

Newsletter

Friday 4th April '25

St. Mary's Catholic Primary School
Ysgol Gynradd Gatholig Santes Fair



Dear Families,

Our Faith...



In this week's Gospel, Jesus teaches us that God wants us to forgive each other. He wants us to look at what we do wrong and not to point our finger at others because they do wrong. He wants us to set an example and help others do the right thing. Year 6 have been focusing on the Gospel of St John during our RE branch, from Desert to Garden. They have been reflecting on Jesus' actions during Holy Week and how He showed love. Year 6 can explain Jesus' Farewell Discourse. Da iawn.



Our Faith in Action...

Lenten Appeal ~ Pilgrimage



Our children are making good progress and have nearly completed our 974km Pilgrimage; the distance from St Mary's to Lourdes. Year 6 and Year 4/5 walked to Mass at St Mary's Church this morning.

Thank you for all sponsorship money sent in so far. Please send in any further sponsorship money next week in readiness for us to donate to CAFOD, Noah's Ark Children's Hospital and SCBU in Princess of Wales Hospital. Thank you in advance for your support.

St Mary's Catholic Church at 10am	
Friday 11 th April	Year 5

Parents are welcome to meet us at St Mary's Church to join us for Mass. Diolch.



Prayer Pebbles



Thank you for the beautiful prayer pebbles that have been sent into school so far.

Reminder: children are invited to decorate a pebble at home to share messages of faith, hope and love during Lent (see poster at the end of the newsletter).

We will add pebbles to our prayer table. Diolch.



Our News...



This week's certificates were awarded for children who are *empathetic*. We heard examples from teachers of children who are in tune with the feelings of others. Children who look out for their friends and make good decisions to help others. Well done all.

Look at our Learning!



Pod Heulog have been learning about position vocabulary.

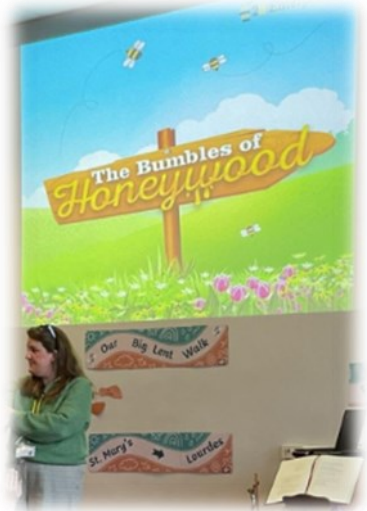


Children in the Atelier have been busy planting their Easter garden. I can't wait to see it all grow. The children can talk about the events of Holy Week in great detail.



LOOK at these beautiful dragon eyes created by children in Year 2.

The Bumbles of Honeywood came in to speak to Year 4/5 and Year 5 about careers for when they are older. Children shared their ambitions with each other.



NOTICES

DEPUTY HEAD TEACHER

Earlier this week, Governors appointed our permanent Deputy Headteacher. It gives me great pleasure to announce that *Mrs Kathleen Williams* was appointed to the role. Mrs Williams has been an invaluable member of our school community for many years, demonstrating excellent leadership, enthusiasm, and commitment to our children and staff. We are excited about the future as we work together to lead St. Mary's, a school that we are so proud of, with dedication and passion.

Holy Week Reflections



Holy Week is the most sacred time in the Church's calendar, marking the final days of Jesus' life on earth, His Passion, Death, and Resurrection. Children will lead Holy Week Reflections W/C 7th April. Parents are most welcome to join us. Reflections will begin at 2.30pm. Contractors are aware that a small number of parents may join us for each reflection and work will be paused during these periods.

Atelier	Palm Sunday	Monday 7 th April
Year 1 and Year 2	Maundy Thursday	Tuesday 8 th April
Year 3 and Year 3/4	Garden of Gethsemane	Wednesday 9 th April
Year 4/5, Year 5 and Year 6	Good Friday	Thursday 10 th April



Roof Update

The contractors have made a good start with the roof replacement and the glorious weather is enabling them to make good progress. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding with the changes we have had to make. The safety of our pupils is always paramount and all decisions are made in order to safeguard our pupils.



Interim Reports

Apologies for the cancellation of the Open Afternoon but further to the above, we are trying to minimise the number of people on site. Teachers have prepared Interim Reports for children where they have commented on pupils' progress and effort. Teachers have also made suggestions of how parents can support their child's learning at home. Reports will be sent home on Wednesday 9th April.



REMINDER for morning drop off / pick up.

Children can attend **breakfast club** between 8.10 and 8.30am. Please use the far PEDESTRIAN gate – not the carpark double gates.

If you arrive after 8.30am, please supervise your child on the yard until 8.40am when a member of staff will be present. Thank you for your cooperation.

The Pedestrian gate will be unlocked at 3pm for the end of the school day (3.15pm). Thank you for your cooperation.

Diary Dates

W/C 7 th April	Y4/5 Swimming	
W/C 7 th April	Holy Week Reflections	See above for details.
Wednesday 9 th April	Minecraft Tournament – Y5 & Y6	Our After School Minecraft Club will be competing in the finals.
Friday 11 th April	Y5 to St Mary's Church	
Friday 11 th April	Break up for EASTER Holiday.	
Monday 28 th April	Children return to school	
W/C 28 th April	Y5 Swimming	
Monday 5 th May	BANK HOLIDAY	School is closed.
W/C 6 th May	Y6 Swimming	
Thursday 15 th May	St Mary's Stars in their Eyes	5.30pm doors open. 6pm Show Time!

WELSH PHRASE OF THE WEEK



Wishing you a lovely weekend. *Mrs Azzopardi*

As a Catholic Family, we will do our best; to live and learn as Christ taught us.

Llangewydd Road, Bridgend, CF31 4JW Telephone: 01656 815560 Email: head@stmaryscps.bridgend.cymru Website: www.stmaryscatholicprimary.co.uk

Headteacher: Mrs. Rachel Azzopardi, BA (Hons), MA, NPQH.

Acting Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Kathleen Williams, BEd (Hons).



Painted Prayer Pebbles

We don't always have to use words to pray. Painting and drawing can be ways to share with Jesus how we are feeling or what we are thinking.

Painting and drawing are also ways to express God's love for the world. Prayer Pebbles are a good example of how we can do this during Lent, Holy Week, or Easter.

Prayer Pebbles display pictures or messages of faith and hope, like:

'Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.'

Joshua 1:9 (adapted)

Prayer Pebbles are left in places where others can see them. Anyone can paint one, you just need a large, clean pebble or stone, and some paint. Why not create your own!



Mission Together Lenten Calendar 2025



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
We will soon begin our Lenten journey to Easter. We pray that we may use this time to grow in faith, hope, and love.	4 Shrove Tuesday. Why do we eat pancakes the day before Lent starts? *	5 Ash Wednesday Why are ash crosses traced on our forehead today? *	6 Why does Lent last forty days? *	7 With your class, reflect and pray with the 1st and 2nd Stations of the Cross. +	8 Many years ago, Lent was a name for Spring . Capture both in Mission Together's <i>Lenten</i> through a <i>Lens</i> challenge. *	9 Find a quiet place and ask God to help you pray and share more this Lent.
10 Yesterday's Sunday Gospel was Lk 4:1-13. What lessons can we learn from this reading? +	11 In Lent, we give things up to put God and others first. What could you give up today? +	12 Jesus showed us how to be silent and still. Spend a minute being both now.	13 Find out what the word <i>sacrifice</i> means and why we practice this in Lent.	14 With your class reflect and pray with the 3rd & 4th Stations of the Cross. +	15 Tell your family about the Stations of the Cross and why we pray them in Lent.	16 Find a quiet place and spend a little time talking to Jesus, our God and our friend.
17 Yesterday's Sunday Gospel was Lk 9:28-36. What does it encourage us to do this week? +	18 Yesterday was the feast of St Patrick. Find out why he is the patron of Ireland.*	19 Hear God speak to you today through: *Loved ones *The Bible *Creation	20 In Lent, we listen to God and others more carefully. How can you listen well today? +	21 With your class reflect and pray with the 5th & 6th Stations of the Cross. +	22 Tell a family member three things you have learnt about Lent this week.	23 Find a quiet place and pray the <i>Our Father</i> for all hungry children in the world.
24 Yesterday's Sunday Gospel was Lk 13:6-9. What lessons can we learn from this reading? +	25 Jesus taught us how to be hopeful. Where do we see signs of hope today? +	26 In Lent we give more time to help others. Look for ways to help today.	27 During Lent we share more of what we have. Why is sharing important? +	28 With your class reflect and pray with the 7th & 8th Stations of the Cross. +	29 Tell a family member why we pray more in Lent. Teach them your favourite prayer.	30 <i>Mothering Sunday</i> Ask God to bless mums and grandmas today.
31 Yesterday's Sunday Gospel was Lk 15:11-32. What does it teach us about God the Father? +	1 In Lent we reflect on God's mercy. Why is it important to be sorry and to forgive? +	2 Write a Lent prayer. Include the words: <i>mercy, pray, share, Jesus, God, Holy Spirit.</i>	3 Pray the <i>Our Father</i> for people who are lost and for those who seek them.	4 With your class reflect and pray with the 9th, 10th, 11th Stations of the Cross. +	5 Tell a family member about God's love and mercy and why it is important to trust in both.	6 Lent is a time to say sorry and forgive. Ask God to help you and your family do both.
7 Yesterday's Sunday Gospel was Jn 8:1-11. What does it teach us about making judgments? +	8 Jesus taught us to respect and include everyone. Who can I invite to play today? +	9 Pray a <i>Hail Mary</i> for people who feel worried today. Ask Mary to pray with us for them.	10 We're coming closer to Holy Week. Why is it the most special week of the Church's year? +	11 With your class reflect and pray with the 12th, 13th and 14th Stations of the Cross. +	12 Tomorrow is Palm Sunday. Tell a family member about the first Palm Sunday.	13 Palm Sunday Find a quiet place and thank God for sending Jesus to love and guide us.
14 Yesterday's Sunday Gospel was Lk 19:28-40. What does it teach us about who Jesus is? +	15 Holy Week Today we recall Judas' bad choice. Ask God to help you make good choices this week.	16 Today Jesus and his disciples planned the Last Supper. Thank God for the food you'll eat today.	17 Maundy Thursday Why do Priests wash the feet of others at Mass tonight? +	18 Good Friday Sit quietly, be still, and thank Jesus for loving us all so much.	19 Holy Saturday Today we wait as Jesus lies in the tomb. Say a prayer for those who are grieving today.	20 Easter Sunday

Calendar symbols: + refers to scriptures and reflections found in Mission Together's Lenten Celebrations of the World, also to our Stations of the Cross. The * symbol refers to Lenten activities or Five Fact Saints Assemblies. These and additional Lent resources are available at missiontogether.org.uk Missio's registered Charity No. 1056651

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