



St. Mary of the Angels Catholic Primary School

A Community of Faith and Learning Following Jesus in all we think, do and say

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Headteacher: Mrs Sarah Alley

Dear Parents/Carers

Newsletter: Friday 28th November 2025

We are pleased to introduce our new strapline, ***"A community of Faith and Learning Following Jesus in all we think, do and say."*** This phrase encapsulates our commitment to fostering a unified school community, where faith and education intertwine seamlessly. It reflects our dedication to nurturing the spiritual and intellectual growth of each pupil. Together, we aspire to create an environment that not only promotes academic excellence but also cultivates a strong sense of belonging and purpose within our community.

Punctuality and Attendance

We wish to emphasise the importance of attendance and punctuality in your child's education. Regular attendance not only enhances academic performance but also fosters essential social skills and a sense of belonging within the school community. Next week, we will be sending out individual letters detailing your child's attendance record, which we encourage you to review closely.

In our ongoing commitment to support and motivate our pupils, we are exploring various initiatives aimed at improving attendance. We are pleased to announce that we will be celebrating those students who achieve 100% attendance for the term by presenting them with a special 100% Attendance Award before the Christmas holidays. This initiative aims to recognise and reward the dedication of our pupils. Thank you once again for your commitment to promoting good attendance among our students.

Year 5 and Year 6 Winter Wonderland: Wednesday 19th November

Our recent school trip to Winter Wonderland was a magical and unforgettable experience for all who attended. The highlight for many was the thrilling fairground rides and exploring the festive market stalls filled with treats and gifts. It was a day full of laughter, excitement, and cherished memories. Thank you to Ms Turrell, Ms Smaller and Ms Brown for organising such a wonderful school trip for our pupils. An extra special thank you is also extended to our parent volunteers who accompanied us on the day – we could not have done it without you!



Forest School: Wednesday 26th November

This week, Year One enjoyed a wonderful session at Forest School, exploring signs of seasonal change and collecting natural objects linked to autumn. The children learned all about hedgehogs, their habitats, life cycles, and what they need to stay safe as the weather gets colder. Using materials found around the grounds, the students worked together to build cosy hedgehog houses, hoping to encourage these little visitors to return to our Forest School area. The class had a fantastic time running around and discovering more about their environment, and they were even treated to a special visitor, as a wood pigeon joined them during circle time.

(Ms Chenery – Goldfinches Teacher)

School Tours for Prospective Parents

Prospective parents/carers whose child is due to start Reception or Nursery in September 2025, are encouraged to visit the school for a tour with a member of the senior leadership team. Further information on admissions can be found [here](#). The final scheduled school tour is on **Thursday 8th January at 10am**. The tour lasts approximately 30 minutes and must be booked in advance. To book a place, please contact the school office on 020 7792 1883 or email office@stmaryangels.co.uk

Online Safety Newsletter: November 2025

We kindly ask all parents and carers to stay vigilant about their child's use of online platforms and social media. Even familiar apps can expose children to inappropriate content, unsolicited contact, or privacy risks. We also encourage you to monitor any online chats your child is having with friends to ensure conversations remain kind, respectful, and appropriate. Regularly checking in with your child about what they're doing online—and setting clear boundaries—can make a big difference. Please

take a few minutes to read our **November Online Safety Newsletter** [here](#), which includes practical tips, current guidance, and resources to help keep our students safe and supported online. It can be found under Parental Information – Online Safety on the school website. Thank you for working with us to promote a safe digital environment for every child.

School Grounds

We wish to inform you of upcoming building works aimed at enhancing the safety and overall appearance of our school. Following the successful completion of similar projects during the summer term in our Key Stage 2 playground, we will be adding ivy to the front of the school. This initiative is designed to improve privacy and security. The introduction of ivy will not only contribute to a more aesthetically pleasing environment but also serve as a natural barrier, fostering a safer space for our students. Further updates will be provided as the project progresses.

Pines and Needles Christmas Tree Donation

We have ordered our fabulous Christmas tree from **Pines and Needles**, who have kindly donated a tree to our school. As part of their gift, they are also offering parents **10% off Christmas trees** from their London pop-up stores and online

shop. 🌲 **Discount Code: SCHOOL10** 🌲 Follow **@pinesandneedles** for festive activities at local stores, and visit www.pinesandneedles.com for full details and all store locations across London.



Catholic Life and Mission of the School

Advent is a time for reflection, charity, and action. As we prepare for the coming of Christ, there are many opportunities to support charity work and social justice initiatives that align with our faith and values. While there are countless ways to contribute throughout the year, we've highlighted a few meaningful opportunities for our school to get involved with this Advent, supporting our local area and community. This Advent, let us come together in solidarity and action, helping those in need and reflecting the love of Christ in our communities. Thank you for supporting these vital initiatives.

Advent: A Season of Giving

Pope Leo XIV tells us in his World Day of the Poor message (2025), *"The poor are not a distraction for the Church, but our beloved brothers and sisters, for by their lives, their words and their wisdom, they put us in contact with the truth of the Gospel."*

Caritas Advent Giving Calendar

Inspired by Pope Leo, we are asking families to take part in our **'Caritas Advent Giving Calendar'** project this Advent. Each class has been assigned an item that the foodbank requires from our 'Advent Giving Calendar.' We invite the children to bring in their donations on the date assigned to their class. Each item will then be put together and donated to **Westbourne Park Pantry**. We thank you in advance for your generosity.



Class	Item	Date to be brought in
Ducklings	Tea or Coffee	1/12/25
Robins	Tinned Puddings/ Jam	1/12/25
Goldfinches	Tinned soups and stews	2/12/25
Hummingbirds	Tinned meat and fish	2/12/25
Kingfishers	Tinned beans and vegetables	2/12/25
Swifts	Tinned fruit	3/12/25
Swallows	Cereals	3/12/25
Kestrels	Long life juice or long life milk	3/12/25
Hérons	Rice/Pasta	4/12/25
Swans	Biscuits/treats	4/12/25
Pelicans	Condiments/spices/cooking oil	4/12/25
School Staff	Toiletries	5/12/25

Christmas Jumper Day: Thursday 11th December

On Thursday 11th December pupils and staff are invited to wear a Christmas jumper and make a £2 voluntary donation to help support **Save the Children**. Christmas Jumper Day is one of Save the Children's biggest annual fundraising events. It's been going since 2012! The money raised on Christmas Jumper Day, goes towards helping children in the UK and all around the world stay safe, healthy and learning - and change their future for good. Please join us on **Thursday 11th December** and encourage your child to wear a Christmas jumper or decorate a jumper with festive decorations such as tinsel or paper snowflakes. Thank you in advance for your support. For more information [click here](#).

Christmas Lunch: Thursday 11th December

As we will all be wearing our Christmas jumpers, Christmas lunch on **Thursday 11th December** will be especially festive! If your child usually has a packed lunch but would like to have a traditional Christmas lunch on this day, then please inform Ms Brookes or Ms Chadwick no later than Friday 7th December by calling the office or emailing office@stmaryangels.co.uk

Whole School Mass: The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

We look forward joining parishioners to celebrate Mass for The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception on **Monday 8th December at St. Mary of the Angels Church at 11am**. Parents and carers are most welcome to join us.



Calling London Winter Coat Campaign

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who generously donated coats, fleeces, and gilets for the Calling London Winter Coat Campaign in partnership with Chesterton. Your kindness and support will make a huge difference to those in need during the colder months. Together, we have helped bring warmth and comfort to many, and your generosity is truly appreciated. Thank you for making this campaign such a success!

Diocesan Christmas Card Competition 2025

We have been asked to share with our school community an opportunity for your child to participate in the Westminster Diocesan Christmas card competition. The theme for this year's competition is: Our Hope is in the Child of Bethlehem – 'Hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts.' (Romans 5:5).



Diocesan Christmas Card Competition 2025

If your child would like to enter, they must draw a design for a Christmas card using this theme at home, as appropriate to their age, and hand this into the school office with their name and class on the back by **Monday 1st December**. These will be entered into the competition and a small number will be selected to receive a certificate and to go onto the Diocesan website.

Christmas Bazaar: Saturday 6th December

The Christmas season is fast approaching and we invite the school community to get in the spirit and join us for the annual Christmas Bazaar at St Mary of the Angels Church on **Saturday 6th December, 11am-3pm**. It will be a fun-filled day with a Grand Raffle, Tombola, International Food, Tea & Cakes, Mulled Wine, bric-a-brac, craft activities for the children, a visit from Santa, Carolling & more.

We would appreciate any donations - of goods or time! We need items for the Tombola (biscuits, chocolates, bottles of spirits, bath products, gift items etc), or the sale (books, toys, bric a brac). There will be a box in the school reception for donations. Otherwise, the Church Parish office is open 9:30-1:30 for larger items. Any prizes for the Grand Raffle are also very welcome.

Please do get in touch with Mara or Caterina if you are interested in helping on the day or have any questions. Thank you for your support and we look forward to seeing you on 6th December!

ST MARY OF THE ANGELS CATHOLIC CHURCH

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Saturday 6th December 11am to 3pm
the Parish House, Moorhouse Road, W2 5DJ

GRAND RAFFLE

prizes from local businesses

TOMBOLA

Bring your friends!

KIDS ZONE

- Crafts
- Toys & Books
- SANTA
- SPECIAL GUEST APPEARANCE

International Food

- Cake Sale
- Mulled Wine
- Bric-a-brac
- Books
- Religious Items
- Christmas Carols ...
- ... and much more!

Adult Admission £1 + voluntary donation
Children go free!

WE NEED YOUR DONATIONS PLEASE:
cakes, biscuits, tins, bottles, wines, chocolates, gift items, books, toys and household goods. (No clothes)
to Parish Office 9.30am and 1.30pm by Friday 5th December

Catholic Life Resources at home

Families are invited to use the Wednesday Word, published weekly, and the Ten Ten Parent Newsletter, published monthly, to support you practise your faith together at home. [Click here](#) to access the Wednesday Word Gospel reflection.



SHARING SUNDAY'S GOSPEL
WITH SCHOOLS,
PARENTS & FAMILIES

RE Newsletter

Ten Ten's December newsletter is now available for you to read [here](#).

Assemblies and Prayer Services

Please [click here](#) for upcoming dates for the Autumn, Spring and Summer terms.

Advent and Christmas Dates

Preparing our hearts and minds to celebrate the Good News of Jesus' birth is such an important part of our school and liturgical year. We very much look forward to bringing our school together during the season of Advent as follows:

Wednesday 3rd December	Strings Concert 9:10am (parents of strings students invited to join)
Wednesday 3rd December	Advent Carol Service at Westminster Cathedral (Year 6)
Thursday 4th December	Key Stage 2 Carol Service 2:00pm @ St Mary of the Angels Church (parents/carers)
Monday 8th December	The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception Mass 11am @ St Mary of the Angels Church
Wednesday 10th December	Foundation Stage Nativity 9:30am (parents/carers)
Thursday 11th December	Christmas Jumper Day/ Christmas Lunch for the Children
Tuesday 16th December	Key Stage 1 Christmas Nativity 2:30pm (parents/carers)
Wednesday 17th December	Special Visitor to the School
Friday 19th December	End of term 2/ School closed at 1:30pm for Christmas Holidays

Monday 5th January	School Closed-Inset day
Tuesday 6th January	School opens: Start of Term 3

Prayer

O Jesus Christ, Prince of Peace,
come and save your people.
Joy of every heart,
strength of those who are poor,
come quickly to help us.
Prince of Peace,
teach the lion and the little lamb,
teach the cat and the mouse,
the hawk and the tiny bird,
teach everyone who doesn't get along
to live in peace.
Amen

Have a lovely weekend!

Mrs Alley
Headteacher

Mrs Hough
Deputy Headteacher

Miss Hulands
Assistant Headteacher

December Feast Days

1 Dec	1st Sunday of Advent
8 Dec	The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Solemnity)
12 Dec	Our Lady of Guadalupe (Feast)
21 Dec	4th Sunday of Advent
25 Dec	The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas Day, Solemnity)
26 Dec	St Stephen, First Martyr (Feast)
27 Dec	St John, Apostle and Evangelist (Feast)
28 Dec	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph (Feast)
29 Dec	St Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr (Feast)
31 Dec	St Sylvester I, Pope (Memorial)