



## DIARY DATES

### 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 (held in classrooms – no parents)

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

Anti-bullying week

Y5 Swimming

Flu Immunisation

### 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

### Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November

Y5 Swimming

### Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November

Art Exhibition 3:30pm

### Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December

Shining Lights Assembly – parents' welcome 8:50am

### Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December

Y5 Swimming

### Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December

Christmas Fair 3:30-5pm

### Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December

Shining Lights Assembly – parents' welcome 8:50am

### Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December

Y5 Swimming

### Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December

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>

## 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.**

## Afterschool Clubs

Please note Basket Ball has finished for this term. Please collect your child at the normal time of 3:15pm.

29<sup>th</sup> November - Crafts Club is cancelled

Christmas Market - all clubs are cancelled

## Poppy Appeal

We will be selling items for the Poppy Appeal this week, including keyrings, snap bands, bracelets and zip pulls. Items range from 50p to £1.50, and will be available to purchase on the school playground after school. Thank you in advance for your contributions to this worthy cause.

## Christmas Fair

St Mary's Christmas Fair will be held on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December, if you would like a stall, or know anyone that does, please contact the school office for further information.

## Bus Stand

You may have noticed there is a new bus stand which is adjacent to Tower Road Academy. This has been marked out for use by all coaches, minibuses and minibus taxis collecting or dropping off - it is illegal for cars to use, even for short periods of time e.g. dropping off or collecting, and fines will be issued if drivers are caught parking there.

### Attendance w/c 30th 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
93%	91.7%	95.3%	98.7%	97.6%	95.8%	91.6%	95%

Our attendance target is 97.5%

Well done to Year 3 who had the highest attendance with 98.7%

*"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 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2023

<b>EYFS</b>	<b>Munashe</b> received a Shining Light award this week for joining in with carpet time activities and class discussions. He has been raising his hand more to answer questions and gave his opinion and we can see how much this is helping his confidence.	<b>Sofia</b> received a Shining Light award this week for her amazing effort in phonics. Sofia has been trying hard to improve her letter formation and is building her independence when writing CVC words.
<b>YEAR 1</b>	<b>Alby</b> has been chosen as Shining Lights this week for impressing us by having a go at writing independently in English. He has been using his phonics knowledge to sound out words by himself. In maths Alby has shown great concentration during carpet time and putting his hand up too! Well done Alby!	<b>Thivian</b> has been chosen as Shining Light this week for brilliant work in our maths lessons identifying and sorting 2-D shapes. He has displayed a fantastic understanding of the properties of 2-D shapes, as well as showing a greater concentration when writing in English. Well done Thivian!
<b>YEAR 2</b>	<b>Daniel</b> has been chosen as this week's Shining Light for trying really hard with his RE work. He was able to draw different ways that you could be a child of God and used his sounds to help him write underneath. He also created a clear story map in English to retell our new class text.	<b>Sophie</b> has been chosen as this week's Shining Light for giving everything a really good go. She has worked fantastically in art when creating a piece of work for our class exhibition. She has made sure she has been focused and given answers on the carpet during our shared discussions.
<b>YEAR 3</b>	<b>Aashwin</b> has been chosen as Shining Light this week, by the adults in Year 3, for making a real effort to join in with class and group discussions and sharing his super ideas with us all. It is wonderful to see him becoming more confident and your oracy skills improving. Well done Aashwin!	<b>Isabelle</b> has been chosen by Year 3 as Shining Light this week for being kind, caring, helpful and for showing the Gospel Value of love. She also makes her classmates laugh and cheers them up if they are feeling sad. Well done Isabelle.
<b>YEAR 4</b>	<b>Evelyn</b> has been chosen as this week's Shining Light by the children in Year 4. She has been chosen because she is incredibly thoughtful, kind and shows care towards others. She is a positive member of the class, and always has a smile on her face. Her classmates also said that she is always making sure her friends are ok and will willingly help them. Well done, Evelyn!	<b>Sandra</b> has been chosen as this week's Shining Light by the adults in Year 4. She has been chosen because she has been working really hard in her learning and her confidence has increased, especially in English and Maths. She often contributes some fantastic ideas in class and will happily share some brilliant pieces of work with others as well as showing a love of learning new things. Well done, Sandra!
<b>YEAR 5</b>	<b>Augustina</b> has been chosen for Shining Lights for being a kind, caring and polite member of Year 5. She always compliments both the staff and pupils in Year 5 and always want to help others. Augustina has a very kind heart and always want to try her best. She is working hard on her presentation and has impressed the adults in Year 5 with her fantastic art skills – she created a fantastic landscape for her home learning. Well done Augustina.	<b>Wojciech</b> has been chosen for Shining Lights for being a thoughtful member of Year 5. He went out of his way to help his peers with their learning, giving up his own lunch break. He has returned back to school with a fantastic attitude and have impressed the adults in Year 5 with his brilliant home learning too.
<b>YEAR 6</b>	<b>Awesome</b> has been chosen by her classmates for always being a good friend and making others laugh when they are sad. She is a good role model for others and is always polite.	<b>Ruben</b> has been chosen by the staff in Year 6 class for the great effort he has put into his writing. He has a brilliant vocabulary and shares his interesting ideas with the class. His recent Remembrance Day poem displayed his creativity.

### CLASS NEWS

#### EYFS

This week in Reception, we will be building on our celebrations topic by continuing our learning about Diwali and taking a look at some of the celebrations children in our class take part in at home. We will also be learning about Remembrance Day and creating art to help us remember the people who help to protect our country. In maths, we will be learning about 2D shapes with a focus on circles and triangles. Finally, in RE we will be learning about the Jewish celebration Hanukkah and exploring our big question 'What is Hanukkah?'

#### Year 1

This week in maths we will be naming, sorting and creating patterns with 3-D shapes. In English we will be learning about nouns and using these to write a character description. In RE we will be learning about the religion of Judaism and will hear the story of the family of Abraham. We will be naming parts of the body in science and ordering events on a timeline in history.

#### Year 2

This week in Year 2 we are continuing to write about our class book. We will be describing characters using descriptive language and using past tense verbs so that we can write in the correct tense when something has already happened. In maths we are continuing to add and subtract and we will be adding and subtracting across 10 using our number bonds to help us. Please continue to practise your number bonds to 10 at home as this will help you with your learning. In RE we will be starting our other faiths topic on Judaism where we will be learning about how they celebrate the sabbath called Shabbat. In history this week we are learning about Neil Armstrong and why he was a significant person in our time.

#### Year 3

This week in maths, we are using the formal method (column method) to add and subtract 2- and 3-digit numbers with exchanges. In English, over the next few weeks, we are going to be using the book 'Stone Age Boy' as a stimulus for writing a historical narrative and diary entry. This week, we are focusing on becoming familiar with the story, writing expanded noun phrases and using 'show, don't tell' to convey emotions. In RE, we begin our 'Other Faiths' topic of Judaism, where we learning all about synagogues. In history and our Stone Age topic, we are arranging events from the past in chronological order, and in science, we are describing the function of the skeleton and muscles. We have our first Spanish lesson this week,

learning to count to 10 in Spanish – ask your child about the song they have been learning to help them! Please have a look at our Year 3 class page, which has the recent knowledge organisers with the key information your child will be learning this term. It also has the current home learning which is uploaded each week.

#### Year 4

This week in English we are planning our own historical narrative set in the Viking Age. In Maths we will be completing our addition and subtraction unit by looking at inverse operations and different methods of subtraction. In History we begin our Invasion topic and what happened after the Romans withdrew from Britain. In Science we will be exploring what sound is. We begin our Other Faiths topic in R.E as we explore what the Torah is and why it is significant to Jewish people.

#### Year 5

This week in English we will be writing character descriptions for both Mulan and her father. Alongside this, we will also be writing a setting description of Ancient China. In maths we will be learning about division, and will be dividing using the bus stop method. In History we will be learning about bronze and the significance this played during the Shang Dynasty. During our RE lessons this week we will be exploring why and how Jewish people celebrate Passover and also the importance of the Sedar plate during Passover. During Science we will be learning about the solar system, in PSHE we will be exploring discrimination and in French we will be asking and giving our names.

#### Year 6

Year 6 will be extending their narrative writing, based on the book- Goodnight Mr Tom. This links closely to our History topic, Britain at War. We will be introducing the topic by discussing the question, "What is war?" In Maths we will be continuing with fractions: finding common denominators, adding and subtracting fractions. Judaism will be our focus in Religious Education for the next two weeks. In Science we will be studying how light travels moving onto understanding how we see.

#### 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](https://twitter.com/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)