



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
www.stmarysrcprimaryschool.co.uk

Friday 20th September 2024

Dear Families,

Celebration of the Word

In our Celebration of the Word next week, we be hearing in the Gospel reading about Jesus' disciples arguing about who is the 'greatest'. We will be thinking about that the most important things in life are not winning, being the best or most beautiful. Instead, Jesus taught His disciples that to be the greatest in God's sight, we must be kind, caring and compassionate.

Scholastic School Book Fair

We are excited to announce that the Scholastic Travelling Book Fair will be coming to our school and opening on Tuesday 24th September. The book fair will run until Friday 27th September from 3.30pm each day in our Hub Room (previously the Computer Suite). Please access with your child through the Key Stage 2 yard entrance. All payments need to be made online when purchasing your books, through the use of a QR code. If you can't attend the book fair on any of the days please let your child's class teacher know. We can help them to choose a book, send home the information about the book and how to pay for it, then they can collect it once the payment has been made.

Photographs for BBCET

Earlier in the week you received the following information about photographs being taken, please ensure you have signed the consent form sent out via Parentmail by Monday 23rd September, 4.00pm.

Bishop Bewick Catholic Education Trust have arranged for a photographer to be in school next week on Wednesday 25th September to take photographs of staff and pupils doing daily school activities. These photographs will be used by BBCET and the school for general media interest, school and Trust level publications including websites and newsletters.

Robinwood Residential Parents' Meeting

Year 5 parents are invited to a meeting on Wednesday 25th September about the Robinwood residential trip which takes place in November. The meeting will take place in the Year 5 classroom at 3.30pm.

Mini Vinnies Macmillan Coffee Morning

Mini Vinnies will be hosting the Macmillan World's Biggest Coffee Morning in the school hall on Friday 27th September at 9.10am. All families are welcome to attend and support this worthy cause. Donations of cakes would be gratefully received – please send into school on Thursday 26th September. The Mini Vinnies will also be holding a cake sale for the children on Friday, selling cakes for 20p each. If your child has allergies please ensure you provide a small cake/biscuit for them to buy.

Parent/Teacher Meetings

Parent/Teacher Meetings will be taking place on Monday 14th October and Monday 21st October. Booking information will be sent out via Parentmail on Monday 23rd September.

Star Awards Assembly

Our first Star Awards assembly will take place on Friday 4th October at 3.00pm. In addition to the Star Awards, Sportsperson Award and Head Teacher Award, we will be awarding a Values Award linked to our school values. We have made the decision to not include awards the children have received in clubs outside of school at this





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assembly. Instead children will be able to bring these in to be shared with their class on a Friday morning and the class teacher will photograph the group of children with their medals/certificates and post on our school X page. This will start on Friday 4th October.

Online Safety Guide

Please see the attached guide about the popular online game Final Fantasy XIV which enables players to link up with other players. The guide highlights the risks involved and advice on how to keep your child safe if they are playing the game.

[What Parents & Carers Need To Know About Final Fantasy XIV](#)

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 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 10th June 2025
- Year 4 Multiplication check – Week beginning 2nd June 2025
- Year 6 Key Stage 2 SATs – Monday 12th May to Thursday 15th May 2025





Clubs

Day	Lunchtime	After School
Monday	Recorders	
Tuesday		KS2 Dance (3.30-4.30pm) Y5 & Y6 Art Club (3.30 -4.15pm)
Wednesday	Recorders	KS1 Art (3.30 -4.15pm) Y3 Rugby Minis (3.30-4.30pm)
Thursday		Y2 Yoga (3.30-4.30pm) KS2 Choir (3.30 -4.30pm)

Weekly Attendance

The overall attendance for the whole school this week is 96.5%.

Well done to Reception class who have won the Attendance Award for this week again with 98.6% attendance.

Reception	98.6%
Year 1	94.5%
Year 2	94.9%

Year 3	96.5%
Year 4	95.1%
Year 5	98.2%
Year 6	98.5%

Diary Dates

Tues 24 th September – Fri 27 th September	Scholastic Book Fair
Wednesday 25 th September	Year 5 Robinwood Residential Parents' Meeting 3.30pm (Year 5 Classroom)
Friday 27 th September	MacMillan Coffee morning run by the Mini Vinnies (School Hall) 9.10am
	Year 2 & Year 5 'That History Bloke' class workshops
Thursday 3 rd October	National Poetry Day
	Schools Nursing Team – Flu Immunisations for all pupils
Friday 4 th October	Whole School Mass 10am at Church
Monday 14 th October	Parent/Teacher Meetings
Thursday 17 th October	Reception & Year 6 Buddy Liturgy (School Hall) 9.10am
Friday 18 th October	Show Racism the Red Card Day
Monday 21 st October	Parent/Teacher Meetings
Wednesday 23 rd October	Harvest Festival 2.00pm at Church





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Friday 25 th October	Break up for half term
Monday 4 th November	Pupils return to school
Monday 11 th – 15 th November	Anti-bullying Week
Friday 15 th November	Children in Need Day
Wed 27 th – Friday 29 th November	Year 5 residential to Robinwood
Tuesday 10 th December	Reception & Key Stage 1 Nativity 2.00pm (School Hall)
Wednesday 11 th December	Reception & Key Stage 1 Nativity 9.30am (School Hall)
Thursday 12 th December	Key Stage 2 Carol Service 2.00pm (Church)
Friday 13 th December	Year 6 'That History Bloke' class workshops
Monday 16 th December	Reception & Key Stage 1 Christmas Party
Tuesday 17 th December	Year 3 & Year 4 Christmas Party
Wednesday 18 th December	Year 5 & Year 6 Christmas Party
Friday 20 th December	Break up for Christmas Holidays
Monday 4 th January 2025	Staff Training Day
Tuesday 5 th January	Pupils return to school

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.

Kind regards,

Mrs S Foster
Head Teacher

