

22<sup>nd</sup> March 2024

Dear Parents



# ST MONICA'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

*Strive to succeed in the presence of God*

This week seems to have flown by and we are closer to breaking up for Easter. We've had a few glimmers of sunshine over the last few days, let's hope for more of this in the coming weeks.

**Leaving** – I'm very sorry to report that Tracey Sesto who works in the office will be moving out of London after Easter to be closer to her parents. Her last working day will be Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March. She first started working here as a volunteer nearly twenty five years ago. She was soon appointed as a teaching assistant and later became clerical officer in our school office. She has been the face that might greet you in the morning or the person you might speak to on the phone for such a long time now, it's going to be a big wrench saying farewell to her and she will be sorely missed. We will have a celebration for her after the Easter holiday.

Mrs Murphy has been appointed to replace Tracey as Administration Officer. She will continue to oversee Breakfast Club administration but will no longer be teaching assistant to Class 4Y. Lucy, who currently works at After School Club and supports in some classes, is going to work in Class 4Y after the Easter holidays.

**Sponsored Dance-a-thon** – On Monday, the whole school completed a dance-a-thon in school. This meant that there was non-stop dancing in the school between 9am and 3.15pm. We did this to raise money for the orphanage in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Please try and get your sponsors so we can raise as much money as possible. **HSBC is currently closed for refurbishment and so that we can get the cash to the orphanage as quickly as possible, we're asking you to use the QR code to make the donation** (that was on the sponsor form). Please make your donation by Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March. Many thanks

**Millfield Dance Festival** – Very talented children from Years 5 & 6 performed a beautiful and moving dance at the Enfield Dance Festival this week. You can see the performance [here](#)

**Class 3G Assembly** -The children displayed an array of talents at their assembly on Thursday. They took us to various TV channels to show off their poetry writing, history knowledge, sports skills and singing! Very well done to them! See more photos [here](#).



**OPAL** - While I was away with Year 6 last week, the OPAL team arranged for the delivery of 100 tyres (thank you to one of our mums, Sara Griffin for sorting this). The children are finding many and varied ways to enjoy playing with them! Look here for photos! <https://www.st-monicas.enfield.sch.uk/opal-project-tyres/>

**Gruffalo Trail** – The Reception classes had great fun on the Gruffalo Trail on Wednesday. The weather was kind to them and the children thoroughly enjoyed themselves.



**Bikeability** – Nearly 30 children from Year 5 have been learning how to ride their bikes safely on the road thanks to Mario and Richard from Bikeability, who have trained the children this week. They will be back in June to teach the children in Year 6 who missed out on this when their instructor was unwell. [Look here for more.](#)

**Golden padlock** – This week, children have enjoyed looking out for the golden padlock on their bikes and scooters! We will carry on with this next week too. Thanks to the School Council members who have been diligently putting the padlock on each day!

Please read overleaf for a few updates about finances as well as some information about measles.

Kind regards  
Kate Baptiste  
Headteacher

**Children with smartphones** – Is your child desperate for a phone? Are you feeling under pressure to buy one? Before you do, make sure that you are fully informed of the issues surrounding young people and mobile phones. There is now research from the first set of adults to grow up with smartphones as children. The research shows smartphones have a negative impact on children's mental health and well being. You can read all about it [here](#)

## Diary Dates for next week

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup>** – Catherine will not be in all week – please bear with us if there is any delay with emails/phone calls.

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> 9.15am** – Infant Passion Service in school – as we prepare for Easter, the children in the infants will reflect on Holy Week. Parents from Year 2 are invited to this.

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> afternoon** – Choir to sing at Millfield Theatre – details have been text/emailed to parents in the choir.

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> 9.15am** – Junior Passion Service in school – Year 4 parents are invited.

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup>** – deadline for making a donation for the orphanage on the QR code – cash can be brought in if you are unable to use the QR code, but this will delay getting the money to the orphanage due to HSBC being closed at the moment. Laith's mum Bee, has booked her trip to the orphanage in May to see how the money has been spent!

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> 9.15am** – Class 1Y assembly 9.15am – 1Y parents invited

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> 3.15pm** – School closes at normal time for the Easter holiday (after school club open as usual)

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April** – School re-opens for the summer term

## St Monica's RC Primary School

-£352,862



Cuts since <sup>i</sup>  
2010/11

-£852

Cuts per pupil <sup>i</sup>  
since 2010/11

### Impact in Enfield

84% of schools in Enfield have faced cuts since 2010/11.

-£32.4M

Cuts since <sup>i</sup>  
2010/11

-£669

Cuts per pupil <sup>i</sup>  
since 2010/11



It's budget setting time and I have attended two workshops this week about effective management of finances. Unfortunately, we are expected to do more with less funds. If you visit <https://schoolcuts.org.uk/schools/?chosenSchool=3083503> you will see how much less we have to budget with compared to 2010/2011.

Thanks to **The Friends** who continue to work so hard to support the school financially. I heard the St Patrick's Night event was a huge success and raised £2,000!! Incredible!

Thanks also to all those parents who have contributed to the **School Building Fund**. Thanks to your contributions we have been able to upgrade all the school's electric fuse boards which meets health and safety regulations. In addition, we will be getting air-conditioning installed to the main hall, Class 1G, Class 5Y and Class 6G ready for the summer. The past few years have been uncomfortably hot and made learning very challenging, so I hope these units will make a huge difference.

**If you have not contributed, it's a voluntary request for £45 per family each year.** As a voluntary aided school, we do not receive a capital grant in the way maintained schools do and so this fund is essential to keep our buildings maintained. Payments can be made via [www.ParentPay.com](http://www.ParentPay.com) Many thanks

European Immunization Week  
Prevent Protect Immunize

**NHS**

# MEASLES

Don't let your child catch it  
- get them vaccinated with the MMR vaccine

The number of young people catching measles has risen. It's never too late to be vaccinated. You need two doses of MMR one month apart to be fully protected against measles, mumps and rubella.

It's time to make measles a disease of the past.

If you have symptoms of measles, stay at home and phone your GP or NHS 111 for advice. STAY AWAY from GP surgeries and A&E departments - you could spread the illness to others.

Measles symptoms include: high fever; sore, red, watery eyes; coughing; aching and feeling generally unwell; a blotchy red brown rash, which usually appears after the initial symptoms.

For more information contact your local GP surgery or visit: [www.nhs.uk/mmr](http://www.nhs.uk/mmr)

**i**mmunisation  
the safest way to protect your child

I attended a **measles** webinar this week. The advice was to ensure children have two MMR doses. This is the best protection. Check with your GP if your child has had theirs.



AGES 5-16

# FUN INCLUSIVE FOOTBALL

Lessons to help with children's balance and co-ordination.  
Provided by FA accredited coaches.

ON THE 3G PITCHES  
ENFIELD PLAYING FIELDS  
DONKEY LANE, ENFIELD, EN1 3PL

AGE 5-11: THURSDAYS 4-5PM  
SATURDAYS 9-10AM  
AGE 11-16: THURSDAYS 5-6PM

- Learn basic skills:

- ★ running
- ★ ball skills & kicking
- ★ throwing & catching
- ★ team work
- ★ turn taking
- ★ working with others
- ★ negotiation and compromise

- Have fun and meet new friends.

- Improve physical fitness in a fun and safe environment.

For further info, please  
contact your Occupational  
Therapist or email:  
[beh-tr.otgroups@nhs.net](mailto:beh-tr.otgroups@nhs.net)



ENFIELD TOWN FC  
COMMUNITY SPORTS  
DEVELOPMENT

Supported by  
**Pellings**