



Reflections for Easter

Like many in our school community, I have been spending this season of Lent in periods of fasting and in prayer, looking for signs of God's work in my everyday life. I have, in particular, been reflecting on and giving thanks for all who show friendship, those who are around us to lighten our days, help carry the load and share in our achievements.

We have been so lucky to have had a number of visitors & friends of the school helping to share the Easter story. What has really struck me during this time is the impact that Jesus had on his immediate friends. How he gave clues of what was to come, their despair as these things came to pass and then the hope and joy they found after his resurrection.

These 2 very short films have helped to guide some of my thinking, particularly about Jesus' friendships. They are modern day interpretations from Peter's perspective. Peter's promises to Jesus, how Jesus knew Peter would deny knowing him 3 times and the ultimate sacrifice Jesus made in order that Peter's sins (all of our sins) could be forgiven.

[▶ Peter || A Spoken Word for Easter Part 1 - Dai Woolridge](#)

[▶ Peter || Spoken Word for Easter Part 2 || Dai Woolridge](#)

These films have led me to the questions that the children have been asking in their Religion, Values and Ethics lessons: What is the good news Jesus brings? What kind of world did Jesus want? What would Jesus do?

Once the sombre season of Lent has finished and we move into Easter itself, it brings much hope, that all is not lost, that with Jesus' love and guidance anything is possible. It is with this thought that we shall be starting the new term at the end of April. It will be the last term for us all in our current building. There is much change on the horizon as we prepare our Year 6's to start in the respective high schools and prepare the entire school for the 'Big Move!'

The 'Big Move' is such an exciting time for our children and the school as a whole. Over the last few weeks, plans for various improvement works in the new school have made significant progress. I am currently working with the Diocese and Local Authority to ensure that new toilets and new fencing and new signage will all be in place before September 2025. Mrs Shipton-Jones (Head of Gladstone Primary & Allensbank Primary) and Mrs Lloyd (Head of Ysgol Mynydd Bychan) are excellent colleagues to work with as all four schools navigate the changes with our school communities. We have had several really productive meetings, in another place that shows us real examples of friendship, at The Table.

The new Thursday Film Club after school once per month at The Table has enabled many parents to also connect with each other, whilst children also connect over watching films and eating some delicious Table food. Thank you to Kate and Simon!

I wish you and your families a wonderful Easter break as the school closes for 2 weeks. I look forward to seeing you once again on Monday 28th April for the new term. Please make sure your child has a water bottle, sun hat and suncream applied before school (I'm optimistic for a lovely sunny Summer Term!)

Kindest regards, Abi Cuthbert



**Children's
Easter Holiday
Activities**

Llanover Hall Arts Centre

**Tue 15th- Thur 17th April
2025**

**Drawing, Painting, Pottery, Drama and
much more call us to book 02920 872030**

www.adultlearningcardiff.co.uk




Children's Easter Holiday Activities

At Llanover Hall



Tuesday 15th April

- 10am-12pm Let's Sew: Animal Ears, Hats and Headbands (8yrs+)
- 10am-12pm Clay Club: Throwing on the Wheel (8yrs+)
- 10am-12pm Cheery Cardboard Chicks (5-8yrs)
- 10am-12pm Mixed Media Easter Wreaths (5-8yrs)
- 1pm-3pm Little Potters: Clay Fairy or Hobbit House and Castles (5-8yrs)
- 1pm-3pm Spring Chickens in Cardboard (8yrs+)
- 1pm-3pm Easter Cut Outs and Collages (5-8yrs)
- 1pm-3pm Design and Make Sew on Patches Pockets and Pouches (8yrs+)



Thursday 17th April

- 10am-12pm Little Potters: Easter Chicks and Bunnies (5-8yrs)
- 10am-12pm Block Printed Animal T Shirts (8yrs+) *Bring a white cotton pre-washed t-shirt with you.*
The tutor will have a limited number of sizes available to purchase on the day for £3.00 each.
- 1pm-3pm Clay Club: Garden Pond Creatures (8yrs+)
- 1pm-3pm Easter Suncatchers (5-8yrs)



Wednesday 16th April

- 10am-12pm Little Artists "Easter Growth" Painting (5-8yrs)
- 10am-12pm Little Potters: Clay Tile Jigsaws (5-8yrs)
- 10am-12pm Andy Warhol Inspired Pop Art (8yrs+)
- 10am-12pm Soap Making Workshop: Fun Shapes (8yrs+)
- 1pm-3pm Fun with Drawing (5-8yrs)
- 1pm-3pm Clay Club: Beautiful Birds (8yrs+)
- 1pm-3pm Hand Dyed Purses and Wallets *£2.00 charge to pay on the day directly to the tutor. (8yrs+)



Drama Days 8-12yrs

Wed 16th April and /or Thurs 17th 10am-3pm

Join us for one or two days packed full of Drama with acting games, improvisation, script work, devising and much more!

Have loads of fun working on new scenes, developing characters and learning how to perform!

Please note: There's no show at the end of this course, just days filled with no pressure acting and drama!

Children on all 2 hour courses will require adult supervision if they stay during the lunchtime.

Refunds will only be issued if a minimum of 24 hours notice is given

£9.00 per 2 hour session except Little Potters and Clay Club which are £10.00 per 2 hour session each.

Drama Days £20 per day
Call now to book a place

029 20872030

www.adultlearningcardiff.co.uk

Please note we are unable to register any children under 5 years old.

Our Kitchen Café will be open for light refreshments

We reserve the right to cancel at any time where there are



CRAFT
SONG

All
welcome!

STORY
FOOD

Good Friday 18 April
10.30am - 12.30pm



ST MICHAEL AND ALL
ANGELS
WHITCHURCH ROAD,
CARDIFF





Gwasanaethau
Chwarae Plant
Children's
Play Services



STRONGER
FAIRER
GREENER



Local Play Session

Come and join us for Easter holiday fun at

Maitland Park

Maitland St, CF14 3DH

Wednesday 23rd April
11:00-12:30pm

Ages 5-14

Scan the QR code to register your
child



This document is available in Welsh

*All of the open access play sessions are designed with children aged 5-14
in mind. *

Pop up play sessions are outdoors. They will run come rain or shine so
please ensure children are dressed for the weather. Some of these
locations may have limited access to toilets. **



Prosiect Gwyliau Gwaith Chwarae
Playworks Holiday Project



Support with the costs of education

We do know how expensive supporting your child's education can be. There is additional money and support families can have but this has to be applied for with the Local Authority. Although all primary aged children are automatically eligible for free school meals, if families are able to apply for this the school receives more money in its budget each year. There is also a School Essentials Grant, this money is paid directly to families. You may be entitled to the grant, even if you have a visa and it says 'no recourse to public funds' on it.

[Apply for Free School Meals : Cardiff Council Forms](#)
[School Essentials Grant - Cardiff Council Forms](#)

Do you know a family who would like their children to come to St Monica's?

We have spaces in most year groups as a few families have taken up housing or job opportunities outside of Cardiff. [This link takes you to our flyer, advertising a little bit about our school.](#) Please feel free to share it with your friends or church congregation.

It is easy to apply to our school, [this application form is for any Nursery or in-year applications/school transfers.](#) We are accepting applications for Nursery places for a September 2025 start. These applications are for children born no earlier than 01/09/2021. We have opened our application window earlier than the Local Authority as we start our Nursery provision for the first time as soon as we move school buildings.

Free Swimming

Maindy Leisure Centre has free swimming sessions for children & teenagers (aged 16 and under) every Sunday (12-1pm). There are 50 spaces. Adults cost £4.50.

Children under 8 years old (and any children over 8 who can't swim) must be accompanied by a person who can swim and is aged +16. They can take a maximum of 2 children with them.

Over 8 year olds who can swim can go in the water on their own.

A swimmer is someone who can swim 25m on their own (without any flotation device)

The free swimming offer is greatly extended during all school holidays - this Easter Holiday free sessions are available Monday - Friday 1.30-3pm.

Extra Curricular Music Lessons

Rock Steady Music are offering extra music sessions for children to learn rock instruments/singing during the school day. This is suitable for children from all age groups. If you are interested in these sessions for your child/children please sign up with them directly. They deal with all bookings.

www.rocksteadymusicschool.com

Next in the newsletter - our usual information

Links to Step webpages

Contact details for staff

Dates for the diary - **if it is highlighted yellow - family can attend too**

Parent Pay links

Donation button

Links to the School Website

For up to date information about:

what your child is learning in school, PE days & home learning tasks

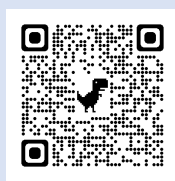
[Step 1 Web Pages](#)

[Step 2 Web Pages](#)

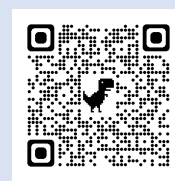
[Step 3 Web Pages](#)



Reception / Year 1



Years 2 & 3



Years 4, 5 & 6

Keeping your child safe is our key priority - [this link](#) takes you to a poster which explains what we do if we have concerns about a child's safety. It also explains what you can do if you have concerns about a child or member of staff's conduct.

**IF YOU VISIT THE SCHOOL AT ANY POINT IN THE DAY
PLEASE ENSURE THE GATE IS ALWAYS CLOSED BEHIND YOU**

Contact details for staff

We MUCH prefer a face-to-face chat rather than an email, however, we know that for some parents, getting hold of us at the right time can be tricky.

For questions about Parent Pay or music lessons contact Mrs Fedorova: Jozefina.fedorova@cardiff.gov.uk

To make an appointment to speak directly with (or see) the Head Teacher contact Miss Williams: Debra.williams@cardiff.gov.uk

To email the Head Teacher: abigail.cuthbert@cardiff.gov.uk

To email the Deputy Head Teacher: mrsmeakins@stmonicasschool.co.uk

To email the Additional Needs Co-ordinator: mrsogorman@stmonicasschool.co.uk

To email any teacher:

Step 1 Reception = Mrs Vaughan mrsvaughan@stmonicasschool.co.uk
Year 1 = Mrs Irwin mrsirwin@stmonicasschool.co.uk

Step 2 Year 2 = Mrs Knight mrsknight@stmonicasschool.co.uk
Year 3 = Mrs O’Gorman & mrsogorman@stmonicasschool.co.uk
Mrs Meakins mrsmeakins@stmonicasschool.co.uk

Step 3 Year 4 = Mr Wycherley mrwycherley@stmonicasschool.co.uk
Year 5 = Mr Thomas mrthomas@stmonicasschool.co.uk
Year 6 = Miss Hampson misshampson@stmonicasschool.co.uk

We try to answer all emails within 24 hours, if your query is really urgent please phone the school 029 2023 3925. **To help preserve the family life of teachers, I have asked them not to respond to any emails outside of the normal working day or at weekends.** Most parents find asking the parent WhatsApp group for their child’s year group really helpful too.

Dates for your diary

I am not able to authorise any absence for term time holiday or any extended time away from school. Please do not be tempted to take your child out of school during term time.

[School term dates](#)

Easter Break - no school for 2 weeks

Monday 28th April	Tuesday 29th April	Wednesday 30th April	Thursday 1st May	Friday 2nd May
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1.30 Y6 Swimming lessons	1.30 Y6 Swimming lessons	1.30 Y6 Swimming lessons	1.30 Y6 Swimming lessons	1.30 Y6 Swimming lessons 2.35pm Praise & Celebration
Monday 5th May	Tuesday 6th May	Wednesday 7th May	Thursday 8th May	Friday 9th May
BANK HOLIDAY - NO SCHOOL	Worship - Rev. Caroline 1.30 Y6 Swimming lessons	1.30 Y6 Swimming lessons	1.30 Y6 Swimming lessons	1.30 Y6 Swimming lessons 2.35pm Praise & Celebration
Monday 12th May	Tuesday 13th May	Wednesday 14th May	Thursday 15th May	Friday 16th May
1.30 Y6 Swimming lessons				2.35pm Praise & Celebration
Monday 19th May	Tuesday 20th May	Wednesday 21st May	Thursday 22nd May	Friday 23rd May
	Talent Show 6pm	Talent Show 6pm	4pm Finance, Premises and H&S Committee Meeting	2.35pm Praise & Celebration
½ Term Break - no school for 1 week				
Monday 2nd June	Tuesday 3rd June	Wednesday 4th June	Thursday 5th June	Friday 6th June
INSET DAY - NO SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN	9.30 - Getting Ready for School (New Reception)	Worship - Rev. Caroline		2.35pm Praise & Celebration
Monday 9th June	Tuesday 10th June	Wednesday 11th June	Thursday 12th June	Friday 13th June
	9.30 - Getting Ready for School (New Reception)	Worship - Rev. Caroline	11am Vision & Values Committee Meeting 4pm Standards Committee Meeting	2.35pm Praise & Celebration
Monday 16th June	Tuesday 17th June	Wednesday 18th June	Thursday 19th June	Friday 20th June
		Worship - Rev. Caroline	9.30 - Getting Ready for School (New Reception) Reports go home to parents	2.35pm Praise & Celebration
Monday 23rd June	Tuesday 24th June	Wednesday 25th June	Thursday 26th June	Friday 27th June
Parent Consultations Booking Link will be sent home closer to the time	Colorfoto - individual and Y6 Leavers photos 9.30 - Getting Ready for School (New Reception)	Worship - Rev. Caroline	4pm Full Governing Body Meeting	2.35pm Praise & Celebration
Monday 30th June	Tuesday 1st July	Wednesday 2nd July	Thursday 3rd July	Friday 4th July
Possible date for Sports Day		Worship - Rev. Caroline		2.35pm Praise & Celebration
Monday 7th July	Tuesday 8th July	Wednesday 9th July	Thursday 10th July	Friday 11th July
Y6 Leavers Service at Llandaff Cathedral		Worship - Rev. Caroline		2.35pm Praise & Celebration
Monday 14th July	Tuesday 15th July	Wednesday 16th July	Thursday 17th July	Friday 18th July
Y6 Leavers Celebration Day - Parents & Friends invited for 6pm Y6 Evening Celebration	Last Day of Term for Children	School is closed to pupils as staff are packing the school up ready for the big move		

Summer Break - no school for 6 weeks - during this time the school will relocate further along Whitchurch Road - look out for the banners for our grand opening!

Monday 1st September	Tuesday 2nd September	Wednesday 3rd September	Thursday 4th September	Friday 5th September
School is closed to pupils as staff are unpacking the school and getting all classrooms and outside areas ready				
Monday 8th September	Tuesday 9th September	Wednesday 10th September	Thursday 11th September	Friday 12th September
INSET DAY no school for children H&S Briefings for staff	Children return to school Reception Siblings start Breakfast Club reopens at 8.10am	Worship - Rev. Caroline		2.35pm Praise & Celebration

Booking Lunches

Please could parents **book lunch for their child the day before they need it** – it takes up a huge amount of time each day for teachers to ask each child what they would like. Parents are able to book lunches and make menu choices a week in advance.

Please do this using Parent Pay. <https://app.parentpay.com/public/client/security/v2/#/login>

Booking your child's meal is essential!

Helping Hands

The school is very well-supported by parents and the local community. There is an active Helping Hands group, who work very well together to organise fun, fundraising events and support learning in school. They have their own website where all dates for meetings and minutes are shared. [Helping Hands Web Page](#)

There are also WhatsApp groups for parents and carers for each Progression Step. **THANK YOU** to the parents who have agreed to be group admins for these groups. It is helpful for parents to join the relevant group/s to be able to keep informed and help answer any questions – there is no such thing as a daft question – we've all been there with last minute queries that need an urgent answer! The school office will pass on your details should you wish to join a group.

How to donate to St Monica's

There are many ways you could help in school, the first step is to either:

- come to the monthly Helping Hands meetings at The Table, or
- join the Helping Hands WhatsApp group, or
- join the online Parent Space meetings held at 9pm once per month

We welcome any donations, whether they be:

- **donations of time** (become a regular walker for trips to the park, listen to children read, help with fundraising events)
- **donations of resources** (Step webpages will have resource lists of things they may need to help with a particular learning context)
- **donations of money** (to help support trips or special events in school)

Donations Greatly Received!!!



Our donation button is active on Parent Pay – thank you to those people who have found it. You can get to the link by clicking anywhere in this text or by visiting the school website...

www.stmonicasschool.co.uk