

# St Mary of the Angels Catholic Primary School

Recognising and celebrating the presence of Christ in one another.

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@@SMAAldridge

Headteacher: Mrs N. Hill

### Newsletter No. 10: Friday 14th November 2025

### Weekly News

Dear Parents,

It was wonderful to see the crowds at the Aldridge Remembrance Parade and Service on Sunday morning. Thank you to all of the children, families and staff involved, marking the occasion so poignantly. Well done to all of our children who took part in the two minute silence so reverently on Tuesday and to Year Six, who attended a prayer service at St Francis. We had some wonderful comments from Mrs Ferris, the Lay Chaplain, about the children's beautiful reading and participation.







In other news, we started the week by joining together in wearing odd socks on Monday. This was a reminder that we are all different, unique and this is something we should embrace and celebrate. The children have thought really carefully about what bullying is and can confidently explain what they would need to do to safeguard themselves and others. This year, the theme is 'The Power for Good.' This is all about empowering people to do something positive to counter the harm and hurt that bullying causes. We have been thinking about treating everyone with kindness and respect. It has been a fantastic opportunity to link these thoughts to the words of Jesus and also to our school mission statement:

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This half term, our two focus virtues are Learned and Wise. We are developing the qualities of the mind and the heart that will enable pupils to work with others for the good of all in the service of the Kingdom of God. For knowledge and learning to be put to best effect, it is necessary also to be wise. Wisdom is the gift of knowing when and how to apply one's learning. By the fullest possible development of each person's individual capacities, our pupils become learned and wise so they can use those developed gifts for others.

The KS2 children are excited about the start of our SMA Wealth Games which started on Monday! Please see the letter sent last week. We will keep you informed about how the activities are going.

Have a wonderful weekend. Kind regards, Mrs Hill

#### Learning Behaviour

This academic year, we have started a new initiative in building and improving children's behaviour for learning.

This develops the key skills children need to master to become successful learners. Whilst it may look different in each year group, our six key learning behaviours build on our growth mind set ethos and show children how they can become more confident learners, who always aspire to do their best.

These learning behaviours will develop important skills and attitudes that will put children in good stead for challenges they will meet throughout their lives. We aim to support children to build successful futures by showing them how to be highly successful learners.

Last half term, we were developing independence. This half term, our key focus is: Collaboration! The children are developing the skills needed to be a good team and effective team member and work well with others. Please speak to your child about this new initiative.



## Health and Safety

As per our health and safety policy, we conduct regular fire evacuation drills to check that our procedures work and are fit for purpose. This morning, we had an unplanned fire drill due to an interruption with the sensors. Everyone was so sensible in evacuating safely and within the recommended time frames.

Unfortunately the weather was not the most pleasant; however, we have the heating on, a few outfit changes and are now warm and comfortable! We have reassured the children, that although inconvenient, this keeps us all safe.



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#### **Notices**

- We are pleased to welcome our new catering manager, Sophie Richmond, this week. Sophie has extensive catering experience and is settling in so well, with support from our new catering consultancy team at Caterlink. The children are enjoying the new menus. The pizza was delicious this week, as was the spaghetti bolognaise. We are welcoming pupil feedback and would also welcome your feedback regarding your child's thoughts on the new lunches. If your child has had a school lunch this week, please have a chat to them about it and complete the online form with your feedback. This will help us to evolve the menu. Many thanks.
- https://forms.office.com/e/CW86yaSKgp
  In other lunch news thank you and good luck to Mrs Roberts who leaves us today.
- We are excited to announce the PTA Christmas Fayre, which will take place on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December in school. Please see the information attached regarding the fayre and donations that the PTA are kindly asking for. We understand that this is an expensive time of year and we are so grateful for any donations that you are able to make. Please do not feel that you have to send in something every week. Helpers for the fayre are also welcome; please let the office know if you are free.
- We offer an indoor lunch club for children across Y1-6 and have purchased many exciting resources to support this. There are some resources that are continually used and so we are asking that if you are having a clear out at home and have the following going spare, please could you donate them to school: loom band sets and jewellery making, craft materials, play-doh and tools and comic books felt tip pens. Thank you for your support with this.
- Please be mindful of your child's behaviour after school if you are using the Church car park and ensure that they are not running on the Church gardens. We are so fortunate to have use of the car park before and after school, which takes great pressure off the issue of parking for many parents.

#### Events

- Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> November 9:10am Y5
   Class Showcase parents welcome
- Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> November Y4 walk to Mass with the Parish
- Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> November Times
   Tables Rock Stars Day for Y1-6 (seen separate letter)
- Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> November flu catch up session
- Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> November 9:10 Y4
   Class Showcase parents welcome
- Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> November Y3 walk to Mass with the Parish
- Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> November -Professor McGinty visit for Y4 and Y6
- Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> November 9am YR parents are invited to a workshop
- Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 9am YN parents are invited to a workshop
- Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December Inset day (school closed to pupils)
- Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December 9:30am and 2:15pm Y2 and Y1 Nativity (more details to follow)
- Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2pm -Musicians' Concert (parents welcome)
- Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December -Christmas jumper day
- Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December 6:30pm KS2 Carol Service in Church
- Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December 9:15am Mass (all welcome)

## Prayer and Reflection

The Sunday is the 33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

At the end of time, Jesus will return in power and glory. Jesus tells us that God the Father knows when this time will be. It is our job to ensure that we are prepared. Jesus teaches us that buildings and possessions will not last forever, but love and goodness can never be destroyed. Jesus teaches us to build our lives around God's teachings and give us the strength and courage that we need when this isn't easy.

Yours sincerely, Mrs N. Hill Headteacher



Love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and with all your mind and love thy neighbor as thyself.

