



St. Mary's Newsletter

16th October 2026

Croeso! Welcome!



Our Faith...

In the Gospel on Sunday, some people try to trap Jesus with a question about paying taxes. Jesus wisely responds, "Give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar, and to God what belongs to God." Through this teaching, Jesus reminds us that while we have responsibilities in everyday life, our hearts, talents and lives ultimately belong to God. We are called to live faithfully, making choices that reflect God's love and values in all that we do.

Our Faith in Action...



Thank you to everyone who was able to join us for our first **School Mass** of the academic year last weekend. It was a joy to see so many of our families coming together in faith to celebrate Mass and strengthen the special partnership between our school, parish and home communities. Thank you for your continued support.

Thank you to all who have already brought in donations for our Harvest Appeal in support of the local Foodbank. We are very grateful for your kindness and generosity. Please continue to send non perishable foods into school next week to help us support those in need within our local community. Thank you. Diolch.



On Saturday, some of our wonderful Year 6 pupils proudly represented the school at the Caritas **Called to Love** event. They shared examples of how our school community puts **faith into action** through our commitment to Catholic Social Teaching and serving others. The pupils spoke confidently to parishioners, visitors and Archbishop Mark, showcasing the many ways our children live out Gospel values each day. We are incredibly proud of them and would like to thank them for being such excellent ambassadors for our school. Well done, Year 6!



Look at Our Learning!



Y1 followed the recipe carefully to make delicious cornflake cakes. I can't wait to read their **Instructional Writing** as part of our Writing Spotlight this month.



Y2 imitated Andy Goldsworthy's work by creating a piece of art work using **natural resources**. They wrote prayers thanking God for His wonderful creation.



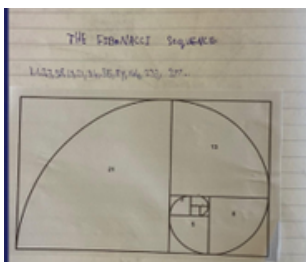
Y2 carried out a mixing colours **experiment** using kitchen roll, water and food colouring. The colours 'walked' into the empty containers! It was fascinating!



Y4/5 created beautiful artwork inspired by **Monet's 'Houses of Parliament'** series. They have been learning all about his techniques.



Children in Y5 planned a beautiful **Child Led Worship**. They chose to share the story of Moses parting the Red Sea and then they invited their friends to reflect on how they could have faith in God.



Y6 have been learning about the **Fibonacci sequence**. They have explored how this fascinating number pattern appears throughout nature, including in waves, shells, flowers and other natural forms. They then created super artwork!

NOTICES



En Garde for Team GB!

We are very proud of [Mrs Catherine Bowd](#), who was selected to represent Great Britain at the World Fencing Championships in Tbilisi, Georgia. This is a fantastic achievement and a testament to her dedication, commitment and talent in competing at the highest level of her sport. We look forward to hearing all about her experience when she returns to school. Longyfarchiadau Mrs Bowd.



ClassDojo

As you are aware, **Class Dojo** is our main communication platform. Staff take time to share important information through the app, including our weekly newsletter, so please take a few moments to read the notices that are posted.

In addition, teachers regularly share photographs and updates showcasing the learning taking place in class. We encourage you to take a look at these posts, as they provide a wonderful insight into your child's experiences at school and can help you talk with them about their learning and achievements.

Nativity Dates



Advance Notice

Nativity tickets will go on sale in November. Children will take part in their Nativity with their YEAR GROUP, not CLASS.



Have you ordered your school photos yet? A reminder that the closing date for **free** delivery back to school is Thursday 22nd October.

If you need any assistance in ordering your photos, feel free to contact Tempest at customerservice@htempest.co.uk

Thursday 10th December (School Hall)
Atelier - 10AM | Years 1 + 2 - 1.30PM

Friday 11th December (School Hall)
Years 1 + 2 - 10AM | Atelier - 1.30PM

Tuesday 15th December (School Hall)
Years 3 + 4 - 10AM

Wednesday 16th December (School Hall)
Years 3 + 4 - 1.30PM

Thursday 17th December
Years 5 + 6 - 6PM- 7PM

• St. Mary's Catholic Church, Ewenny Road

CERTIFICATE



This week's certificates were awarded to children who have demonstrated excellent **noticing skills**. It was wonderful to hear different examples. From children who notice when a friend is upset, to those who spot the smallest details in artwork they are imitating. We also heard about children who noticed patterns in their mathematics learning. Well done to all for being such thoughtful, observant and reflective learners.

Parental Consultations



Parental Consultations will take place on **Tuesday 3rd** and **Wednesday 4th November**. As you are aware, last year, we introduced an online booking system to help make the booking process smoother and more convenient for both parents and staff.

Our booking system opened on Monday 28th September. I encourage you to book an appointment if you have not already done so to discuss your child's wellbeing and progress during the first half term with their class teacher. Thank you.

* Wellbeing * Attainment * Effort * Attitude

THURSDAY 22ND OCTOBER



We are a vibrant community, proud of the many cultures, languages and traditions that make St Mary's such a special place. United Nations Day gives us an opportunity to celebrate our diversity, learn from one another and recognise that we are all part of God's global family.

Thank you to all who have offered to contribute a culinary delight for our afternoon celebration. A big thank you to the Friends of St Mary's for organising the event.

Nasal Flu Vaccine



The School Nursing Team will visit school on **Monday 19th October** to offer pupils the **Fluenz Nasal Flu Vaccine**. The NHS recommends that your child gets the vaccine to protect against Flu. If you did not complete an e-consent form by 12pm today (Friday 16th October) your child will not receive their flu vaccine.

WELSH PHRASE OF THE WEEK

Ga i chwarae gyda ti?
Can I play with you?





DATES FOR YOUR DIARY...

Monday 19th Oct	Nasal Flu Vaccinations (Reception to Y6)	
Wednesday 21st Oct	IMPACT writing workshop	Y2 children (Group 1 @ 9am & Group 2 @ 10.30am).
Thursday 22nd Oct	United Nations Celebration Day	Children are invited to wear National dress/colours to school. See poster 'attached'
Friday 23rd Oct	Last day of half term (Autumn 1)	
Monday 26th October - Friday 30th October	Half Term Break	School closed.
Monday 2nd Nov	Return to school (Autumn 2)	
Tuesday 3rd & Wednesday 4th Nov	Parental Consultations	Booking link: https://bookings.cloud.microsoft/book/StMarysParentalConsultations2026@hwbwave15.onmicrosoft.com/?
Thursday 19th Nov	School Disco	Details to follow.
Monday 7th Dec	Harold the Forgotten Reindeer Atelier to Year 2	Teepee Theatre return to present their new show to our Atelier to Year 2 pupils.
Thursday 10th Dec	Nativities	Atelier @ 10am Years 1 + 2 @ 1.30pm
Friday 11th Dec	Nativites	Years 1 + 2 @ 10am Atelier @ 1.30pm
Tuesday 15th Dec	Nativityy	Years 3 + 4 @ 10am
Wednesday 16th Dec	Nativityy	Years 3 + 4 @ 1.30pm
Thursday 17th Dec	Nativity Service	St. Mary's Catholic Church Years 5 + 6 6pm - 7pm
Friday 18th Dec	Last day of the Autumn Term	

*Wishing you a lovely weekend.
Mrs. Azzopardi*



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

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



ST. MARY'S PARENTAL CONSULTATIONS

Tuesday 3rd & Wednesday 4th November

Click [here](#) to book.



Please ensure that you select the correct '**service**' for your child.
You must then **select the correct teacher** for your child to see their availability. Do not leave as 'Anyone' as you will not successfully book a slot with your child's teacher.

Join us for important discussions about your
child's progress.



UN DAY

Thursday 22nd October 2026

A stronger
world
together
♥

Celebrate the wonderful cultures and countries
that make up our community!

Different
people
Brighter
tomorrows
♥

As with previous years, our UN Day celebration
depends on your generosity in donating culinary delights
to showcase all the wonderful different cultures
and countries.

Can you help?

If you are able to make or buy a dish
to represent your country, we would
love to hear from you.

Please contact us by
Friday 16th October 2026 on:

✉ friendsofstmarys950@gmail.com

📱 Text 07817 286861



A full list of allergens will be needed
for each dish donated.

Let's celebrate diversity through
food, friendship and community! ♥

Thank you for your support.



PEACE

PEOPLE

PARTNERSHIP

A BRIGHTER

TOMORROW



RESPECT
UNDERSTANDING
KINDNESS
A STRONGER
WORLD



One world ♥ Many cultures ♥ Brighter futures

Nativity Dates



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• St. Mary's Catholic Church, Ewenny Road

• Please note that this year's Nativities will be in Year Groups, not classes. Tickets will go on sale towards the middle of November.



INSET DAYS

26/27

Our remaining INSET Days for this year are as noted below. Please note that the school will be closed to pupils for Staff Training.



Monday 4th January
Monday 15th February
Friday 30th April
Monday 19th July
Tuesday 20th July



Dates for the diary!



We are looking for volunteers to help with the following events



22nd October
UN Day Celebrations
12:50 - 3:30pm



19th November
School Disco
(2 sessions Mini disco 4:15 - 5:15
and main disco 5:15 - 7pm)



10th & 11th December
AM or PM sessions
15th December AM
16th December PM
17th December evening in St Mary's Church.



Please let us know if you can help
by messaging Del on
07817286861.

