



SAINT MARY'S RC PRIMARY ACADEMY

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

DIARY DATES

Monday 9th October

Y6 Swimming

Tuesday 10th October

Our Lady of the Rosary Whole School Liturgy

World Mental Health Day

Parents' Evening 3:30-6:00pm

Thursday 12th October

Parents' Evening 3:30-5:30pm

Friday 13th October

Shining Lights Assembly – parents' welcome 8:50am

PTA Meeting 9:10am – all welcome

Monday 16th October

Y6 Swimming

Tuesday 17th October

Harvest Festival

Wednesday 18th October

Open Morning for EYFS & Year 1- 9-11:30am

School Disco

Friday 20th October

Shining Lights Assembly – parents' welcome 8:50am

END OF TERM 1

Tuesday 31st October 2023

Term 2 begins

Closing date for Y6 Secondary applications

Monday 6th November

Y5 Swimming

Wednesday 8th November

EYFS open morning 9:30-11:30am

Friday 10th November

Shining Lights Assembly – parents' welcome 8:50am

Monday 13th November

Anti-bullying week

Y5 Swimming

Wednesday 15th November

EYFS Intake 2024 applications open

Friday 17th November

Shining Lights Assembly – parents' welcome 8:50am

BBC Children in Need Fundraiser – non-uniform

Monday 20th November

Road Safety Week

Y5 Swimming

Tuesday 21st November

EYFS open morning 9:00-11:30am

EYFS open afternoon 3:45-4:45pm

Friday 24th November

Shining Lights Assembly – parents' welcome 8:50am

SAFEGUARDING

St Mary's RC Primary Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the well-being of all pupils. Each child's welfare is of up most importance. **Safeguarding is everyone's business.** If you have any safeguarding concerns, St Mary's RC Primary Academy Designated Safeguarding Lead is **Mrs L Gleed-Thornley (Headteacher)**. Our Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads are **Mrs Williams (Deputy Headteacher)**, **Mrs Brader (SENCo/KS1 Leader)** and **Miss Spikings (Administrator)**. Our Safeguarding Governor is **Ms M Lewis**. Further Safeguarding information can be found on our school website under the 'Welcome' tab.

e-Safety – National Online Safety

<https://nationalonlinesafety.com/>

What parents need to know about the game Among Us

<https://nationalcollege.com/guides/among-us>

MacMillan Cancer Support

Thank you to those parents who attended the coffee afternoon last Friday, it was lovely to see you all. Thank you to Mrs Liu and her helpers for making the coffee gift bags. Including donations from the non-uniform collection, a total of £222.20 was raised – thank you for your contributions!

Parents' Evening

Spaces are still available to meet with your child's class teacher. If you would like to book an appointment please phone or call into the school office and an appointment will be arranged for you.

Wrates Photographs – Order Deadline – Wednesday 11th October

All proof cards were sent out last week, the deadline for placing orders is Wednesday 11th October. If you would like to order your child's photo, please place your order online direct with Wrates using the username and password on your proof card. All orders placed by the 11th can take advantage of free delivery to school, the free delivery option will be turned off after this date and you will have to pay for delivery to your home address.

Road Safety



These zigzagged markings outside schools are to provide a clear, safe area where children can see traffic, and be seen by drivers. Drivers should never stop on them, even for picking up and dropping off children. Always park where it is safe and legal to do so and make sure your child gets out of the car on the kerb side rather than into the traffic.

A concerned parent reported that they had witnessed some children, stepping into the road. If your child walks to school alone, please speak to them about staying safe. All the children have been spoken to about road safety and being sensible when lining up for the school gate to open. We thank you for your support in continuing to keep our children safe. If your child comes into school on their bike or scooter, it is an expectation that they wear a helmet.

Attendance w/c 2nd October 2023

Above National Average National Average Below National Average

EYFS	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Whole School
99%	92.2%	95.1%	99.4%	95.2%	98.4%	90.9%	95.7%

Our attendance target is 97.5%

Well done to Year 3 who had the highest attendance with 99.4%

"We love, we learn, we grow; walking with faith in the light of the Lord"

Harvest Festival

This year for our annual Harvest Festival, we once again ask for your generosity in supporting those less fortunate within our own community. All items collected will be donated to the Boston Foodbank. All donations will be gratefully received; however, these items are currently urgently required by Boston Foodbank:

- Fruit squash or long-life fruit juice 1 ltr
- Tinned fish 400g
- Tinned meat 400g
- UHT milk (1 litre)
- Toiletries

Please ensure any donations are brand new and sealed and that food items are in date. Every year we are amazed at the generosity displayed by our Saint Mary's family through our Harvest Festival collection, and we thank you very much for your continued support. Please ensure all donations are in school by the morning of Tuesday 17th October 2023.

Introduction of Fixed Penalty Formal Warning from September 2023

From September 2023 we have decided to take the decision to request that the Local Authority issue a Fixed Penalty Notice where unauthorised absence exceeds 15% in a six-week period.


If you wish to seek approval for any request of absence for your child(ren) from School, then you must apply in writing to the Head of School, at least four weeks in advance of the requested period. (Please request a form from the school office). You should only remove your child(ren) if the absence has been authorised, and notified to you in writing by the School. Any exceptional circumstances must be clearly set out in the written request to the Head Teacher who will consider each case upon its merits.

If you then choose to take your child out of school during term time and it is not deemed to be exceptional circumstances and/or has not been approved by the School, then this will be coded as an unauthorised absence and a Fixed Penalty Notice will be issued for the period of absence.

The law states that, where there are unacceptable levels of attendance, schools may request that the Local Authority issue a Fixed Penalty Notice following the legal framework:

- Section 7 of the Education Act 1996 places upon parents a duty to ensure that their child receives efficient full-time education either by regular attendance at school or otherwise.
- Where a child is a registered pupil at a school and the parent fails to ensure that child's regular attendance at school the parent is liable to be prosecuted for a criminal offence under section 444 of the Education Act.
- In some cases, where this duty is not being fulfilled Section 444B of the same Act empowers the Local Authority to issue a Fixed Penalty of £60 per parent, per child, which will increase if the fine isn't paid within the first 21 days to £120
- Failure to pay a Fixed Penalty may result in further legal action being taken against you.

ALL fines are retained by the Local Authority and the school does not receive any of this. We will continue to work with families to support as much as we can with attendance and further information can be found in our school attendance policy on our website. Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please contact the school office to make an appointment.

 Well done to all the children who received their Shining Lights Awards on Friday 6th October 2023		
YEAR 1	Amelia C has been chosen as Shining Light for some super storytelling writing in our English lessons! Amelia is also a fantastic role model to the other children, reminding them about kind hands and careful listening. Amelia has approached her learning with more confidence over the last few weeks and it's wonderful to see. Well done Amelia!	Yanah-Grace has been chosen as Shining Light for a fantastic retelling of our class novel. She demonstrated super concentration to independently rewrite the story. Yanah also displays our Gospel Values on a daily basis, ensuring that she shares and listens carefully during partner work. Well done Yanah!
YEAR 2	Evangelin has been chosen as this week's Shining Light for really putting the effort into her work. She has been working in maths more independently and has been able to order numbers from smallest to largest. She has also started writing more independently and it has been great to see.	Tyler has been chosen as this week's Shining Light for working really hard on his presentation. He is including finger spaces in his writing too. He always joins in on the carpet and has some great knowledge in science where he is able to talk and write about different living creatures.
YEAR 3	Alan has been chosen as Shining Light this week, by the adults in Year 3, for showing our virtue of respect. He is always the first in our class to show you are listening, he contributes to all class discussions and always tries his very best. Well done Alan!	James has been voted by Year 3 as Shining Light this week for showing our Gospel Values by thinking about others and always making everyone laugh with his great sense of humour. Well done James!
YEAR 4	Isaac has been chosen as this week's Shining Light by the adults in Year 4. He's been chosen because he has given some fantastic ideas in our Guided Reading lessons and made inferences about what we have read. He always shows that he is listening to others in discussions as well as providing his own contributions in a respectful way. Additionally, Isaac is incredibly well-mannered and is always willing to help. Well done Isaac.	Jacob has been chosen as this week's Shining Light by the children in Year 4. They have chosen him because he is kind and they notice that he always shows the gospel values. One person said that Jacob always shows forgiveness to others and helps settle any minor arguments in a mature way. He is an excellent friend to others and should be very proud of himself. Well done Jacob!

YEAR 5	Kajus has continued to impress the adults in Year 5 with his work ethic. He tries hard and listens well too. Alongside this, Kajus has been working hard to ensure his handwriting is neat. In particular this week, Kajus has impressed the adults with his writing in English. He wrote a brilliant sci-fi narrative set on Pandora, ensuring that he included some fantastic description about what his main character could see and feel.	Star has been chosen for shining lights this week for her fantastic use of vocabulary. Star is always very eager to take part in lessons and share her brilliant ideas and opinions with her peers. Alongside this, Star has been working exceptionally hard during our Guided Reading lessons. She has listened to our class novel intently and is able to answer questions about the text confidently. Keep up the hard work, Star!
YEAR 6	Jemimah has been chosen as this week's Shining Light by her classmates for being cheerful and encouraging to others. One of her classmates wrote that they were pleased to see her forgiving someone that had upset her.	Leon has been chosen as this week's Shining Light by his teachers for the quality of work he has produced this week—particularly in the biography he wrote on Charles Darwin. He has definitely challenged himself to use high-level vocabulary words and complex sentence structure.

CLASS NEWS

EYFS

This week in EYFS, we will begin our new topic 'Exploring Autumn'. In this topic, we will be learning about some signs of autumn, what Harvest Festival is and celebrating Harvest by creating our own artwork. In maths, we will be learning about patterns, spotting patterns around us and learning how to copy repeating patterns. Finally, in RE, we will continue our 'what makes us special' topic by learning that God knows us by name and loves each one of us.

Year 1

This week in maths we will be recapping subtraction within 10, practicing subtraction by crossing out and taking away. In English we will be practicing writing using persuasion. In RE we will be discussing ways that God looks after us. We will learn about the 5 oceans in geography, sketch portraits of ourselves in art and sort objects by their properties in science.

Year 2

This week in Year 2 we are going to be writing our non-chronological reports on dragons and other fairy tale creatures. We will be using sub headings to split up our writing into sections and we will be using conjunctions such as because, that and when. In our maths learning this week we will be finding number bonds to 10, 20 and 100. We will be using tens frames to help us as well as hundred squares. In RE we will be learning about new beginnings and prayers as well as how we can thank God each day. In our geography learning we will be finding out about hot and cold places and what they are like.

Year 3

This week, in maths, we start our addition and subtraction topic by exploring number bonds and patterns when adding and subtracting 1s, 10s and 100s. In English, we are learning about features of non-chronological reports and focusing on using capital letters when writing a description. During our RE lessons, we are thinking about ways in which parents and children love and respect one another and how this links to rules within our home and the rules we follow as Christians. In geography, we are learning about the properties of the Earth's four layers and in art, we are recreating a colour composition in an innovate challenge. As part of Black History Month, this week, we are learning about Nelson Mandela and creating a fact file all about him.

Year 4

This week in English we will be finishing, editing and publishing our informal letters about spending the day in another country. In Maths we are continuing with rounding numbers to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000. In Science we are identifying the four types of teeth and their functions. In Geography we will be looking at the contrasting climates of North and South America, identifying their similarities and differences. We begin a new topic in R.E and will be exploring ours and others' family trees. We will also be looking at different ways we can stay safe in PSHE.

Year 5

This week in English we will be planning and writing our own persuasive letters, trying to persuade the children of St Mary's to care for and look after their environment. In Maths we will be moving onto a new unit of learning, focusing on multiples, factors and prime numbers. During our RE learning we will be exploring and discussing the actions of 'peacemakers', giving reasons for what they did. We will also be making links between Genesis 1:26-31, the qualities that God has given us and how we as God's children, help to look after the world and the people in it. Within Science we will be investigating pulleys and during our Geography lesson we will be exploring a range of continents. Towards the end of the week we will be learning how to say classroom instructions in French and in art we will be sketching and painting landscapes.

Year 6

In English this week, Year 6 will be completing their biographies on Sir David Attenborough. We will then move on to writing persuasive texts about the importance of 'Looking after our planet.' In Maths, we will be calculating division using short and long methods. R.E. will be based on God's unconditional love and questions we may have about life linked to Christian beliefs. We will be using scales on the map for Geography and analysing data in Science.

Parent Teacher Association (PTA)

St Mary's are looking for volunteers to set up and run the school's PTA. The main role of the PTA is to build strong working relationships among parents, teachers and schools, in support of students, at schools where the PTA raises a significant portion of the school's discretionary money. In recent years the PTA have worked really hard in raising money for our school by organising events such as Discos, musical evenings, Christmas & Summer Fair and a BBQ at Sports Day are just some of the events that have been held over the years which have helped to pay for new books for the library, compost and plants for Gardening Club, Pantomime at Blackfriars, breakfast for SAT's, Year 1 dressing up outfits, Autism items and Year 6 diaries and pens. PTA events cannot happen without volunteers to run and organise them. The PTA committee is a small group of parents who always welcome new members to help co-ordinate the events diary. If you feel you can offer some of your spare time, please let the school office know – Thank you.

Parent Pay

Thank you to those who have already signed up to ParentPay - In an attempt to remove all cash and cheques from school we are asking all parents to sign up to ParentPay to pay for school trips, breakfast club etc. If you haven't already done so, please visit www.parentpay.com and activate your account via the Account login area on the home page of the site. Please do not hesitate to contact the school office if you need assistance. Your support in using ParentPay will help the school enormously, thank you. **Did you know, you can pay any amount into ParentPay weekly/monthly to save for any upcoming trips/events, this is then held in your ParentPay account until you need to make a payment.**

Free School Meals

If your financial circumstances have changed and you think your child may be entitled to Free School Meals, please call the school office where we will advise you on how to make an application for Free School Meals or click on the link below to create an account and apply.

<https://lcc.cloud.servelec-synergy.com/SynergyWeb/Parents/default.aspx>

Hot School Meals

All pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 can receive a hot school meal FREE EVERYDAY! All children in KS2 can order a hot school meal at a cost of £2.30 per day. A School meal provides children with a healthy varied and balanced diet providing the right amount of energy to ensure that your child can work better in the afternoons. If you would like your child to have a school meal please come to the office where we will provide further information. Take a look at the Ideal School Meal website for an idea of the meals they provide - <https://schoolmealsonline.com/login> The deadline

for ordering is a Monday for orders placed for the following week. If you have any queries, parents can contact Ideal School Meals direct on 01522 246424 or via email admin@schoolmealsonline.co.uk

Twitter & Facebook

Our Twitter & Facebook accounts are the best way to keep up to date with everything happening in school. Recently we have tweeted about upcoming events and even posted some children's fantastic learning online. Make sure you follow us on twitter @bostonstmarys. You do not need to have a Twitter account to view our tweets! You can see all tweets by clicking the link on our website www.bostonstmarys.co.uk or at twitter.com/bostonstmarys