

Crescent News – St. Mary's Roman Catholic Primary School Newsletter

Wisdom and Faith | [@StMarysLambeth](https://www.instagram.com/StMarysLambeth) | www.st-marys.lambeth.sch.uk

Friday 18th September 2026

Message From Miss Doody

As we reach the third week of the Autumn Term, it has been wonderful to see our school community settling back into the rhythm of a new school year. There is a real sense of energy, enthusiasm and excitement across the school, and I would like to thank you all for the warm welcome you have given to our staff and pupils.

Beginning the Year Together

Thank you to all the parents who joined us for our Beginning of Year Mass. It was a beautiful way to begin our school year together as a community, placing our year ahead in God's hands and reminding ourselves of the importance of faith, friendship and service. A special thank you to Father Casper for leading our Mass and to Mr Griffin for organising it. What a lovely way to start the school year! At this time of year, the Church invites us to reflect on how we can grow in faith and live out our call to love and serve one another. As a Catholic school, we want this to be reflected not only in our prayer and worship, but also in the way we treat one another each day. Our school community is at its strongest when we work together, support one another and ensure that every child feels known, valued and loved.



A Message of Love and Prayer

As a school community, we are deeply saddened by the tragic loss of Sofia, a pupil at Bishop Thomas Grant School. Our thoughts and prayers are with Sofia, her mum and her whole family at this incredibly difficult time. We also hold the pupils, staff and wider community of Bishop Thomas Grant in our prayers as they come together to support one another through this heartbreaking loss. As a community, we send our love and deepest condolences to all those affected. May Sofia rest in peace, and may perpetual light shine upon her.



Welcome Meetings

It was lovely to see such a fantastic turnout at our Welcome to Year Group Meetings this week. Thank you to everyone who attended and, importantly, for the opportunity to communicate with you about your child's year ahead. Strong communication between home and school is so important, and we really value your questions, thoughts and partnership.

A huge thank you also goes to the members of staff who led these meetings and gave their time to prepare and speak with parents.

Thank you also to Mr Elgey for leading our Secondary School meeting. A reminder to our families with children applying for secondary school that the application deadline is 31 October. If you have any questions or would like support with the application process, please do not hesitate to contact us. We are very happy to help.

Crescent News – St. Mary's Roman Catholic Primary School Newsletter

Wisdom and Faith | [@StMarysLambeth](https://www.instagram.com/StMarysLambeth) | www.st-marys.lambeth.sch.uk

Friday 18th September 2026

A Reminder About Uniform

As the weather begins to change, please can I remind all families about the importance of following our school uniform expectations, particularly when it comes to winter coats.

Our children go outside to play in all weathers, and we want every child to be able to enjoy their playtime. Please ensure that your child has a navy blue or black raincoat suitable for wearing to school. Having the correct waterproof coat means that children can continue to go outside and enjoy their play, even when the weather is wet.

We do not want any child to miss out on valuable outdoor play because they do not have a suitable coat. Thank you for your support in ensuring that our uniform remains consistent and that our children are appropriately prepared for the changing weather.

Our PSA

A reminder that our **PSA Annual General Meeting (AGM)** will take place on **Tuesday 23 September at 9.15am in the Main School Hall**. All parents are warmly welcome to attend.

Please remember that, as soon as your child joins our school, you automatically become a member of our PSA. The PSA is an important part of our school community, and your time, thoughts, ideas and involvement are genuinely valued. You do not need to have lots of time or experience to contribute — every helping hand, idea and conversation makes a difference.

We would love to see as many parents as possible at the AGM.

Communication – Arbor and Google Classroom

Finally, please note that we are now using Arbor for all school communication. If you are experiencing any difficulties accessing your Arbor account, please let us know as soon as possible. We want to make sure that no child or family misses out on important information because of a technical issue.

All homework and individual class information will be shared through Google Classroom. Please also contact us if you are having any difficulty accessing your child's Google Classroom, and we will do our best to support you.

As we begin this new school year, I am reminded that a school is not simply a place where children come to learn; it is a community of children, families and staff working together with a shared purpose. When home and school communicate openly and support one another, our children are given the very best opportunity to flourish.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support, encouragement and partnership. I look forward to all that this term will bring.

With every good wish,
Miss Doody

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Your School Annual AGM meeting will take place on

WEDNESDAY 23RD SEPTEMBER

9.15 AM
(approx. 1 hour)
IN MAIN HALL
(or join us online, Zoom link will be provided)

The PSA plays a vital part in the school community and all parents, as members of the PSA, are invited to support the AGM. This is your chance to hear and see how the funds you have helped to raise have been used for the benefit of the children/students at our school. The AGM is also an opportunity for you to elect the PSA Committee, who represent the association throughout the forthcoming year.

AGENDA FOR THE MEETING:

- Welcome and Introduction
- Introduction and voting in of committee members
- Financial Report
- Fundraising events and Initiatives
- Questions and suggestions from participants

TEA/COFFEE & BISCUITS WILL BE PROVIDED

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THERE!

Your VOICE MAKES A DIFFERENCE

Crescent News – St. Mary's Roman Catholic Primary School Newsletter

Wisdom and Faith | [@StMarysLambeth](https://www.st-marys.lambeth.sch.uk) | www.st-marys.lambeth.sch.uk

Friday 18th September 2026

Harvest Festival

Please bring your donations into school from Monday 20th September until Friday 2nd October.

Thank you, in advance, for your kindness towards some of the most vulnerable in our local community.



ACE OF CLUBS
People Food Hope Community
Stronger Together

Harvest Festival Appeal

Supporting Ace of Clubs

As Harvest Festival approaches, donations are being collected to help replenish vital supplies for people experiencing homelessness and other adversities.

What to donate

- Rice
- Pasta
- Tinned chopped tomatoes
- Other basic cupboard supplies

These are examples from the Ace of Clubs wish list.

How to help

To arrange drop-off at Ace of Clubs or collection, please email info@aceofclubs.org.uk.
A van collection can be arranged if needed.

Small donations make a big difference

Why it matters

Over 38,000 meals provided in the past year
150-200 meals a day

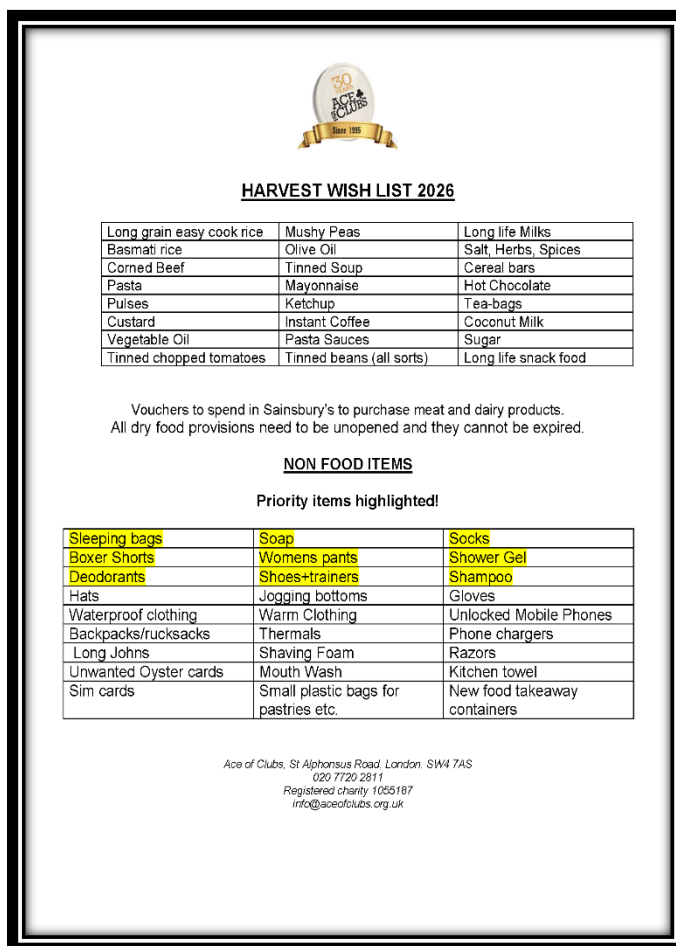
Ace of Clubs is a friendly community providing transformative support for people experiencing homelessness, vulnerability and marginalisation. Alongside food, the charity helps with warmth, hygiene, clothing and one-to-one support linking guests to welfare, rehabilitation, healthcare, training and more.

Thank you for your continued support.
We simply couldn't do this work without our local community.

Kindness Nourishes Communities

With warm regards,
Anna Long, Chair & Treasurer of Management Committee, and Heidi Shrimpton, Director.

A kinder brighter stronger community



ACE OF CLUBS
Since 1985

HARVEST WISH LIST 2026

Long grain easy cook rice	Mushy Peas	Long life Milks
Basmati rice	Olive Oil	Salt, Herbs, Spices
Corned Beef	Tinned Soup	Cereal bars
Pasta	Mayonnaise	Hot Chocolate
Pulses	Ketchup	Tea-bags
Custard	Instant Coffee	Coconut Milk
Vegetable Oil	Pasta Sauces	Sugar
Tinned chopped tomatoes	Tinned beans (all sorts)	Long life snack food

Vouchers to spend in Sainsbury's to purchase meat and dairy products.
All dry food provisions need to be unopened and they cannot be expired.

NON FOOD ITEMS

Priority items highlighted!

Sleeping bags	Soap	Socks
Boxer Shorts	Womens pants	Shower Gel
Deodorants	Shoes+trainers	Shampoo
Hats	Jogging bottoms	Gloves
Waterproof clothing	Warm Clothing	Unlocked Mobile Phones
Backpacks/rucksacks	Thermals	Phone chargers
Long Johns	Shaving Foam	Razors
Unwanted Oyster cards	Mouth Wash	Kitchen towel
Sim cards	Small plastic bags for pastries etc.	New food takeaway containers

Ace of Clubs, St Alphonsus Road, London, SW4 7AS
020 7720 2811
Registered charity 1055187
info@aceofclubs.org.uk

INSTRUMENTAL LESSONS

There are still places available for instrumental lessons – if your child is in year one to year 6 and you would like your child to play an instrument please ask at the office for a Instrument lessons form.

Crescent News – St. Mary's Roman Catholic Primary School Newsletter

Wisdom and Faith | [@StMarysLambeth](#) | www.st-marys.lambeth.sch.uk

Friday 18th September 2026

REMINDERS

Free School Meals –Registration Still Matters

As a London school, all primary-aged children currently receive free school meals. However, we are asking all parents and carers to check whether their child is officially entitled to Free School Meals (FSM) and to inform the school office if they are.

Even though meals are free for everyone, registering for FSM is still extremely important.

When families who are eligible register:

The school receives additional government funding (known as Pupil Premium). This extra funding is used to directly support your child's education. It helps us provide additional teaching support, interventions, resources, enrichment opportunities, and wider wellbeing support. Without families registering, the school misses out on valuable funding that could benefit your child and the wider school community.

You may be entitled to Free School Meals if you receive certain benefits, including:

- Universal Credit (with qualifying earnings)
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (with qualifying income and not receiving Working Tax Credit)

If you think you may be eligible, or are unsure, please contact the school office. The process is quick, confidential, and could make a real difference to the support we are able to provide.

Please let the office staff know as soon as possible so we can update our records.

Secondary School Applications

A reminder to all Year 6 parents and carers that secondary school applications must be submitted to Lambeth by **31 October 2026**. Please make sure that you leave plenty of time to complete the application and carefully consider your school choices.

For children with an EHCP, the deadline for secondary school applications is earlier: 30 September 2026. If you have any questions or would like support with the process, please come and speak to us at school. We are very happy to help.

For our Year 5 parents and carers, it is also a good idea to start looking at secondary schools now. Visiting schools, finding out about open days and beginning to think about your preferences will mean that you are in a good position to make your application when this time comes next year. Please do not forget to inform the school office in advance if you are taking your child out to visit a secondary school so they do not get an unauthorised mark.

Friday 18th September 2026



Own Clothes Day!

Children can wear their own clothes on
Census Day!

Special Lunch

Special Favourites Menu — featuring
students' most-loved dishes!

Win Prizes!

Find a special sticker under your
school plate to WIN!

Prizes

Cinema Vouchers & Book Vouchers —
3 lucky winners chosen at random!

Activity

Fun student engagement activity with
exciting prizes up for grabs!

We look forward to seeing all our children in school
on Census Day — good luck everyone!



Celebration Assembly

Well done to all those who received certificates this week.



Happy Birthday



Happy Birthday

Crescent News – St. Mary's Roman Catholic Primary School Newsletter

Wisdom and Faith | [@StMarysLambeth](#) | www.st-marys.lambeth.sch.uk

Friday 18th September 2026



A huge well done to our football team, who represented the school brilliantly at a tournament in Kennington on Tuesday. The boys were enthusiastic, determined and showed a fantastic attitude throughout the day.

There were some excellent individual performances. Daniel was superb in goal and made a number of important saves, while Leo C brought tremendous energy and drive to the team, contributing both offensively and defensively. Zahir stole the show with an incredible **seven goals** and was also selected as one of the most influential players of the tournament, winning a new pair of football boots as his prize.

Most importantly, the whole team made us incredibly proud. They competed with determination, supported one another and were excellent ambassadors for the school, modelling the values and behaviour we ask all of our children to uphold.

A big thank you to Mrs Plicio and Mr Rodger for taking and supporting the team on the day, and congratulations to all of the boys on a fantastic effort.

Friday 18th September 2026



Dates For Diary

**25th
Sep**

**European Day of languages
Celebration**

**1st
Oct**

Black History Month Begins

**1st
Oct**

**Autumn School Census
National Poetry Day**

**5th
Oct**

**Beginning of National
Space Week**

**6th
Oct**

Year 1 Phonics Workshop
3.45 School Small Hall

**7th
Oct**

Yr4 Multiplication Check Workshop
3.45 School Small Hall