Crescent News – St. Mary's Roman Catholic Primary School Newsletter
Wisdom and Faith | @StMarysLambeth | www.st-marys.lambeth.sch.uk
Friday 23rd October 2026

Message From Miss Doody

As we reach the end of another busy half term, I would like to thank you for your continued support and for joining us at our **Open Classroom** this week. We hope you enjoyed visiting your child's new classroom, looking at their lovely work and seeing all the wonderful learning taking place at St Mary's. It was particularly lovely to hear so many proud parents as they left! The children and staff have worked incredibly hard, and it was wonderful to share this with you.

A few important reminders and updates:
Dates for your diary
Please remember to check the year planner sent out at the beginning of term, as all upcoming dates are included there. Our next **Parents' Evenings** will take place during the week beginning **30th November**. Further details will be shared after half term.
We have also sent out the dates for our **Christmas celebrations**. These are very special occasions for our children, and we look forward to welcoming you into school to share in the festivities. Please do make a note of these dates!

Preparing for the colder, wetter weather
As we move into the colder and rainier months, please remember that children will continue to play outdoors during morning break and lunchtime. It is therefore essential that every child brings a **waterproof coat with a hood** so that they can stay warm and dry.
As part of our outdoor provision, we will also be making the most of water play, mud kitchens and other exciting outdoor activities. Donations of waterproof overalls and wellies would be very welcome to help the children enjoy these experiences whatever the weather!
If your child wears wellies or boots to walk to school, please ensure they also bring their usual school shoes to change into when they come inside.



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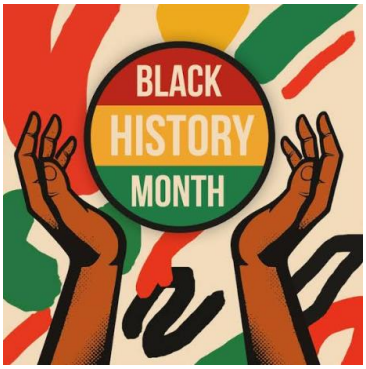
Exciting news – our football court refurbishment!
We have some very exciting and long-awaited news to share! During half term, work will begin on the refurbishment of our existing school football court. The project is expected to take approximately four to five weeks to complete.
When the work is finished, we will have a fantastic new court, including a brand-new 3G pitch! This is wonderful news for our school community, and we cannot wait for the children to enjoy their new space for playing, practising their football skills and taking part in sporting activities. Thank you for your patience while the work takes place.



Faith, prayer and celebrating Black History
As we approach the end of October, we continue to celebrate and learn about the incredible individuals who have shaped Black history. Please do continue to talk to your children about the people they have been learning about and what has inspired them.

We also hope to continue praying the Rosary together as a school community, taking time to reflect on our faith and the importance of prayer in our daily lives.



Finally, I would like to thank our wonderful staff, children and families for all that you have contributed to school life this half term. It has been lovely to see the children learning, growing in confidence and making the most of the opportunities available to them.
I hope you all enjoy a restful and happy half-term break, with plenty of time to relax and spend time together.

A reminder that Monday 2nd November is a staff INSET day, and we look forward to welcoming all the children back to school on **Tuesday 3rd November**.
Thank you, as always, for your continued support. It is a privilege to lead such a wonderful school community, and I look forward to seeing you all next half term.

Best Wishes,
Miss Doody

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Admissions for September 2027

If your child is due to start school or Nursery next year, please take note of the following information and deadlines:

Reception Applications – September 2027 Intake

The closing date for Reception applications for the September 2027 intake is Friday 15th January 2027. Please make sure that you return the **Common Application Form** to your local Borough before midnight on Friday 15th January 2027.

The **Supplementary Information Form and supporting documents** should be returned to the school office in person at St Mary's or by email to admissions@st-marys.lambeth.sch.uk by **Friday 15th January 2027.** The school office is open from 8.45am until 3.45pm, Monday to Friday.

All application forms that are submitted after the closing date will be classed as late applications. Late applications **cannot** be processed until after the first round of applications have been considered.

Nursery Applications – January 2027 Intake

Applications for the January Intake 2026 for nursery should be in by **Tuesday 3rd November 2026.**

Secondary Transfer (Year 7, starting September 2027)

Application deadline: Before midnight **31st October 2026**
Applications must be made through your **home borough**.
Please check if your chosen schools require supplementary forms, as deadlines and requirements may vary.

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 an Instrument lessons form.

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REMINDERS

Trip to Cineworld – Years 1-6 – 25th November – Consents Still Outstanding

If you have not already given consent for this free trip please do so now as the day is fast approaching. Please login to your child's Arbor account and give consent. This is required as soon as possible and by no later than 13th November. We will be unable to bring children if consent is not given by this time.

If you have not logged into your child's Arbor account because you are experiencing problems with this, please contact a member of the School Admin Team to help you with this.

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.

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CHRISTMAS

DATES TO REMEMBER

Friday 27th Nov	Clapham Lights Switch On- Selected children	Time tbc
Wednesday 2nd Dec	Beginning of Advent Mass-Year 2-6 St Mary's Church	9.30
Wednesday 9th Dec	Nursery and Reception Nativity	2.30 pm
Thursday 10th Dec	Trinity Hospice Light up a LIfe Service- Selected children	6pm
Friday 11th Dec	Year 1 and Year 2 Nativity-School Hall	Y1 parents 10am, Yr 2 parents 11am
Monday 14th Dec	Year 3 and Year 4 Carol Service-St Mary's Church	4pm
Tuesday 15th Dec	Year 5 and Year 6. Retelling of the Christmas Story-St Mary's Church	4pm

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Celebration Assembly

Well done to all those who received certificates this week.







HAPPY BIRTHDAY



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