

St Mary's Catholic Primary School & Nursery

Dane Bank Avenue Crewe Cheshire CW2 8AD



School Council Statement

The school council here at St Mary's Catholic Primary School in Crewe consists of extremely active, dedicated and well organised pupils.

Guided by our gospel values of tolerance, independence, co-operation, creativity and spiritual growth through the Catholic Faith, the members of our school council take their roles very seriously. As a result of their hard work and dedication, they have orchestrated and coordinated positive changes within our school. Our school councillors are chosen democratically by their fellow class members and in line with the British Values. Our children understand the importance of being part of a democracy and having their voices heard.

Our school council members stand by our school mission statement of 'Working together through faith and Education,' ensuring that every voice is heard and valued. The school council is led by a Chair and Deputy Chair who are chosen by the school council members themselves. We also have link teachers who help to facilitate the meetings, however we try to ensure that the meetings are led predominantly by the children. Through these efforts, our school council helps to provide positive change within our school community, meeting each half term to discuss, plan and prioritise their actions.

Vision Statement

Our school council works together as a team to ensure we can be the best school possible by discussing ideas and making decisions.

- We aim to help all pupils feel comfortable, happy and safe at school.
- We work together through trust, co-operation, team work and a positive attitude.
- We aim to listen to others, discuss comments and make suggestions that would make our school even better than it is now!

Over the past few years, our school council have helped to improve the school environment and grounds, suggested and ran fundraising activities during school time, raised money for charities and acted as hosts when we have visitors.

Some examples of the children's ideas for how St. Mary's could be an even better place to be this year include:

- Building an outdoor library for use at lunchtimes and breaktimes
- Planting flowers in the Peace Garden to make it a more inviting space
- Creating a vegetable patch
- Utilising the outdoor spaces for more outdoor learning
- Non-uniform day to celebrate our uniqueness – ‘Dress as yourself day’
- Raising money for more bins and litter pickers
- Sports equipment to be available at break and lunch times
- Parent quiz night to raise money for basket ball hoops
- World culture day to raise money for refugee children and those in need

Meet our School Councillors



School Council members 2023-2024

Class	School Councillor	
Year 3		
8	Cameron	Chris Mary
9	Sienna	Gerard
10	Georgia	Carter
Year 4		
11	Ava	Eric
12	Jesse	Ruby
13	Yassin	Bella
Year 5		
14	Olivia	Dennis
15	Jessica	Allie-Mae
16	Zuzanna	Darren
Year 6		
17	Julia	Lucas
18	Jackson / Mason	Anita
19	Edric	Salma

Our Latest Information

Autumn 2023



We are all so happy to be back at St. Mary's this Autumn Term and are delighted to be able to announce our new school council members for 2023-2024.

The children were invited to apply for the role of school councillor by completing a manifesto and delivering this to their classes. Votes then took place, and two members of each class were chosen to represent them as school council members for this academic year.

The children already have many ideas for the school council this year and we hope to be able to support the children in achieving many of their ambitions for improving St. Mary's and making it an even better place to be!

Mrs Baron and Miss Bailey.



September 2023– Macmillan Coffee Morning



Our School Councillors supported our successful Macmillan coffee morning in the Autumn term, which helps to raise money towards an incredibly important cause. The children supported Mrs Wright in the KS2 hall, serving tea and coffee to our families and selling some delicious cakes and bakes.

16th October – Recycling Week

Our School Council held a whole-school competition to raise awareness of the importance of recycling. The children met during a School Council meeting to decide on the winners from Reception, KS1 and KS2. There were some fantastic designs which have now been displayed around our school to encourage our pupils, staff and visitors to continue with reusing and recycling materials. The children also set up a small recycling centre where pupils were encouraged to recycle their plastic bottles and they were then used to create some beautiful art work.



THE BIG RECYCLING HUNT

recycle

St. Mary's
We are getting involved in 'The Big Recycling Hunt 2023'!

Please enter our recycling poster competition. You are free to be as creative as you like! If you don't want to make a poster, you could create an information leaflet or presentation. This will then be sent to the Big Recycling Website where they will vote for the winner! Our school councillors will also vote for our own personal St Mary's winner. Last date for entry is Friday the 3rd of November.

- **Creative Spark!** Design an eye-catching poster inspired by activist artists.
- **Winning Writer!** Use your persuasive writing skills to make an information leaflet.
- **Perfect Performer!** hone your presentation skills by making a short play or presentation.



The Big Recycling Hunt

We are challenging children aged 5 to 11 to join the Big Recycling Hunt! We want them to help us find the 'lost recyclables' that are going in the rubbish bin and return them to their right place: the recycling.

Our school councillors are also going to set up a recycling station for us to use for the Big Recycling Hunt! Anything that you find on the playground, home or classrooms that should be recycled please could you bring in for us to put in our recycling station.

This will be found outside class 10 from Tuesday next week.

Could you also bring in any empty plastic bottles that you are throwing away!

Thank you for your support!

Remember to **Reduce, Reuse, Recycle!** ♻️



Remembrance day- On Thursday 9th November our school councillors joined the Year seven St Thomas' More school councillors afterschool to create poppy wreaths that were lay at the cenotaph on Remembrance Sunday. They then lead a remembrance day assembly on Friday 10th November for ks2.



Open afternoon for parents- On Wednesday 15th November and Wednesday 6th December our year 5 and 6 school councillors greeted new parents at our school doors. They then gave a tour of the school and answered any questions.



Lyceum Drama workshop- On the 30th November the Creative learning Manager from the Lyceum theatre came into school to deliver a Cinderella Workshop. The school council members will take part in a Drama that explored the characters and story of Cinderella.

Woodland trust- On The week beginning Monday 18th December the children helped Mr German plant our new trees that have been sent to us from The Woodland Trust. Our school council decided on the best place to plant them within our school grounds and are helping to take care of them while they are still saplings.



Spring 2024

Our priorities for the Spring term were to raise some money to go towards outdoor reading sheds that will be placed in the ks2 playground to be used during the warmer months. We are hoping to visit the library to choose some books that we can use in our new reading shed in

summer. Our aim is to also raise money to buy new litter pickers and promote keeping our playground clean, safe and litter free.

Cake sale!!!!

The school council have decided they would like to raise some money to go towards an outdoor reading shed that can hopefully be used in the summer term. We will hold a cake sale in school on Thursday 28th March in the KS2 hall. We will sell some cakes in the morning and then again after school. We would be grateful for any cake donations to go towards our cake sale for us to sell. Thank you and we look forward to seeing you there. ☺ (A little reminder that we are a nut free school and any donations made, need to be nut free.)



We are running another Easter Fundraiser. Last year this was a huge success where the children ran an Easter Bonnet competition – we managed to get over 80 entries! This was fantastic, the children and parents put a lot of work into some amazing creations, so the children are keen to do something this year with as much success.

School Council boiled Egg/Easter Bonnet Competition

Our school council would like to raise money for each class to have some sports equipment that can be used to play with at break and lunch times and so we are holding a boiled egg/ Easter bonnet competition (they will be judged separately). Entries are £1 and they will need to be returned to school by Wednesday 27th March (please make sure the designs are completed by the children themselves- BUT adult supervision is required for the boiling of the eggs).

Please return your entry along with £1 to your class teacher from Monday the 25th March Onwards. ☺



discuss how Mrs Hemming could use the SEN budget to assist is. Each class collected a bank of ideas and the school council then decided how the money should be spent. We requested:

- A training course for our parents to further support them in managing challenging behaviour linked to neurodivergent conditions.
- A range of sensory items, a hanging chair for the Ark classroom, a basket swing for outside and some furniture to support sensory needs.
- Lastly, Ear defenders, sensory fidgets, blue tack and some mindfulness colouring books.

Up and Coming!

The 21st of March is world poetry day and when we return to school after Easter we will be holding a poetry competition across KS2.

We will also be promoting the role of and recruiting 2 Year 5/6 pupils as Junior Recycling Officers. These children will work with a dedicated waste education officer to plan events. (Mr Stewart/ Mr German).

Intended summer plans

Help with sports day

Raise money for sports/ playground equipment

Join St Thomas More for an international languages afternoon

Litter pick in the park

Read with year 1 and nursery

World oceans day- 8th June

[Live Lesson | Time to heal the sea | Encounter Edu](#) – live lesson booked March 12th – Science week.

Activities to take place on 8th of June

National school grounds week 13-17th June – outdoor lessons, picnics, obstacle courses, ice cream

Refugee week – 20-26th June

6th July- Children's Art day- Art after school with St Thomas More. School council to choose an artist and create Art work in the style of whichever artists they have chosen.

