



# ST MARY'S

## CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

St Mary's Catholic Primary School  
Great Lime Road  
Forest Hall  
Newcastle upon Tyne  
NE12 7AB  
T: 0191 8142006  
E: [office@stmarysfh.org.uk](mailto:office@stmarysfh.org.uk)  
[www.stmarysrcprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.stmarysrcprimaryschool.co.uk)

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2024

Dear Families,

Thank you to all families who joined us for the Reception Class and Year 6 Buddy Liturgy yesterday; it was lovely to see the children together with their buddies. This week all our classes, in their PSHE lessons, have enjoyed learning about important and influential people as part of Black History Month. Today all of classes have taken part in a number of activities for Show Racism the Red Card.

### Celebration of the Word

Through our Celebration of the Word next week, we will be thinking about the importance of serving others through being kind, helpful, encouraging and compassionate.

### Harvest Festival

Our Harvest Festival will take place in St Mary of the Rosary Church on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October at 2.00pm. The children will be leading the readings and singing; all families are welcome to join us for this celebration. We will be donating our harvest collection to the charity Walking With in North Tyneside which supports families and refugees. <https://walkingwith.co.uk/>

We are asking for donations of:

- Tinned food items - tomatoes, sweetcorn, chickpeas, kidney beans, fish/meat tins, custard, rice pudding, tins of fruit
- Packets of pasta, noodles, rice, lentils
- Coffee, tea, sugar, biscuits
- Soap powder/liquid, washing up liquid
- Toiletries - shower gel, soap, shampoo, deodorants, toothpaste, nappies

Please send your donations in with the children and these will be displayed in the school hall before being delivered to Walking With.

### Christmas Card Orders

At the beginning of term the children designed their own Christmas cards. The children will be bringing home their order forms today with their design indicated. Please look out for these in bags.

### Staff Car Park

I'd like to remind parents/carers that they should not be driving down into the car park to drop off and collect children (unless this has been pre-arranged with the school office,) including when dropping off at Breakfast Club and collecting children from after school clubs. It was disappointing last night to witness reckless parking and disregard for pedestrians and staff cars. In light of this, we will be reviewing car park access and collection points for children attending after school clubs.

### PTFA Halloween Disco

The PTFA Halloween Disco will take place on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 3.30pm to 5.00pm. Tickets cost £4.50 and will continue to be sold until 12 noon 21<sup>st</sup> October. The children will receive refreshments (Pizza, Drink & Bag of Sweets). The children will be able to get changed in school for the disco and teachers will take them along to the hall. At the end of the disco, parents will collect their children from their usual end of day collection points.





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### School Meals

Before the summer holidays, I informed parents on the newsletter dated 18<sup>th</sup> July, that the price of school meals would be increasing to £2.50 per meal, this will come into effect from Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October.

### School Photographs

The photographer will be in school on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November to take individual pupil and sibling photographs.

### Poppy Appeal

Our Year 6 class will be supporting this year's Poppy Appeal by running a 'Poppy Shop' in school from next week. As well as poppies, there will be various other items for sale including snap bands, keychains and bracelets. All donations will go to the Royal British Legions Poppy Appeal.

### Online Safety Guide – What Parents & Carers Need To Know About Horror Films & Age Ratings

This guide breaks down the risks of viewing age-inappropriate content, with a particular focus on horror, and offers expert advice on how to limit youngsters' exposure to material that might upset or disturb them.

[What Parents & Carers Need To Know About Horror Films & Age Ratings](#)

### **Reminders:**

#### PTFA News - ASDA Cashpots For Schools Campaign

Asda is supporting UK primary schools with their new 'Cashpot for Schools' initiative. To support St Mary's Primary Catholic School, all you have to do is opt-in through the Asda Rewards app, choose our school (postcode NE12 7AB), shop and scan in store or shop online. Between 2nd September and 30th November 2024 – every time you shop with Asda using your Rewards app, Asda will donate 0.5% of the value of your shop to our school via our Friends of St Mary's PTFA. Also, every time somebody opts-in to support St Mary's Primary School, Asda will give an additional £1 to the school Cashpot.

### School Admissions – Reception class & High School

Applications for primary (Reception) and high schools (Year 7) places for September 2025 is now open and can be accessed at <https://my.northtyneside.gov.uk/category/129/school-admissions>

- Year 7 high school admissions must be completed and submitted by **31st October 2024**.
- Reception class admissions must be completed and submitted by **13th January 2025**.

Please note applications for places at Catholic schools do require supporting evidence of baptismal certificates if applying under a catholic category. If you require a copy of your baptismal certificate please contact the church where your child was baptised as early as possible. For GDPR reasons, this must be a written request not an email/telephone call.

### Attendance & Punctuality

- The school day starts at 8.55am with the school doors opening at 8.45am.
- Registers are taken from 8.55am and will remain open for 30 minutes.
- Any pupils arriving after 9am will be marked as 'late before register closes'.
- Any pupil arriving after the register closes will be marked as an unauthorised absence.
- Please note that holidays should not be taken in term time and will not be authorised; if a holiday is taken and meets the new threshold of 10 sessions\* within a period of 10 weeks, we may refer the matter to the





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Local Authority who may issue a penalty notice. **The penalty notice has increased to £80 per parent, per child.**

(\*1 session = a morning/afternoon session)

### Statutory Assessment Dates

Each year statutory assessments are carried out for certain year groups in the summer term. This year's dates are as follows:

- Year 1 Phonics Screening check – Week beginning Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2025
- Year 4 Multiplication check – Week beginning 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2025
- Year 6 Key Stage 2 SATs – Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May to Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2025

### Clubs

There are no after school clubs next week. We will send out a new club timetable for after half next week.

### Weekly Attendance

The overall attendance for the whole school this week is 97.3%.

Well done to Year 1 class who have won the Attendance Award for this week with 100% attendance.

|           |       |
|-----------|-------|
| Reception | 96.5% |
| Year 1    | 100%  |
| Year 2    | 96.2% |

|        |       |
|--------|-------|
| Year 3 | 95.7% |
| Year 4 | 98%   |
| Year 5 | 96.3% |
| Year 6 | 98.7% |

### Diary Dates

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> October                         | Parent/Teacher Meetings                               |
| Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> October                       | Harvest Festival 2.00pm at Church                     |
| Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> October                         | Break up for half term                                |
| Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> November                         | Pupils return to school                               |
| Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> – 15 <sup>th</sup> November     | Anti-bullying Week                                    |
| Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> November                        | School Photographs                                    |
| Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> November                        | Children in Need Day                                  |
| Wed 27 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> November | Year 5 residential to Robinwood                       |
| Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December                       | Reception & Key Stage 1 Nativity 2.00pm (School Hall) |
| Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> December                     | Reception & Key Stage 1 Nativity 9.30am (School Hall) |
| Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> December                      | Key Stage 2 Carol Service 2.00pm (Church)             |





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|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> December    | Year 6 'That History Bloke' class workshops |
| Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> December    | Reception & Key Stage 1 Christmas Party     |
| Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December   | Year 3 & Year 4 Christmas Party             |
| Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December | Year 5 & Year 6 Christmas Party             |
| Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December    | Break up for Christmas Holidays             |
| Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2025 | Staff Training Day                          |
| Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> January     | Pupils return to school                     |

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.

Kind regards,

Mrs S Foster  
Head Teacher

