



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

31st January 2025

Dear Families,

Thank you to all families who attended our whole school Mass at church this morning; it was lovely to see so many families there joining in and supporting the children. This half-term term, Reception class have had many parents coming in to school to talk to the children about their jobs; I know the children have enjoyed this immensely – thank you for your support!

Celebration of the Word

In our Celebration of the Word next week, we will be thinking about the Gospel reading which teaches us about when Simeon and Anna were in the temple and they saw baby Jesus. Through their faith, they recognised him as God's son. We too are reminded that Jesus is the light that leads us to joy, peace and truth.

Children's Mental Health Week

The theme for this year is 'Know Yourself, Grow Yourself' with the aim to equip and empower children and young people to embrace self-awareness and explore what it means to them. The children will be taking part in a range of activities across the week to develop their own self-awareness to help them build resilience, grow and develop. Please see the attached guide 'Supporting Mental Health: 10 Conversation Starters' which provides advice for parents and carers about how to support your child's mental health and well-being.

Reception Class Stay and Play

On Thursday 6th February at 9.00am, Reception class will be hosting another Play and Stay sessions for parents to attend. Mrs Kershaw and the children are looking forward to having family members join them for the session which will focus on Maths.

Parent/Teacher Meetings

Parent/Teacher meetings are due to take place on Monday 17th and Tuesday 18th February. Please ensure you have booked your appointment via Parentmail. If you are unable to attend, please contact your child's class teacher to arrange an alternative date/time.

Weekly Attendance

The overall attendance for the whole school this week is 97.04%.

Reception	100%
Year 1	96.67%
Year 2	96.32%

Year 3	94.33%
Year 4	98.28%
Year 5	100%
Year 6	95.33%





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Reminders:

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

Clubs for next week:

Day	Before School	Lunchtime	After School
Monday		Recorders	KS1 Art (3.30-4.15pm) Y5 & Y6 Football (3.30-4.30pm)
Tuesday	Year 1 & Year 2 Multiskills (8.00-8.45am)		KS2 Dance (3.30-4.30pm)
Wednesday	Year 3 & Year 4 Multiskills (8.00-8.45am)	Recorders	Y1 Rugby Minis (3.30-4.30pm) KS2 Art (3.30-4.15pm) Y6 SATs Club (3.30-4.30pm)
Thursday			Y3 & Y4 Yoga (3.30-4.30pm) KS2 Choir (3.30-4.30pm)

Diary Dates

Thursday 6 th February	Reception Class Parents' Stay & Play Session (9.00am – 10.00am)
Monday 10 th February	KS1 & KS2 Online Safety Assemblies
Tuesday 11 th February	Safer Internet Day
Monday 17 th February	Parent/Teacher Meetings





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Tuesday 18 th February	Parent/Teacher Meetings
Friday 21 st February	Break up for Half Term Holiday
Monday 3 rd March	Pupils return to school
Wednesday 5 th March	Ash Wednesday KS2 Pupils attend Parish Ash Wednesday Mass at Church(10.00am)
Wednesday 12 th March	First Lego League Event
Mon 17 th – Fri 21 st March	Year 5 Bikeability Sessions
Friday 21 st March	Year 4 Skipping Festival Event
Friday 4 th April	Year 4 Bikeability Sessions
Friday 11 th April	Break up for Easter holidays

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.

Kind regards,

Siobhan Foster
Head Teacher

