



30 March 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

## St Mary's Cultural Celebration Day 2023

Friday 28 April 2023 is our Cultural Celebration Day. This day aims to celebrate the richness of cultures and backgrounds represented at St Mary's CE High School.

With such a large number of nationalities and ethnicities represented by staff and students at the school, diversity is woven into the fabric of our community.

On Friday 28 April your child can come to school wearing clothes that represent their culture or ethnicity. If in doubt about what to wear, this should be an outfit that may be worn to a formal occasion, such as a wedding or a religious celebration. This is formal, so not sportswear (even if this is from the national sport team) or trainers and students who do not wish to participate in this element of the day should remain in their school uniform.

On this day the following are also encouraged/permitted:

- Henna
- Nail varnish (not false nails)
- Bracelets (nothing expensive please and no precious stones)

The following rules absolutely do apply along with the rest of the uniform and school rules. The only differences are what is being worn.

- No false/acrylic nails (this is impractical in school)
- No trainers or sportswear
- Children have to return to normal rules on Tuesday 2nd May, so no changes to hair colour.
- No mobile phones.
- Plain gold or silver stud earrings only, without stones.

Students will attend their usual lessons on this day but teachers will provide them with opportunities to discuss their cultures during the day and in the week leading up to the event. At lunch time the chef will be providing a menu that attempts to be as diverse as our blend of cultures and there will be lots of activities during lunch and tutorial time to celebrate the day including a 'Cultural Exhibition' that students can visit.

WE BELIEVE EVERYONE IS EQUAL: EVERYONE DESERVES THE BEST

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Headteacher: Mr Nicholas Simms B.Sc. (Hons), NPQH

*'Students feel happy and safe at school'* OFSTED 2019

*'An exceptionally inclusive and caring community'* SIAMS Inspection 2020

This is the first time that St Mary's is holding such a day and is a direct response to student opinion and student voice. Please support us in making this is a wonderful day by encouraging your children to participate and ensuring they keep to the rules of the day stated above. We would very much like this to be a day that remains on the calendar each year and continues to grow.

Yours faithfully

*S Tilbury*

Simon Tilbury  
Deputy Head Teacher

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