

Archdiocese of Birmingham St. Mary's Catholic Academy Principal: Mrs S Rathbone BA (Hons) NPQH, Ford Green Road, Norton-le-Moors, Stoke on Trent, ST6 8EZ Telephone 01782 234820 Fax 01782 236523 Email: <u>office@stmarysnewman.co.uk</u> www. <u>www.stmarysstoke.co.uk.</u>

Friday 22nd March 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

As we draw to end of a very short term, it has been lovely to celebrate the achievement of our children.

It has also been lovely to see all the additional opportunities that our children have had to enhance their school life: year 3 performed at the Recorder Festival, our dance club performed at the Victoria Hall in Dance 24, reception performed the easter bonnet parade at Agnes and Arthur Care Home and our nursery class enjoyed a very exciting day out at Peak Wildlife Farm.

A special thank you to all those involved in the organisation of these activities, our dedicated volunteers and of course a special thank you to our children who are always the most amazing ambassadors for our school wherever they are.

A special thank you also, to our Events team who have worked really hard this term to provide some great events for our children. The school disco, Mother's Day activities and Easter Chocolate Bingo were great events for our children and families and, to date, have also raised a staggering £4,388.71! Thank you to those who have dedicated their time to organise these events and all those who supported by attending. The events team are very close to achieving the funds to build an outdoor classroom! Keep an eye out on the all-weather pitch!

We have also shared our Lenten prayer services which have really supported the children spiritual development as we approach Holy week and Easter. I would encourage you to continue this journey with your children by sharing in the parish Masses over the Easter weekend.

On Good Friday, everyone is welcome to join the stations of the cross walk morning. This starts at 10am and is a lovely way for the children to explore the stations of the cross whilst walking around the nature reserve with their parents.

Finally, as we approach of Holy Week, I would encourage you to take a moment with your families to reflect upon the journey that Jesus made which began on Palm Sunday.

Follow our Facebook page for regular updates during this special season in our churches' calendar.

On behalf of all at St Mary's Catholic Academy, I thank you for a wonderful term and we look forward to welcoming our children back to school for the summer term on Monday 8th April.

I do wish you a very happy and holy Easter.

Mrs Rathbone Principal

