

St Mary's Catholic First School Newsletter



5th January 2024



Our GIFT Team



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to the Spring term at St Mary's. We hope that you had a good Christmas and New Year. The children have settled back into school very well this week.

This week some children from Anning, Maiden Castle and Icenii spent a morning writing Poetry with Mrs Derrien. The theme was "Rebuilding". The children followed their own interpretations of the theme and showed great creativity. The poets wrote about Friendship, Deforestation, War and Litter!

They were brilliant.



St Mary's Catholic First School Newsletter



During the Autumn Term our GIFT team have had training to help them understand their role at St Mary's. They heard about St Martin of Tours whose followers looked after his special cloak and continued his work after he died. The word "chaplains" comes from the Latin word for cloak.

Our chaplains then explored the five different types of prayer in order to help them compose their own prayers.

St Mary's GIFT Team (Growing in Faith Together)

The members of our GIFT Team for 2023-2024 are Violet, Isla, Esme, Clemmie, Jack, Sam, Molly and Evanna.

They now have their new Chaplains hoodies.



In October the chaplains led a rosary challenge for peace. This was part of the Aid to the Church in Need "One Million Children Praying the Rosary" annual event.

In November the GIFT team sold poppies to raise funds for the Royal British Legion.

The GIFT team is now ready to discover how to put a liturgy together with the aim of leading a liturgy for each class. They will also be in contact with the Parish Secretary to find out who from our parish community we can keep in our prayers in our weekly school assembly.

St Mary's Catholic First School Newsletter



Upcoming events

Date	Event
October to January 2024	Last month to add some tokens at Tescos
Mon 29 th January – Friday 2 nd February	Parents' evenings via google meet, face to face or phone – details to follow on Google Classroom
Thurs 8 th February	Children finish for Half Term
Mon 19 th February	Children return to school after half term holiday

Kingston

This term Kingston are focusing on 'Celebrations'. They have been reading the book 'My Presents' this week and talking about different presents that were received over Christmas. The children even wrapped up the same presents from the story for everyone to open whilst reading.



St Mary's Catholic First School Newsletter



This week's kids' Corner comes from our Maiden Castle class, telling us what they have enjoyed and learnt this week.



We did a poetry competition where we had to write a poem about rebuilding something. I did one about littering.

Emily

St Mary's Catholic First School Newsletter

I enjoyed looking at
dividing in Maths.

Frankie

We have been doing
animals and what
food they eat for their
stomachs.

Luka

In Maiden Castle we
are having to learn
division in Maths and
in Science we learnt
about animal and
human nutrition.

Samantha

Have a good weekend.

P. Fearn

Paula Fearn
Headteacher