

St Mary Magdalen's Newsletter



Nurturing Hearts and Minds

Worship Reflection

Dear Heavenly Father,

*Thank you so much for the cross. Through the work of Jesus on those two simple beams of wood, you have given me eternal life. I pray I will never forget Jesus' incredible sacrifice. The message of the cross is in the power of God. In Jesus' Name.
Amen.*

Birthdays this week

Happy birthday this week to: Mason Ratcliffe, Olivia Kirby, Jack Mountford, Lydia Harvey, Oliver Mowatt, Jessica Swarbrick and Scarlett Walker.

EASTER HOLIDAYS

School will close at the usual time of 3.15pm on Thursday 1st April for the Easter holidays and will re-open on Monday 19th April at 8.40am.

TRANSITION TO ALL HALLOWS

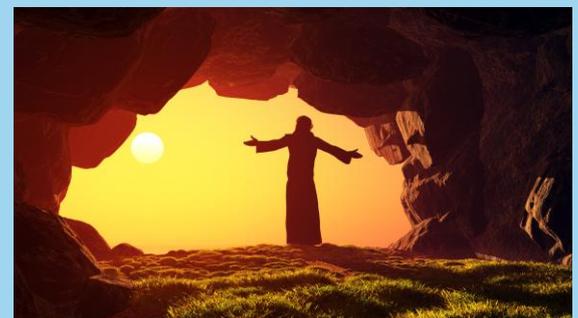
All Hallows are doing their best to make sure the transition days go ahead for Year 6 and Year 5. The dates have been provisionally set for Tuesday 22nd June for Year 5 and Friday 25th June for Year 6. They should be there for the full day but further details will come to parents nearer the time.

This week the children have been part of some wonderful collective worships that have really helped them focus on the events of Holy Week and the Good News of the Resurrection. In Sunday's gospel we hear how St Mary Magdalen went to the tomb of Jesus to discover that He was not there.

Since I have been at our school I have reflected on St Mary Magdalen many times. As most of you know she really doesn't get a good press but in actual fact we do not know that much about her. Many people believe she was a woman of compromised virtue but there is a school of thought that argues that the lady of disrepute referred to in the bible may well not be Mary Magdalen. Whether she was or not, we know she was a woman who had done wrong, as have we all. Yet she was standing at the foot of the cross when most of Jesus's friends had fled in terror. She was the first to go to the tomb to check on His body when most were hiding and she is, of course, the first person to speak to the risen Christ. Sinner or not, Jesus clearly loved her and she clearly loved him. And for me that is a wonderful message of hope for us all.

I wish you all a very happy and holy Easter.

Mrs Gallagher



Merit Winners

Congratulations this week to:

*Year R – **Harry Jones** for being an amazing donkey leading Jesus during our role-play for the Easter story & **Betsy Roscoe** for being a brilliant role model for everyone in our class.*

*Year 1 – **Lilly Armer** for always being kind and helpful with her friends & **Ranulph Cox** for showing great cricket skills.*

*Year 2 – **Sebby Mountford** for being enthusiastic and keen to learn in our Geography lessons & **Indie Luxton Love** for being very knowledgeable and keen on our work on 3D shapes.*

*Year 3 – **Zac Williams** for a very mature and enthusiastic approach to learning & **Dylan Hoban** for always working hard and giving one hundred per cent.*

*Year 4– **Jessica Hull** for super ideas during our shared write in Literacy & **Charlotte Brown** for her amazing work on fractions during Maths.*

*Year 5 – **Jaiden Bates** for his enthusiasm for reading and challenging himself by reading the Harry Potter books & **Coby Vas Moulding** for excellent work in Maths and solving lots of problems involving fractions.*

*Year 6– **James Bowes** for producing and reading to the class, his funny and engaging 'Albert & the Lion' diary entry. Amazing! & **James Graham** for helping a classmate reach their potential by sharing your positivity and amazing literacy skills.*

Parents evening

Thank you to all who attended Parents evening and for the great feedback. We had a couple of parents who had issues we cannot explain but are investigating with School Cloud what happened. We also had a number of parents who forgot. On the whole we think the benefits of doing Parents Evening this way are enormous:

- Parents can do their appointments at work on a break
- The timings are adhered to
- Parents don't need to find baby sitters
- The appointments are very private

Lessons learned:

School to send an email the week before to remind parents to:

- Set a reminder on your phone so you don't miss the appointment
- Make sure you have registered with School Cloud
- Check you have a link to join the parents evening a week before
- Log on half an hour before hand just to check your device is working smoothly

Obviously you have missed out on seeing your child's work so we going forward we are looking at combining your child's showcase assembly for parents with an opportunity to come in earlier and look at the work with your children.



First Holy Communion

Father Roy is keen to get started on a catch up programme for First Holy Communion. We have roughly planned out what is going to happen but obviously things are subject to change if they are deemed unsafe.

Current Year 5 –Will make their First Holy Communion on Saturday 26th June 2021. Father is dropping off some booklets for the children to work through at home which will consolidate the work they have already done to prepare last year. There will be two masses, possibly three depending on the rules by then. Further details will follow.

Current Year 4 – Will start their programme at the beginning of Year 5 (Sept 2021) , make their First reconciliation in Advent and their First Holy Communion in February 2022.

Current Year 3 –will start their programme after February half term 2022 in Year 4. They will make their First Reconciliation in Lent and their First Holy Communion in June 2022.

Residential

The latest advice from the DFE is that residential **can** go ahead but they are advising that things may change so do not let any money change hands until nearer the time just in case. So it is looking likely for Year 6 at the end of May but the money will be asked for in a lump sum rather than paid in instalments. We will talk to the children about it on returning after Easter but we will make sure they are prepared for it falling through if the data changes. Please refer to previous email to Year 6 parents for dates and prices.