



~ Newsletter for the St. Scholastica's School Community

The Year of Mercy

DEC 8TH 2015 – NOV 20TH 2016

The Year of Mercy is an Extraordinary Year, declared by Pope Francis on the Feast of Divine Mercy (11th April 2015). He tells us that now is an important time and has described his own papacy as a "Kairos" of mercy which is a "privileged moment in God's plan of salvation." (Ines San Martin). The diocese, desire that schools and colleges celebrate the time of grace as fully as possible. We hope that the initiatives and projects shared among us will allow you to bring the message of God's infinite mercy to our school. Pope Francis sees himself as a pilgrim in need of mercy. We are all pilgrims who have been given this great Year of Mercy to experience anew the reality of God's unconditional love and forgiveness. Pope Francis tells us that we need to contemplate the mystery of Mercy which we depend on for our salvation. Mercy is part of God's nature in his dealings with his people and it can never be exhausted. It is God's infinite love and compassion given without reserve to those who have not merited it.

Cardinal Vincent Nichols tells us that this Year of Mercy is an invitation to start again. In our school, we want to make sure each student, staff member, parent and governor hears that invitation and has the opportunity to respond.

The hope is that we all respond to this call and work together to deepen our faith and joyfully proclaim the love of God the Father who is "rich in mercy." (Ephesians 2:4)

We are all called to evangelize and witness to the mercy of God. In everyday life in school, we are aware that this is a huge privilege and a massive challenge as we try to show the love of Christ and live the Gospel message.

This Jubilee Year is a good time to reflect on our own relationship with God and how we are answering the invitation of Jesus to be his witnesses in the world. We hope that you will join us in school as we hold special celebrations and a special Spirituality Week (11th to 15th January) where we will develop an even greater relationship with God and those around us.

Thank you to all those who joined us at our celebration Mass this week to launch this very special Year of Mercy.



"In the same way, I tell you, there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner repenting than over ninety-nine upright people who have no need of repentance."



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Friday 11th December – Cycling Roller Racing Yrs 5 & 6 at Forest Centre & School Council Assembly
 - Monday 14th December – Green Team Assembly 9am, Safari Camp Speaker in to talk to Nursery Children, Panto in school pm, Spanish Trip meeting for Yr 5 parents whose children are going on the trip 8am or 3.45 pm meeting
 - Wednesday 16th December – Christmas Dinner
 - Thursday 17th December – Celebration Assembly at 2.45 pm
 - Friday 18th December – NO BREAKFAST CLUB & end of school term 1.30pm
 - Monday 4th January – INSET DAY SCHOOL CLOSED
 - Tuesday 5th January – School opens for start of spring term for pupils
 - Wednesday 6th January – Epiphany Mass 2pm in the Church
 - Thursday 7th January – SW Labrom Football Cup Competition 4pm
 - Friday January 8th Yr. 6 Assembly
 - Monday 11th January – Spirituality Week
 - Friday 15th January – Spirituality Assembly – 9am in school hall & Cycling Circuit Race in the Velodrome at the Olympic Park pm
 - Friday 22nd January – Yr. 5 Assembly
 - Wednesday 27th January – Cross country Yr. 5 & 6
 - Thursday 28th January - Girls football Competition, Alan Hutchinson
 - Friday 29th January – Yr. 4 Assembly
 - Tuesday 2nd February – parent Meeting RE Curriculum 5 pm
 - Wednesday 3rd February – Yr. 5 & 6 Cross Country Meeting at Hackney Downs
 - Friday 5th February – year 3 Assembly
- All the school community are welcome to join us at all Masses and assemblies at 2.45pm we love to share these special occasions with you.

FRI 18th DECEMBER - NO BREAKFAST CLUB

PLAYGROUND UP DATE

The climbing area is now nearly completed there are a few snagging pieces to be done and we are awaiting paper work from the company who installed it. Staff will then be trained on health and safety issues of using the area and then they will teach the children. Footings for the stage area are also being dug at the moment. Hopefully, the New Year will see the children enjoying this extra space in the playground.

NURSERY PARENTS RECEPTION PLACES SEPTEMBER 2016

Have you completed your On-Line application?

Have you supplied the school office with all necessary documentation?

Don't leave it too late – closing date for the above is FRIDAY JANUARY 15TH 2016.

Advent Service

By Ms Cousins

As I'm sure you're aware, Advent began on Sunday 29th November. We held a beautiful service to mark the beginning of this very special time in the church calendar last Friday. Father Hector came to light and bless our Advent wreath, made so beautifully by Mrs Coyston. All of the children who read, did so in expert fashion and I was delighted with how the rest of the children responded to all of the prayers. The singing was sensational! Father Hector was particularly impressed saying "The children sang so loudly and enthusiastically. Especially the last hymn. They clearly enjoyed that one very much."

Thank you to everyone who participated.

Basketball competition!

By Kieran Year 6

11 children from Year 6 took part in a competition in The Copperbox in Hackney Wick. This was where the Olympic Basketball was held and currently the London Lions play their home matches. It is a massive arena where 3 full sized games of basketball can be played at once.

To help our team, the rest of year 6 attended to cheer us on. They sat in the viewing seats where you could see all of the courts. St Scholastica's won 4 matches, drew 1 and lost one which sent us through to the semi-final. In a very tightly contested match St Scholastica's lost 2-0, with the winner eventually winning the whole tournament. We played incredibly well throughout the tournament and have a few future basketball players in our school. We came third overall, in the whole of Hackney, which is an incredible achievement.

The Phenomenal Trip to Westminster Cathedral

By Solomon, Year 5

On Wednesday the 2nd of December 2015, Year 5 went to the Westminster Cathedral. We trotted up to the bus stop and waited patiently for the bus. Luckily, we got the 254 bus. The bus took us to Finsbury Park. When we arrived at Finsbury Park we got into our groups and entered the Victoria line train to Victoria. When we got to Victoria, we got off the train and we got in our groups again. After we walked up to the cathedral. When we got there, we went inside and waited for the play to start. It was boring while we waited but when it started everyone became quiet. It was a nativity play with lots of acting and singing. Some of the songs we sang were O Little Town of Bethlehem, Angels We Have Heard on High and more.

It was amazing. Furthermore, we saw a real donkey and a real sheep. I thought the two animals were from the London Zoo but it was actually from the Hackney City Farm. Unfortunately, the camel was fake. This was an exhilarating time at the cathedral.

Maths 'Mass'ers

By Princess, Michelle and Gemma Yr. 2

This week we have been wondering about how heavy objects around the classroom are. We decided that we needed to find the mass of these objects. We measure mass in kilograms (kg) using scales. We first estimated the mass of fabulous, paper books, amazing, blue bibles and lovely, plastic diennes and then used scales to see how close we were.

Take a look around your room. Can you estimate the mass of the different objects?

Many thanks to all those parents who answered Mrs Coyston's cry for help and sent in flat caps and waistcoats they are very much appreciated.
THANK YOU AGAIN