



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 4th October 2024

Dear Families,

Last week our Mini Vinnies organised the MacMillan Coffee morning/cake sale and raised £183.33 for the charity. Once again thank you for supporting this event. Thank you to all families who joined us for Mass this morning in church.

Celebration of the Word

The theme of our Celebration of the Word next week is 'Like A Child'. Through the Gospel reading we are reminded that Jesus loves and values everyone, especially children. We are reminded to be trusting in God to help us to make the right decisions.

Mini Vinnies – World Porridge Day

On Thursday 10th October, Mini Vinnies will be selling porridge at morning break to the children, for 50p per portion, in support of Mary's Meals charity. Mary's Meals provides one good meal every school day for hungry children living in 17 of the world's poorest countries. The promise of these meals attracts children to the classroom, where they can gain an education.

The porridge Mini Vinnies will be selling will be dairy-free with the option of adding jam/honey!

Harvest Festival – Change of Date

We have had to change the date of our Harvest Festival which was originally planned for Wednesday 23rd October. This will now take place Thursday 24th October at 2.00pm in St Mary of the Rosary Church.

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.

Sickness Bugs

Just a reminder, children must stay off school for 48 hours from the last incidence of sickness or diarrhea.

Online Safety Guide

Many online games include the chat functionality which is not without associated risks. Please see the attached guide for information about potential risks and advice on how to keep your child safe online.

[What Parents & Carers Need To Know About In-Game Chat](#)

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.





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School Admissions – Reception class & High School

Applications for primary (Reception) and high schools (Year 7) places for September 2025 are 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 Year 6 who have won the Attendance Award for this week with 98.7% attendance.





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Reception	96.9%
Year 1	95.3%
Year 2	94.9%

Year 3	96.6%
Year 4	95.8%
Year 5	97.3%
Year 6	98.7%

Diary Dates

Thursday 10 th October	Year 2 Forest Hall Library Visit
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
Thursday 24 th October	Harvest Festival 2.00pm at Church
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

