



# SAINT MARY'S RC PRIMARY ACADEMY

## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

### DIARY DATES

#### Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October

Y6 Swimming

#### Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October

Harvest Festival

#### Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October

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

School Disco KS1 3:30

#### Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October

Shining Lights Assembly – parents' welcome 8:50am

**END OF TERM 1**

#### Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023

**Term 2 begins**

Closing date for Y6 Secondary applications

#### Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November

Y5 Swimming

#### Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November

EYFS open morning 9:30-11:30am

#### Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November

Shining Lights Assembly – parents' welcome 8:50am

#### Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November

Anti-bullying week

Y5 Swimming

#### Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November

EYFS Intake 2024 applications open

#### Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November

Shining Lights Assembly – parents' welcome 8:50am

BBC Children in Need Fundraiser – non-uniform

#### Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November

Road Safety Week

Y5 Swimming

#### Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November

EYFS open morning 9:00-11:30am

EYFS open afternoon 3:45-4:45pm

#### Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November

Shining Lights Assembly – parents' welcome 8:50am

**Our newsletter is emailed out weekly,  
please check your emails regularly  
for important information sent home  
from school – Thank you!**

### 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>

### Arbor - Management Information System (MIS)

We have recently changed our MIS and have moved over to a system called Arbor. This is similar to Scholarpack which let's us communicate with you and shows you information held by the school on your child to ensure that everything is kept up to date. Login details have already been sent out, thank you to those who have already signed up. **This App is used to communicate with parents on a daily basis, please ensure you have your notifications turned on so you don't miss any vital information.**

### Blackfriars Theatre: Pantomime – Peter Pan

The whole school are very excited to be visiting Blackfriars Theatre to watch Peter Pan on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December. We are asking for a voluntary contribution of £14.30 per child to meet the total cost, this includes the cost of the coach and entrance to the show. We have given a deadline of **Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October** for all payments to be received. **We appreciate that this is a voluntary contribution, however, if insufficient contributions are received by this date, this visit may have to be cancelled.** We have set up the option to pay for this trip online via your ParentPay account.

### Harvest Festival

Thank you to everyone who has already donated, if you haven't already and would like to donate, 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 17<sup>th</sup> October 2023.

### The Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership (LRSP)

The academic year 2022-2023 saw the Lincolnshire Road Safety Education Team deliver vital road safety sessions to over 12,000 primary aged children across the county of Lincolnshire, making youngsters think about road safety whenever using the roads. Parents and carers can support our work by reminding your young people to stay safe no matter how they use the roads.

[Go to this e-newsletter](#)

### Attendance w/c 9th 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
99.1%	86.4%	95.4%	97.4%	97%	98.9%	98.4%	96.1%

Our attendance target is 97.5%

Well done to EYFS who had the highest attendance with 99.1%

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



Boston St. Mary's  
RC PRIMARY ACADEMY

## Well done to all the children who received their Shining Lights Awards on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2023

<b>YEAR 1</b>	<b>Niall</b> has been chosen as this week's Shining Light for super work in our maths lessons. Niall impressed us last week by not only writing number sentences in 2 different ways but 4 different ways! His independence and confidence has blossomed over recent weeks and it is lovely to see his pride towards his learning. Well done Niall!	<b>Sharon</b> has been chosen as this week's Shining Light for her fantastic presentation in all of her subjects and her contributions. Sharon tries carefully to form her letters correctly and make sure she writes one number per square in her maths books. She has also impressed us this week by putting her hand up more often to contribute to carpet time. Well done Sharon!
<b>YEAR 2</b>	<b>Jewel Mary</b> has been chosen as this week's Shining Light for giving everything a really good go. She is working really well in maths and is joining in well on the carpet. She always works with a smile on her face and puts all her effort into her learning. Keep it up.	<b>Zikora</b> has been chosen as this week's Shining Light for trying really hard with all his learning. He has given some great answers on the carpet when it comes to respecting each other. He also worked hard to make sure that his writing is neat and starts at the beginning of each line. Keep working hard.
<b>YEAR 3</b>	<b>Jayden</b> has been voted by Year 3 as Shining Light this week for being a kind and caring friend who shows the Gospel Values in class and out in the playground. He is helpful without being asked and is polite and well-mannered. Well done Jayden!	<b>Kady</b> has been chosen as Shining Light this week, by the adults in Year 3, for adjusting well to new teachers and routines, following instructions and making good progress with her phonics. Good job Kady!
<b>YEAR 4</b>	<b>Aimee</b> has been chosen as this week's Shining Light by the children in Year 4. They have chosen her because they think she is a kind friend to them. One person said that she always makes them laugh at play times and cheers others up if they are ever upset. Her classmates and the adults also think she is really helpful. Well done, Aimee.	<b>Lydia</b> has been chosen as this week's Shining Light by the adults in Year 4. She has been chosen because she has written a fantastic informal letter talking about spending the day in another country. Lydia has worked really hard on her spelling and tried super hard to include all the features of an informal letter. Miss Hall and I were really impressed! Well done Lydia.
<b>YEAR 5</b>	<b>Jacob</b> has been chosen for shining lights this week for his fantastic attitude towards his and his peers learning. Alongside another member of Year 5, Jacob has continued to quiz the class about the protected characteristics and is able to confidently explain what they all mean. Additionally, Jacob has impressed the adults in Year 5 with his brilliant home learning, going above and beyond to produce a fantastic PowerPoint. Overall, Jacob is a wonderful member of Year 5, who is always very happy to help his peers. You should be extremely proud of yourself. Keep up the hard work Jacob!	<b>Lucja</b> has been chosen for shining lights this week for her fantastic effort in all our lessons. She always tries her absolute best and this has shone through in her English learning this week. Lucja always ensures her presentation is neat and her learning is always presented beautifully. Lucja is also an extremely helpful individual and has taken responsibility for looking after our class worship journal alongside another member of Year 5. Keep up the hard work Lucja!
<b>YEAR 6</b>	<b>Gabija</b> has been chosen as this week's Shining Light by her teachers for the effort she put into her Maths, particularly when using formal methods for division. Keep up the good work!	<b>Oscar</b> has been chosen as this week's Shining Light by his classmates for being encouraging to his classmates. One of his classmates wrote that he makes a great learning partner because he helps them discuss their work and gives them good ideas.

### CLASS NEWS

#### EYFS

Wow! We are almost at the end of our first term of EYFS. This week in EYFS, we will be finishing our 'Exploring Autumn' topic. In phonics, we will review previously learnt sounds and we are practising using Fred talk to blend. In RE, we will continue our Myself topic, recognising the love God has for us. Finally, in maths we will be focusing on numbers 1-2, counting, numeral recognition and subitising.

#### Year 1

This week in maths we will be finishing our addition and subtraction topic by exploring addition and subtraction fact families. In English we will be writing a letter to Max to convince him to go back to visit the Wild Things. In RE we will be listening to some prayers about God's love for us. In geography we will be identifying the similarities and differences between two places and in PSHE we will discuss the importance of good dental care. We can't believe how quickly the first term in Year 1 has flown by and we hope you have a restful half term.

#### Year 2

This week in Year 2 we are going to be adding and subtracting in maths. We will be adding 1 more, 1 less as well as adding three 1-digit numbers together using objects and a hundred square. In our English learning we will be writing poems and learning about rhyming couplets. We will be using word mats to help us innovate a poem so that we can create our own picture poem at the end of the week. In geography we will be learning about sustainability and how it affects our world. In art this week we are evaluating our piece of art work from last week. In science we are learning about what amphibians need to survive.

#### Year 3

This week, in maths, we continue with addition and subtraction, focusing on mental calculations and the use of counters and Base 10 by making the connections between the concrete and pictorial before moving on to the formal written methods. In English, we are writing our non-chronological reports on the 'Layers of the Earth' and in RE we are describing ways in which we can live out the words 'Love one another' and giving reasons for our actions. In science, we are comparing and contrasting the diets of different animals and in geography we are learning about continental drift. I hope you all have a fabulous and well deserved half-term break.

#### Year 4

This week in English we will be writing our explanation text all about how the digestive system works. In Maths, we will be looking at addition, adding 2- and 3-digit numbers with and without exchanging. In R.E we are exploring the stories of Abraham and Joseph, the song of Jacob and giving reasons for their actions. In Geography we will be creating a fact file about a country in North or South America. We will also be looking at the Obamas as part of Black History Month, finding out why they are significant.

#### Year 5

I can't believe we are heading into our final week of our 1<sup>st</sup> term together! A huge well done to everyone in Year 5 for their fantastic effort this term – you have all settled in well and have produced some fantastic learning. This week we will be writing poems about Rosa Parks. In maths will be learning about square and cube numbers and we will also be multiplying by 10, 100 and 1000. In Geography we will be exploring human geography of continents and locating and finding out about world cities. During our RE lessons this week we will be exploring and reflecting upon our own personal uniqueness. We will also be exploring the life of Mother Teresa, describing how her actions were linked to her beliefs and values. During Art we will be continuing our learning about landscapes and will be drawing and painting a landscape. During our computing lesson, we will be learning what consent it.

#### Year 6

Firstly, thank you to all the parents who attended parents' evening. It was pleasing to see and hear the support you give your children in regards to their learning and wanting them to achieve their best. If you were unable to make an appointment, please contact the office and I will do my best to arrange an alternative date. In Maths this week we will be continuing with formal methods for division and solving word problems. We will be writing persuasive texts in English stating our views on the use of animals for laboratory testing. Religious Education will be focussing on God's unconditional love, forgiveness and linking these to Christian beliefs. In Geography we will be completing our Changing World topic by using grid references to find places on a map. We will wrap up our Science topic by looking at adaptations in plants and, hopefully, making our own fossils.

#### 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.

#### 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](http://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](mailto: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](http://www.bostonstmarys.co.uk) or at [twitter.com/bostonstmarys](https://twitter.com/bostonstmarys)