



St Mary's RC Primary School

63 East London Street

Edinburgh

EH7 4BW

Tel: 0131 556 7128

email: admin@st-marysrc-pri.edin.sch.uk

website: <https://st-marysrc-pri.edin.sch.uk/>

Head Teacher: Nicola Kehoe

School Newsletter February 2022

'Forward Together In Christ; we can, we will , together

#Growth #Resilience #Community

Mission Statement: At St Mary's we are dedicated to educating our young people in an inclusive, stimulating and challenging environment preparing them for life-long learning.

Ethos & Values: We will provide this in a secure, happy and welcoming environment where Christian and Catholic values are cherished and where staff, pupils and parents work in partnership to achieve common goals.

Our thoughts and prayers are with all in Ukraine and for families and friends here who will be so worried. Pope Francis has invited all - who are able and wish to— to take part in a day of prayer and fasting for peace in Ukraine on Wednesday 2nd March, Ash Wednesday.

Whilst we keep everything in school continuing as 'normal', we know that there's a lot going on in the news that might be scary for young people or make them feel worried. Children's News-Round have advice to help if anything they've seen, heard or read that makes them feel upset

 <https://t.co/tliAvCPGeQ>

We had our first Assembly this afternoon, with some of our classes gathered together in the hall—I felt quite emotional! We discussed being a community , how to be with each other as we come into the season of Lent and to think about what we'll do for Lent. We also talked about what other countries do for Shrove Tuesday/Pancake Tuesday. (Thank you to Freya for helping me with some pronunciation!)

Pancake Day is 'Laskiainen' in Estonia and they eat pea soup along with cream buns called 'Vastlakukkel'.



Iceland call their Pancake Day 'Sprengidagur', which means 'Bursting Day'. They eat salted meats and peas.



The Swedish call Pancake Day 'Fettsdagen', which means 'Fat Tuesday'. They eat a pastry called Semla instead of pancakes.

Wider Achievement

Stars of the Month: each month pupils are nominated for giving that extra effort relating to their work, being a good friend, being a good member of their community, an act of charity—anything where they are displaying that extra effort and school values. The children meet with me and have some hot chocolate or juice and a treat. **Well done this month to: Rievah P1a, Senan P1b, Georgia P2a, Zuzia P2b, Lonia P3, Senan P3/4, Kesia P4, Captain P5a, Hatty P5b, Ciara P6a, Neel P6b, Taylor P7a & Eimear P7b.**

Here were the P7s leaving this morning for Lagganlia. It has been quite a feat to get to this point and huge thanks to all parents for their support in getting us here with paperwork and to the staff for helping get everything completed and ready too—we wish them a great week and looking forward to hearing all about all their achievements on their return.



Star Writers: Well done this month to:

Cillian P1a, Anthea P1b, Hailey P2a, Fabian P2b, Gabriel P3, Anna P3/4, Arin P4, Deo P5a, Flavia P5b, Shristi P6a & Ruby P6b (*and we'll see our P7s next week when they return from camp!*)



Our writing focus this term is procedure and report writing and here are some P3 examples of instructions for lots of different things!

We are also looking forward to setting up a Newspaper Club soon and have lots of willing writers to help set this up!

World Book Day: Thursday 3rd March

We're looking forward to World Book day on Thursday. The children will be involved in creating book characters with wooden spoons, we'll be doing, 'Stop & Read' where a bell will ring during the day and children will stop what they're doing and read their books. Our partnership resumes with Waterstones and we'll have a pop-up book store in the library where children can choose a free book. There are also quizzes to complete in the library as well as activities in class. We will also have a book exchange in place—we have books left over from the Pupil Christmas Fair as well as donations from parents but if you have any more in households please do send in. Pupils don't need to donate a book to receive one. Many thanks!

Lent

This year as always, each class will have the SCIAF (Scottish Catholic International Aid Fund) Wee money Boxes for pupils to bring in donations. This year their focus is on the Climate Emergency and the devastating hunger this causes families in the world's poorest places. House & Vice captains will also be organising fund raising activities for each house to take part in with pupils choosing their charities/good causes. *We were very sad to hear that Fr Jamie is leaving us to go to another parish— at the same time we're happy for Fr Jamie and we wish him all the very best and thank him for all he has done for our community. We look forward to seeing Fr Jamie at our PFC meeting tomorrow evening though and on Ash Wednesday.*

As always, thank you for your continued support. N. Kehoe.