

As we approach the end of the spring term, the signs of the season are all around us. From the bright yellow daffodils popping up in gardens to the longer, sunnier afternoons, there is a distinct feeling of **renewal and hope** in the air.

For our school community, Easter is a wonderful time to pause and reflect on the themes of **growth and kindness**. Just as the seeds our students planted earlier this year are beginning to sprout, we have seen our children grow in confidence, curiosity, and friendship over the last few months

Safeguarding

Our safeguarding team at St. Mary's consists of Mr Knapper and myself. If you wish to discuss any concerns with us, please ask and at least one of us will be available. All of our staff are safeguard trained, and we are here to keep your children safe and happy at all times.

Happy Birthday

Happy birthday to all the children who have celebrated a special birthday this week or will be celebrating over the Easter Holidays: Lucy, Grace, Ella, Eve-Marie, Poppy, Leonardo and Eyaan.

Easter Triduum

The Easter Triduum is the holiest three-day period in the church's liturgical year.

The evening Mass on Holy Thursday is referred to as *The Mass of the Lord's Supper*. This is where the Church re-lives the institution of the Eucharist and the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass at the Last Supper, as well as the institution of the priesthood, which took place the evening before Jesus was crucified.

Good Friday is a mandatory day of fasting and abstinence. This is the day of the crucifixion—the day Jesus died for the sins of the world.

A vigil Mass is held after nightfall on Holy Saturday, or before dawn on Easter Sunday, in celebration of the resurrection of Jesus. This is called the Easter Vigil: the most glorious, beautiful, and dramatic liturgy for the Church.

Mass and service times at St. Mary's church are as follows:

Maundy Thursday: Mass 6:30pm

Good Friday: 10.30am Morning Prayer & Office of Readings

3pm –Passion of Our Lord

Holy Saturday: 10.30am– Morning Prayer & Office of Readings

7pm – Easter Vigil Mass

Easter Sunday: 11am - Mass

2nd April	Close for Spring 2 – 3:20pm
13th April	Open for Summer 1
16th April	Nursery and Reception trip to Smithills Farm
23rd April	Year 2 class assembly
30th April	Year 1 class assembly
7th May	Year 4 class assembly
11th – 14th May	Y6 SATs week
21st May	Year 3 class assembly
18th June	Reception assembly

Parish News

The parish newsletter can be viewed by clicking the link here: [Newsletters](#).



Golden Ticket Extravaganza

Today was the final day of our Golden Ticket Extravaganza. Thank you to all the children and staff who purchased chocolate bars in the hope of winning a magical golden ticket. This was a new fundraising event for school, replacing the chocolate tombola. Another huge thank you to those who donated prizes. It is very much appreciated.

Chocolate Hamper Winners

Denny, Oakley, Max, Mason, John, Robin, Tehila, Harvey and Logan

Easter Treat Winners

Perpetua, Kody, Fia, Kirsty, Toby, Ava, Sophia, Thomas, Joseph, Aria, Niall, Zachary, Ethan A, Theo, Frankie, Esme, Albie, Jasmine and Lottie

Class Prizes

Reggie, Ms Peart, Freddie, Diana, Taya, Mrs Haughton, Mr Tomkinson, Sofia V and Miller

Easter Bonnet Parade

Thank you to all of the family and friends who attended the Easter bonnet parade. It was wonderful to see all the different bonnets which had been made by the children. The children were amazing with their singing – some real stars in the making!

Passion Play

Thank you to the family and friends who attended our Passion Play on Tuesday. It was a wonderful retelling of the Easter Story. The children did an amazing job and showed some wonderful talents. Thank you to the staff for planning the play, sorting costumes and for teaching the children the meaning and gospel values which underpins the Easter story.

Miss Johnson

Today we said goodbye to Miss Johnson who is moving onto a new school in Cheshire after Easter. We wish her good luck as she moves on and hope she enjoys her new school.

Mrs Spencer

Mrs Spencer has spent some more time with Year 2 this week as she gets to know them before starting her new role as their teacher after the Easter break. Parents from Year 2 should have received an 'all about me' sheet which you can share with your child before they return to school.

Easter Gardens

Thank you to everyone who made an Easter garden and brought it into school. Fr Joe was tasked with selecting some of the designs to win an prize.

Congratulations to the following children who won an Easter Egg:

Isabel, Amelia, Amber-Rose, Eyaan, Thomas, Leonie, Fia, Charlotte, Poppy, Annabelle, Lucy, Grace, Frankie, Evelyn and Nancy

All of the children who brought an Easter garden into school received a chocolate bar as a thank you treat.

Parking around school

When dropping off and picking up your child(ren) please be mindful of where and how you park. On occasions I have witnessed parking on zig-zag markings, yellow lines, across garages and even in the middle of the road. I would not want anyone to be ticketed by traffic wardens, but more importantly, we would not want a child to be hurt due to inconsiderate parking. Now that the weather is starting to be a little warmer, why not park just little bit away from the school gates and walk, cycle or scooter to school?