



Recognising and celebrating the presence of Christ in one another.

Newsletter No. 1: Friday 6th September 2024

Weekly News

Dear Parents,

First and foremost, how lovely it was to see the smiles on children's faces as they entered the school gates this week and to get our school family back together. It has been wonderful to welcome them back to school into their new classrooms and year groups and hear about their holidays and adventures. School is looking wonderful, and staff are working diligently from the off to ensure the children of St Mary of the Angels receive nothing but the very best.

Well done to all children who have been swimming this week! This is an exciting, start of term initiative, organised by Mrs Smith. It has been fantastic to have the pool on site and give all children the opportunity to access swimming lessons. The children's excellent behaviour and attitudes have been commented on very positively by the swimming instructors. We look forward to another week of swimming next week. Please ensure that your child (Y1-6) has their swimming kit in school each day.

The children have enjoyed their induction week in their new classrooms this week. We feel that they have been put at ease with the nature of activities on offer, including reminders about class rules and our motto: 'be kind, be, safe, be responsible', in order to keep everyone safe and happy. Expectations for excellent behaviour and standards of work have been set and as ever, we ask for your support with this. Exciting information about new class saints, class composers, class novels and upcoming wider learning projects is also being shared!

We are excited to welcome our new Parish Priest, Fr. Ramesh to St Mary of the Angels. You may have already had the chance to meet him at Mass, but we are looking forward to showing Fr. Ramesh around our school very soon.

Myself and other staff will be available daily on the school gate, so please do not hesitate to share with us anything of importance or feel free to email postbox@st-maryangel.walsall.sch.uk.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Kind regards,
Mrs Hill

Ofsted

As you are aware, we had a two-day Ofsted inspection in July. We are proud to share the report with you as an attachment. We received 'Good' for overall effectiveness with many areas of strength, including the warm and respectful relationships that we build, our successful values and ethos, high expectations and achievements and our broad and ambitious curriculum!

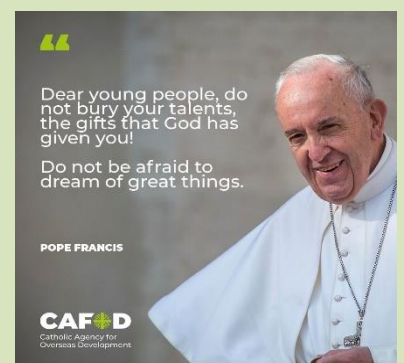
Well done, everyone, it was a brilliant team effort!

We have a few target areas that we are working on and these are already incorporated into our school development plan for this year. This includes building on our assessment model for some foundation subjects to ensure that it is even more effective. We look forward to keeping you updated with our progress.

Transition

We have been thinking about our former year six pupils and sending them best wishes for their new secondary schools. You are missed and will always be part of our SMA family.

Our new year six pupils have made a fantastic start as the oldest in the school, starting as they mean to go on - being role models for the younger children. Well done! All children are making a wonderful start in their new year groups and striving to do their best.





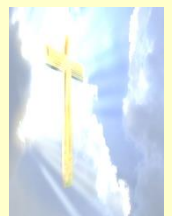
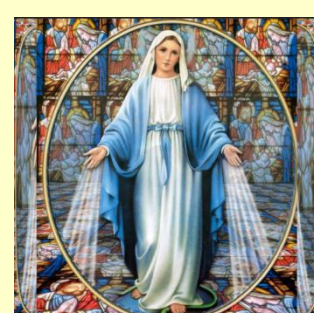
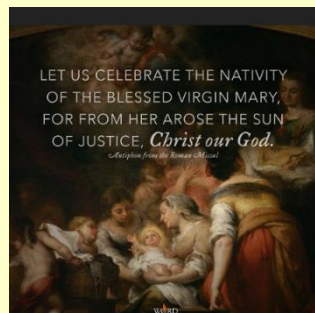
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Notices

- **URGENT REQUEST: If you have not yet sent any medication your child needs into school, such as inhalers and spacers, please could you bring it to the school office next week, clearly labelled with your child's name and class.**
- Teachers are working hard to set up the new class pages. These will contain key information, including reminders about homework and special events; plus curriculum information and links to useful websites and activities to support the children's learning. We will let you know when these are ready for you to log in.
- We are really sad to inform you that Mrs Rachel Joyce in our school office will be leaving soon. She will be greatly missed! However, with this in mind it does mean that we are recruiting a new administrative assistant. We are also recruiting for the role of teaching assistant and lunchtime supervisor. Please see our school website or call the office for more details.
- Just a reminder that children should not wear earrings on PE/swimming days. Children are not allowed to take part in the swimming lessons if they are wearing earrings. Please also ensure that our uniform policy is being followed - no sports branded tops or trousers.
- If your child is Y4 or above and would like to become an Altar Server at St Mary of the Angels Church, please give your details to the school office and we will pass them on to Katie and Niamh Corbett-Cyster who will be in touch.
- Reading Bingo sheets were sent home in July with some lovely reading challenges on. Please send the sheets back in to school (even if your child didn't complete all of the challenges) as they can still earn a certificate. We would also welcome any more photos of your child completing any of the challenges to use on our reading display. (Please send them in to Postbox.)
- Monday 9th September, new Reception intake start and Wednesday 11th September, new Nursery intake start We look forward to greeting you all.
- A reminder that healthy snacks can be brought in for break time as an alternative to toast. Snacks must be nut free. Also, children will not be able to consume items such as sweets or large chocolate bars at this time.
- Thank you for your cooperation with the dismissal of the children at home time this week. Lines are stationed on the playground in order from year one to year six. The lines help to safeguard the handover so that your child's teacher can clearly see who is here to collect them. A reminder that the field and play equipment are out of use at this time. No pets are allowed on site. If your child has a bike or scooter, please refrain from them using it whilst on the school grounds.
- We have been putting together the dates for some key events this term. Please look out in future newsletters for more information.

Prayer and Reflection

This weekend marks the memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary - the day on which we celebrate Mary's Birthday. It is celebrated on this date as it is exactly nine months from the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. The birthday of Our Lady is an important feast day as we celebrate the joy she was to bring to the world by giving birth to Jesus, the Son of God. By celebrating Mary's birthday, we are also honouring Jesus and the precious gift of life.



Yours sincerely,
Mrs N. Hill
Headteacher