



# ST MONICA'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

*Strive to succeed in the presence of God*

3<sup>rd</sup> May 2024

Dear Parents

This year seems to be flying by, it's May already! In the Catholic tradition, May is a month when we particularly honour Mary, Jesus' mother. During this month, we pray a decade of the Rosary every morning outside the front of school at 8.50am. Everyone is welcome to join in with this devotion.

**Assemblies** – On Monday I spoke to the children about Islam as the children have been learning about this religion in their RE lessons this week. You can watch the video I showed [here](#). On Tuesday, Mrs Weston read 'The Most Exciting Eid' by Zeba Talkhani. She talked about all the special traditions that Muslims take part in to celebrate Eid & Ramadan & we discussed how they were similar to Christian traditions for Easter & Christmas.



**May is the month of Our Lady** – On Thursday we held our traditional May procession, led by Fr David. Thank you very much to one of our mums, Mrs Harwicke who made a beautiful crown of flowers for the Our Lady statue. It was a special service with fantastic singing and appropriate reverence. Have a look at the photos [here](#). Thanks also to the many flowers which were brought in; Fr David blessed them and today two of our mums (who are sisters), Mrs Verani and Mrs Gregori (and their dad) planted them at the front of the school (in the rain!!) They did a wonderful job and the front of the school looks very attractive. Thank you very much!



Another tradition is giving the children in Reception a miraculous medal which they can wear during May. I wonder how many other children in other years can find theirs?

**Outdoor Play and Learning (OPAL)** – At St Monica's, we are part of a peer review process where leaders from other local schools visit one another to evaluate the work they are doing. On Wednesday this week, we had a visit from a local headteacher and two deputy headteachers to review the impact on OPAL for the children and their general behaviour. They found that the lunch time play was a highly stimulating, engaging and enjoyable period for the children and staff alike. They praised the OPAL staff team for their enthusiastic approach to this initiative and judged behaviour to be outstanding! I was proud to show off our school to these visitors. **One request from the older children was for more suitable dressing up clothes. If you have any unwanted clothing that older children could wear, please do send it in for their dressing up box – hats/wigs/dresses/bags/jackets/scarves etc.**

**School Building Fund** – Thanks for all your contributions. So far we have received: £6,622 out of a possible: £13,365.

**International Cultural Diversity Day** – On Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May we will have a special day of celebrating our heritages. So far we have received offers of help for the following countries: Brazil (x2), Poland (x2), Ireland (x2), Ukraine (x1), Bulgaria (x3), Ghana (x1) and Cyprus (x1). There are lots of countries still not represented! Can anyone else help? If so, click [here](#). Many thanks in advance of your usual generosity

**Maths Day** - Tuesday 21st May has been allocated a "Maths Day". If possible, we would like the children to wear something maths related. You can be as creative as you like, but please do not go to any expense. At our last Maths Day we had some very creative (homemade) 3D cubes, clocks and calculators! A plain t-shirt decorated with numbers and maths symbols is also simple, but effective. If you look [here](#) it will give you some other ideas from last year; or search 'numeracy day maths ideas dress up' online.

TEAMUKTS

# 5K FUN

FREE REGISTRATION

## RUN & WALK

SUNDAY MAY 12TH 2024 GROVELAND PARK

10.30 AM START 44 QUEEN ELIZABETH'S DR, LONDON N14 6RD

REGISTRATION FROM 9.30 AM MEDALS FOR FINISHER

FOR INFORMATION VISIT WWW.UKTS.ORG



Past pupils Ella Wyrwas and Amelia McDougall were on the winning team for Saracens on Sunday, winning the league – we are all super proud of their achievements!

Encourage your friends, families and neighbours to participate in the Fun Run on Sun May 12<sup>th</sup> 2024 raising awareness of **thalassaemia**. There will be free activities for children/families such as treasure hunt, football training & fitness from 9.30 am at Grovelands Park. This will be followed by the 5k walk/run at 10.30am. Register for the Fun Run via the link for free. <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/uktdomthlassaemiasociety/1209230>

## Diary Dates for next week

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May** – School is closed for a national Bank Holiday.

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May** – School opens as normal.

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May** – School Council trip to Parliament – don't forget to be at school by 7.30am and bring a packed lunch

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May** – Non-uniform day for St Cecilia (for winning the most points last half term)

**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May** – Mass in school for the Feast of the Ascension

**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May 1.15pm** – Debating and Mooting Society to stage a courtroom drama in school – parents of those Year 6 children involved in this club are welcome to attend.

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May** – First Holy Communion Masses at St Monica's Church.

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May 9.30am** – 5k Fun Run at Grovelands Park (run/walk starts at 10.30am) – details to register as above

I hope you can all enjoy the bank holiday weekend; we may get a couple of dry days if we're lucky, so enjoy the break. School opens again as normal on Tuesday .

Kind regards

Kate Baptiste

Headteacher