



IMPORTANT REMINDERS/TASKS THIS WEEK:

- Please pray for the members of our Year 4 class who will be receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time in a special liturgy at St Mary's RC Church at 5:30pm on Tuesday 17th March.
- Parent Consultations continue next week for Year 4 (Monday), Year 2 (Tuesday), Year 5 (Wednesday) and Year 1 (Thursday).
- Reception Class visit to Hall Hill Farm on Thursday 19th March. Pupils should wear their own warm clothes (non-uniform), outdoor shoes and gloves and bring a packed lunch (no nuts or products containing nuts).
- **REMINDER: No gymnastics clubs after school on Friday this week.**
- Pupils may come to school in their own clothes on Friday 20th March for Comic Relief's Red Nose Day appeal. Families wishing to donate to the charity may do so on a JustGiving page [here](#).

LENT 2026:

A reminder that throughout the season of Lent, we are called to Pray, Fast (Act) and Give:

- All pupils will be participating in the **Big Lent Walk** to raise money for CAFOD on the morning of **Wednesday 1st April**.

We would love to invite family/friends from the school to join us on our walk. If you are able to give over a morning to help us out, please complete the following [form](#).

Please give generously to CAFOD via our dedicated JustGiving page [here](#).

- We will also be asking pupils to consider doing something more for members of our community living in hardship by donating items to local food banks. Throughout Lent, pupils are being asked to bring in any of the following items that are in constant demand. Please be as generous as you can with your donations.

SHORT SUPPLY – UHT milk, cereal, dried pasta, pasta sauce, tinned garden peas, carrots, sweetcorn, feminine hygiene products, antiperspirant.

OTHER PRIORITY ITEMS – tomato purée, tinned custard, fruit, rice pudding, potatoes, tinned meat, baked beans, chopped tomatoes, tuna, long grained rice, cooking oil, biscuits, teabags, sugar, coffee, toothpaste, laundry powder/liquid, washing up liquid, spray cleaner.

- We will be celebrating Mass for the end of the Spring Term on **Thursday 26th March**. All welcome.

EXPLORE THE CURRICULUM

Thank you to all parents, carers, friends and family who attended our Explore the Curriculum sessions for the Spring Term. Please see attached the presentation used at the event for your information.

SPORTS UPDATES:

Gateshead Schools Swimming Gala Final

Our Year 6 swimmers did exceptionally well at this year's South of Tyne Swimming Gala finals, representing our school with determination, teamwork and brilliant sportsmanship throughout. Facing incredibly strong competition from across the region, they rose to the challenge and gave their all in every race - only missing out on a number of podium places by the narrowest of margins. Every member of the team should feel proud of their performance and the way they conducted themselves as their enthusiasm and resilience were a credit to our school.

A special congratulations goes to Albie, who swam a fantastic race to secure a bronze medal in the boys' backstroke - a superb achievement!

Well done to all our swimmers - you made St Mary's proud!

Year 6 Mini Basketball Finals

Good luck to our Year 6 basketball team who will be competing in the finals of their Gateshead Schools competition on Monday. We wish them well and will share how they get on next week.

MOVING AND GROOVING IN RECEPTION CLASS:

Reception Class had a wonderful time this week when *Tiny Tweeties*, the popular musical duo, visited St Mary's. They shared a selection of new, lively songs that had our youngest pupils instantly engaged. The children absolutely loved joining in—singing, signing, and dancing along with the performers. The session was full of energy, laughter and lots of movement, creating a joyful atmosphere throughout. *Tiny Tweeties'* interactive approach helped build confidence, encouraged self-expression, and gave our pupils a fantastic musical experience. A big thank you to them for such a memorable visit!