



St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Buckfast

Friday 4th April 2025

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Dear Parents, Carers, and St. Mary's Community,

As we come to the end of the spring term, I want to take a moment to reflect on what a truly special end to term we have had here at St Mary's.

Firstly, I'd like to thank all of our families for their continued support with attendance. We are really pleased to see gradual improvements across the school, and we know this is due to your hard work and commitment—thank you!

This week, we've been blessed with two deeply meaningful services. Our whole-school **Reconciliation Service** was a beautiful opportunity for prayer and reflection, and our **Stations of the Cross**, led so reverently by our Year 6 pupils, was a powerful and moving journey through Holy Week. The behaviour of the children during both services was simply impeccable—this was noted by several visitors and governors who joined us. They were a real credit to you, and to our school.

Our final day of term was filled with colour and creativity, thanks to our School Councillors who chose the fun theme of **whacky hair and/or wearing something purple**. The children embraced the theme brilliantly—there were some truly incredible hair creations on display, and purple could be seen everywhere! What a joyful way to end the term together.

As we begin to enjoy this surprise spell of gorgeous weather, please do remember to pop some **suncream on your child's face and neck** in the mornings, especially on days when UV levels are high.

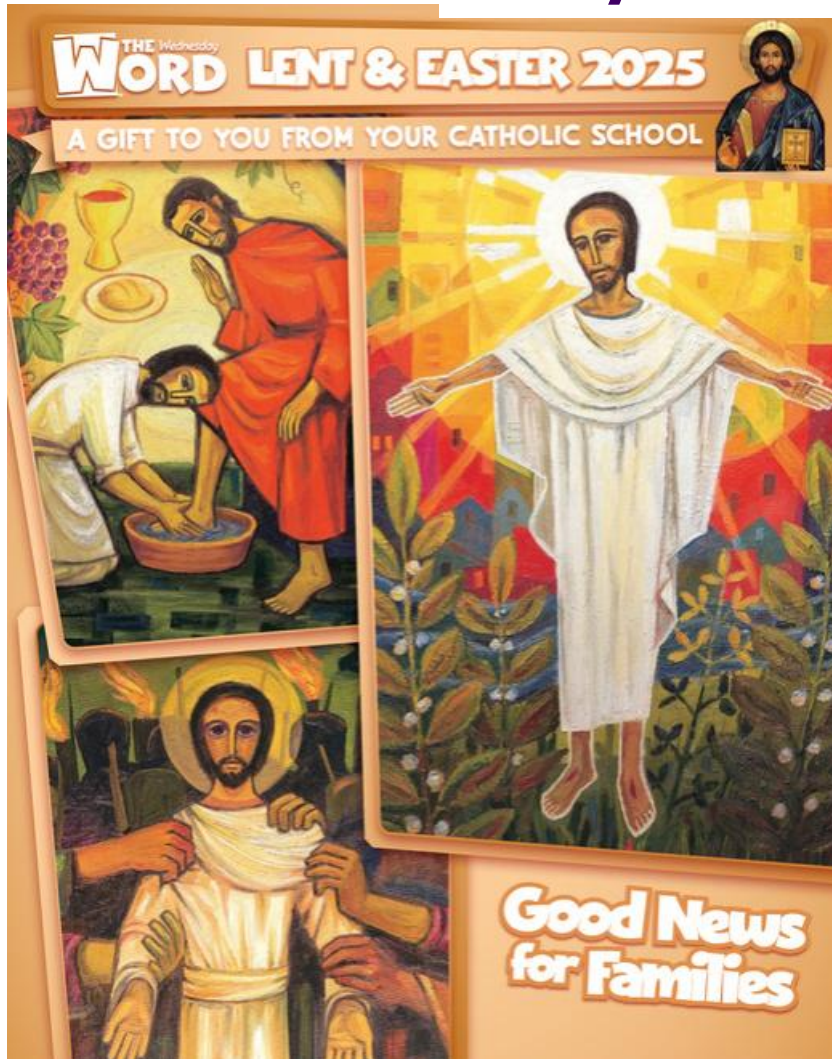
School will reopen on Tuesday 22nd April, and we look forward to welcoming the children back refreshed and ready for the summer term.

Wishing you all a peaceful and joyous Easter, and a blessed time spent with your loved ones.

With every blessing,
Mrs Sophie Kerswell

Headteacher – St. Mary's Catholic Primary School, Buckfast

Prayer Focus



For parents/carers new to St Mary's this term, each week we invite families to explore a publication called 'The Wednesday Word' -accessed from the above link.

Each week, it considers the Gospel reading for Sunday and picks out a word for the week based on the message from the Gospel.

This week, the word that has been chosen is **'EASTER'**.

<https://www.paperturn-view.com/half-term-holiday-special?pid=MTA101634&v=172.6>

Good News for Families

Wednesday
16th April 2025

1 Enjoy reading the Gospel

Before sunrise on Sunday morning, Mary Magdalene went to Jesus' tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the entrance and that the tomb was empty. Mary ran to Peter and another disciple (John) and said, "Someone has taken the Lord out of the tomb and we don't know where they have put him." The disciples ran together to the tomb. But John, running faster than Peter, arrived first and looked into the tomb but did not go in. Peter, however, went into the tomb and he saw Jesus' linen burial cloths lying on the ground. He also saw the cloth that had been over Jesus' head; this was rolled up in a place by itself. Then John also went into the tomb; he saw and he believed. Until this moment they had failed to understand that Jesus must rise from the dead.

Taken from the Gospel of Sunday 20th April 2025 - John 20:1-9 (Easter Sunday, Year C)

Safeguarding

Operation Encompass. We are an Operation Encompass School.

For more information click on the link: <https://www.operationencompass.org/>

If a staff member has concerns about a child, they must report this to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL). At St Mary's, the DSL is Mrs Kerswell and the Deputy Designated Leads who are responsible in Mrs Kerswell's absence are Mrs Jessica Hutchinson and Mrs Kayleigh Teeder. We have a specific email address for any safeguarding concerns:

safeguarding.stmarys.buckfast@plymouthcast.com

Useful links and information for our families

If you are concerned that a child has experience, or is at risk of, harm, you can make a referral yourself to MASH (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub) through the link below, by calling 0345 155 1071 or by emailing mashsecure@devon.gov.uk

Congratulations!

Each Friday, our school comes together to celebrate the achievements of our children over the past week. "Building Learning Power" (BLP) Certificates are awarded to children who have demonstrated excellent learning behaviours and "Witness of the Week" (WOW) certificates for demonstrating Gospel values in daily life. We also celebrate achievements outside school that our children want to share in assembly.

Well done to the following children who were awarded certificates in today's and last week's Achievement Assembly.

	BLP	WOW	PUPIL OF THE TERM!
Meldon	Charlie	Isabella	Caleb
Venford	Riley, Alfie	Harry I, Kiri	Layla
Avon	Mason, Zeke	Leo, Noah	Deri
Roadford	Rebecca, Harrison L	Daisy, Aubrey	Daisy
Fernworthy	Marlowe, Jess	Stanley, Archie H	Rosie
Burrator	Bertie	Callum	Alex

Times Tables Stars this week and last week: **Adsie, Wilfred, Aubrey, Emily, Eleanor**

Achievements Outside of School: April – Netball Medal and Trophy;
Harry I – Sports Award Certificate; Evie I – Netball Trophy; Harry I – Football Trophy;
Daisy - Learn to Swim Certificate.

