



St Mary Magdalene C of E School (Woolwich) AUTUMN TERM 2023-4 -Newsletter 2



Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

Welcome to Autumn 2. We had a very busy week with our inspection last week and want to thank you for sharing your feedback in the parent survey. We will keep you updated on the publication of the report.

We have a very exciting term ahead with lots of trips, exciting learning taking place and Christmas events. It will be lovely to have you join us and celebrate the events.

You will see lower down in the newsletter that we have shared some wonderful home learning projects from Year 3. The students have worked very hard on creating Stone Age models. Thank you to all of the parents who have been supporting the children with their home learning.

Our value this term is Service to Others. We are asking if any of our students are young carers at home, and take care of their parents or other adults in the home. As part of our Service to Others, we want to support you and your family so please do get in touch via the admin team or speak to a member of staff on the gate.

As the weather is getting chillier, please do send your child/ren to school with a warm coat. I look forward to working with you over the term.
Mrs Savva-Brown



Trips

- Please see the emails from your teachers about trips.

Celebration Collective Worship

- Fridays 9:05am – different year group families will be invited as detailed below:
- We will text parents when they are invited to the celebration CW.
- **INSET day – school closed to children**
- Friday 1st December

Christmas Dates

- EYFS Nativity – Thursday 7th December – 10am and 2pm
- KS1 Nativity – Friday 8th December – 10am and 2pm
- Y3 and Y4 Carols by Candle Light – Tuesday 12th December 3:45pm
- Y5 and Y6 Carols by Candle Light – Thursday 14th December 3:45pm
- Christmas Jumper and Christmas Dinner – Friday 15th December
- Christingle – Monday 18th December 10am
- Class Parties – Tuesday 19th December PM
- School Pantomime – Wednesday 20th December AM

Last Day of School

- Thursday 21st December, closing at 1:30pm

INSET day – school closed to children

- Monday 8th January 2024

School reopens for children

- Tuesday 9th January 2024

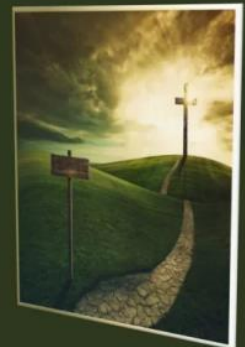
This term we will be thinking about **our service to others** and **responsibility**, and how we can be responsibly in our lives.

Please talk to your child/ren about how they are serving others and how they can be responsible at home.

Our value this term is:

Service to others

I will guide you
and teach you
says the Lord.
I will watch
over you.



Psalms 32:8



Celebration of Learning

Year Three have been learning about the Stone Age and had a homework project to make models to show their learning. Aren't they amazing!



Kyra – I made a stone age model with grass, drawing of people, roads and trees. I included some houses. My dad and brother helped me.



Lexi – In my drawing I went to the forest and picked some rocks and sticks. When I got home, I used some string and tied the sticks together to make a house. I grated the acorns and put them together.



Ire - My mum was collecting the ideas for the project. I was drawing the cave people and I coloured them in. I included some stones in the project.

Pratyush pic 6— I first built the trees with paper and then I made a rocky camp, trees, house and logs. My mum helped me to draw all the people.



Kobe pic 8 – First I got a paintbrush and painted it the top. Then I made a fire and a house and a made some rocks. I made a cave and grass with some glue. My mum helped me make it.

Dylan – I used glue to make a person. I used a kitchen roll to make a tree and used the card to make the leaves. For the grass I used tissue paper. I went outside to collect some rocks and then I used card to make a fire.





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A message from the School Chaplain, Rev Dom

What is it about names? What's so special about them?

In centuries past, names described us – either the family we belonged to or the role, the skill or the part we played in our community.

Names like Smith, Fletcher, Cooper and many more described our skills in the community.

Titles were then added to our names according to the status that were given – Lord, Esquire, Lady, Countess. Some of these can still be found in online ordering systems – especially shops like Harrods and Liberty!!

But what about our names – the names were given, the names we choose for ourselves.

Whether it is a professional name, a personal name or nickname.

In the deaf community people also have sign names that are special and unique to them.

Maybe there is a story behind your name?

Our names speak of our identity – to ourselves and to others.

Maybe you have considered what your name means to you.

Maybe you've considered what you want others might call you and what that means.

I am Dominic to my parents, Dom to friends and Rev Dom to hundreds of children locally.

A friend at school used to call me Donamic, whilst an adult friend called me Damien for ages.

Maybe you've been at a meeting or a conference when they've got your name wrong, or written it wrong on a badge, or introduced you in a way that you wouldn't have chosen.

What is it about names?

Jesus called people by name. He used their names to speak to them about deep things.

It feels like he knew everyone's names.

He spoke confidently to Zaccheus in the tree who needed to be forgiven.

He spoke calmly to Mary in the garden when she discovered his resurrection.

He spoke clearly to Peter to set him on a path to begin something amazing.

Names speak of belonging. Of knowing people and addressing them with respect and value and concern. Names help us feel known and heard and understood. They convey safety and trust.

In a moment of stillness let us recognise our own name and the names of those we love – those who come to mind instantly – those who need to be seen and loved.

In a moment of prayer let us be reminded of those who God created this world for, that Christ died for, and that the spirit seeks to bless.

O lord you search me and know me. You know when I sit or stand, my work and my rest, my words and thoughts and deeds.

Where I go, you are there, your strength and protection and love and care are with me.

I am wonderfully made; I am made in your image.

Remind us of our identity that is blessed by you.

Support us to see the amazingness of others and know them by name.

Bless us with your spirit that we might offer your blessing to others in our care.

Amen.



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Safeguarding

Safeguarding and keeping our children safe are very important to us. If you have any suggestion on how we can improve on our safety measures, please do speak with Mrs Savva-Brown.

If you have any concerns about any child's safety or child protection, please see **the school's Designated Safeguarding Lead – Mrs Amao or Mrs Badesha ASAP**. If she is not available, please see Miss Thomas **or** Ms Hoon **or** Mrs Savva-Brown.

There are photographs of the Safeguarding team placed in each classroom, please talk to your children and encourage them to talk to the adults in school if ever they need to.

For information on Safeguarding, please see the Greenwich's Safeguarding Children Partnership website <https://greenwichsafeguardingchildren.org.uk/>



**ST. MARY MAGDALENE
C OF E SCHOOL**

SAFEGUARDING

Are you concerned about the safety or welfare of a student?
If so, make sure you speak with a member of the safeguarding team...



Mrs Amao
Designated
Safeguarding Lead



Mrs Badesha
Designated
Safeguarding Lead



Miss Thomas
Designated Deputy
Safeguarding Lead



Miss Hoon



Mrs Savva-Brown



Mrs Sheath
Safeguarding Governor

Keeping Children Safe

Greenwich MASH Line – 0208 921 3172



Greenwich LADO – Laura Lumbis
0208 921 3930 (Mobile 07896781040)
Childrens-LADO@royalgreenwich.gov.uk



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Useful Information

The start and end of the school Day

Gates open for drop off between **8.40 am and 8.55 am** for all pupils. Please try not to arrive too early as we cannot open the gate until 8.40am. Pupils should be collected promptly at the end of the day at **3.10 pm**. Please ensure your child's pick-up arrangements are communicated with the school. Reception pupils are dismissed from the classroom. Year 1 - 4 pupils line up and are dismissed from the MUGA pitch. Year 5 and 6 from the amphitheatre.

Attendance and Punctuality

We would like to encourage 100% attendance and welcome your support with this. Children who are not in school by **8.55 am**, miss out on the essential information that class teachers give their children, as well as the settling down time each morning, in preparation for a day of fun, interesting learning.

SCHOOL DINNERS

School dinners are FREE to all children in school. Please take up this opportunity. Dinners are prepared and cooked fresh each day in our own kitchen.

PACKED LUNCH

If your child brings a packed lunch to school, please ensure it is healthy and does not include nuts, sweets, chocolate or fizzy drinks. All packed lunch bags should be well labelled. Your child will keep their lunch box with them in the classroom rather than using the school fridges. **If your child wishes to change from packed lunch to school dinners, please ensure you let the school office know. This is to ensure all children receive a meal.**

SNACKS

Children in year groups Reception, 1 and 2 are provided with a piece of fruit each day. Pupils in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 are permitted to bring in fruit for a snack at break time – no other food is allowed, especially nuts, we are a **NO NUT school**.

UNIFORM

PLEASE ENSURE ALL CLOTHES ARE CLEARLY LABELLED WITH YOUR CHILD'S NAME. Lost property will be given to charity at the end of each term! Please ensure that your child is wearing the correct uniform. Shoes and trainers should be black.

BREAKFAST CLUB

If your child requires a place at our breakfast club. Please telephone the office and speak to them about reserving a place.

WATER BOTTLES

Please ensure that your child brings a water bottle to school each day. It needs to be clearly labelled with your child's name.

ONLINE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

There are online learning opportunities for your child to engage with that the school subscribe to:
Education City (Reception to Year 6) -<https://www.educationcity.com/parents/>
Purple Mash (Reception to Year 6) -<https://2simple.com/purple-mash/purple-mash-parents/>
Times Tables Rock Stars (Year 2 to Year 6) -<https://ttrockstars.com/page/parentguide>
If your child is unsure of their login details, they can get these from their class teacher.