements of the curriculum. Years 1 and 3 are having their parents sessions today as we say goodbye to Miss Ramsey who is leaving us and Mrs. Riley is taken on the role of the Early Years Foundation Stage Lead so will be leading the nursery provision on their journey to outstanding after Easter. We were very fortunate yesterday to recruit two teachers to St Mary's Mrs. Smith and Miss Graham, (neither who are related to myself or Mrs. Smith in the office) who will be joining us after Easter. Miss Graham who has taught different year groups including year 1 will be teaching our Year 1 children and Mrs. Smith who has previously taught at St Mary's and also comes with a wealth of experience will be teaching our Year 3 class. We look forward to welcoming them both next term.

End of Term.

I know that there have been one or two issues across the year with the school holiday template displayed on the South Tyneside website, hopefully these should be rectified very soon and reflect the holidays we have scheduled.

May I wish you all a peaceful and blessed Easter season - enjoy this special time with your children. We will welcome everyone back to school on Monday April 11th at the usual time.

Regards, Mrs. M. Graham