# St Mary and St Peter Catholic Primary School

East Anglian Way, Gorleston, Norfolk, NR31 6QY Tel: 01493445117
office@smspprimary.norfolk.sch.uk www.smspprimary.co.uk
https://www.facebook.com/SMSPGorleston

**Our learning adventure will see each and every one of us thrive in God's love as we set sail for success.**



**The Bible tells us that Hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us" (*Rom* 5:1-2.5).**




**Prayer**

God our Father,
You formed us from the dust of the earth and brought us to new life in Christ through the waters of Baptism. We ask you to change our hearts as we journey through these forty days of Lent. Help us to see Jesus in everyone we meet, and to serve him in all persons, especially the poor, the sick and the lonely.
By your grace, may our prayers and sacrifices this Lent help us grow closer to each other and to you, as one family in Jesus.
We make this prayer to you in His name.
Amen.

**Ash Wednesday Mass**




Thank you to Father Alvan and Deacon Stephen for leading the school in the Ash Wednesday Mass. Flora read a beautiful introduction explaining the purpose of the mass:

Ash Wednesday begins our forty day season of Lent that leads to Easter. On Ash Wednesday, we come together like the people of the Old Testament to remind ourselves that we don't always follow God's ways and need to ask God for His mercy and forgiveness. Like God's people in the time of the prophets, we wear ashes to show that we want to turn away from whatever keeps us from God, and to have a *change of heart,* so that we can live in the right relationship with God and each other.

**CAFOD**

A reminder that we will be participating in the Big Lent Walk very soon. Any donations you can make are vital in supporting the amazing work of CAFOD, whose members will be leading assemblies in school and working with children in classes to explain how the money raised will have a positive impact on the lives of others.

## Gospel Values

Every person is a valued member of our community, invited to follow Christ's call to a life of love, hope and forgiveness. We respect and support each other to live in peace. We embrace challenge and develop the courage to create a better world for us all.

## School Vision

We believe that even with God's love we can sometimes experience challenges. Just like our patron saints, Mary and Peter, they experienced difficult times in their life that took strength and perseverance to overcome. At our school, we value this challenge and encourage children to experience it, knowing that together with our support and love, they will experience a successful outcome be it in an academic subject or through social experiences. We are all exploring our own talents and each day we

THE BIG LENT WALK

Our children will be taking part in The Big Lent Walk. The children will be walking on Tuesday 1st April 2025 to raise funds for CAFOD. Please sponsor us!

Your donations can change lives. Every £1 raised through the Big Lent Walk will help fight poverty globally in countries like Afghanistan, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and South Sudan.

You can donate via our school page at or using the sponsor form each child has brought home:
https://schools.walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/cafod-big-lent-walk2026

We hope to be able to support CAFOD to buy lots of Chickens to support people like Maria

### Maria's life-changing chickens

> 'I am very grateful because [chickens] have been a great financial help' – Maria, El Salvador

Maria is a chicken farmer from a remote part of El Salvador. With the help of CAFOD's local partner, Maria received 100 baby chicks, chicken-rearing equipment, and training from local experts to help establish her own thriving, chirpy chicken business.

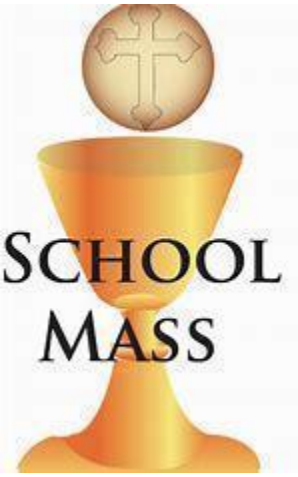
Since 2019, Maria has been expanding her business and is now making a healthy profit. She's used the extra money to rebuild her outside sinks and is planning to build a new toilet too.

Maria kept on selling chickens throughout the COVID-19 pandemic – supporting her family as well as her local community.

'I feel so happy, like it is a roulette and right now I am at the top!' she says.



'Set Sail for Success'




**The next whole school Mass will be Easter Mass 25th April St Peter's Church**

**Shrove Tuesday**





In preparation for the start of Lent, the children made pancakes to understand how we are entering a time of sacrifice, in honour of Jesus who spent 40 days fasting in the wilderness. The children made Lenten promises which were offered up in Mass.

**DT - Y4 soup and Y2 Salsa**




In Food Technology, children in Year 2 and Year 4 have learned how to prepare and cook soup and salsa. They definitely seem to be enjoying their recipes!

**World Book Day**







As part of World Book Day activities, the children in KS2 and KS1 spent time sharing books and reading with each other. Even Regina the guinea pig got involved, looking splendid in her character costume.

**Basketball**

On Tuesday afternoon, we took a team of girls and boys to a Year 5 / 6 basketball tournament at East Norfolk Sixth Form College. The team were in Group B and played brilliantly in all 3 matches winning all games and topping their group. By the knockout stages their energy reserves were running low and they were beaten 2 - 0 by Southtown. All the children played effectively as a team and there was great camaraderie and sportsmanship throughout.

**Football vs Hillside**

We had a switch around with positions in this week's match against Hillside. The sun was a problem for both sides but they played well despite this. There were some excellent saves from Subinav as Hillside pushed hard towards the end but SMSP played consistently well throughout to win 12 - 1.



**Important Dates for this half term:**

Monday 10th March - Year 4 trip to Norwich Castle

Tuesday 11th and Wednesday 12th March - Parents Evening

13th and 14th March - Nursery parents meetings

13th March - IGNITE working with children in Y1-6 on Lent

14th March - PC Isabel Carroll working with EYFS

17th - 21st March Science Week

Fridays - Year 5 swimming

**Friends events**

24th March 3 - 4:15pm Reception, Y1 and 2 games and disco

24th March Mother's Day Wrap

31st March 3pm - 4:15pm Y3, 4, 5 and 6 games and disco

1st April - Big Lent Walk - PLEASE CLICK ON ABOVE LINK TO DONATE

## How Safe is WhatsApp for Children - NSPCC

WhatsApp is one of the most popular instant messaging apps, used by over 2 billion people in 180 countries. It allows you to send and receive messages, as well as make voice and video calls. You can connect with people individually or join group chats where lots of people can contribute. All you need to set up a WhatsApp account is a phone number. However, children and young people can easily subvert the restrictions placed on its access. Although rated at 16+, all that is required is a phone number. All it takes is one child in a class to be on whatsapp, and all the others will wish to join. This can lead to increased vulnerabilities for child users. The NSPCC has released its own analysis about the dangers of the app. If interested, please follow the link below:

https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-safety-blog/2023-01-12-is-whatsapp-safe-for-my-child/

## Dates for the next academic year

St John the Baptist Catholic Multi Academy Trust **2025-2026**

| September 2025 | | | | | | |
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| October 2025 | | | | | | |
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| November 2025 | | | | | | |
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| December 2025 | | | | | | |
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| January 2026 | | | | | | |
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| February 2026 | | | | | | |
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| March 2026 | | | | | | |
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| April 2026 | | | | | | |
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| May 2026 | | | | | | |
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| June 2026 | | | | | | |
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| July 2026 | | | | | | |
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| August 2026 | | | | | | |
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| Key : White dates - schools open to pupils<br>Yellow dates - pupil holiday<br>Red dates - bank holiday | Five staff training days: 1st September, 2nd September, 24th October PD day disaggregated), Monday 5th January, Monday 20th July( PD day disaggregated) |
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