



SAINT MARY'S RC PRIMARY ACADEMY

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

DIARY DATES

Monday 4th December

Y5 Swimming

Tuesday 5th December

Y5 Planetarium

Wednesday 6th December

Christmas Fair 3:30-5pm

Thursday 7th December

Christmas Jumper Day

Christmas Dinner Day

Friday 8th December

Mass in Church

Monday 11th December

Y5 Swimming

Tuesday 12th December

Blackfriars Theatre – Peter Pan

Scholastic Book Fair in school 3:15-4:00pm

Wednesday 13th December

Scholastic Book Fair in school 3:15-4:00pm

Thursday 14th December

EYFS/KS1 Nativity Performance 2pm

Scholastic Book Fair in school 3:15-4:00pm

Friday 15th December

EYFS/KS1 Nativity Performance 2pm

Shining Lights Assembly – parents' welcome 8:50am

Monday 18th December

Scholastic Book Fair in school 3:15-4:00pm

Tuesday 19th December

Y3 Class Liturgy – parents' welcome 9:00am

Wednesday 20th December

KS2 Carol Concert – parents' welcome 1:45pm

END OF TERM 2

Wednesday 3rd January 2024

Term 3 begins

Monday 8th January

Y2 Swimming

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 Online Safety Act

<https://rb.gy/1sa69f>

Christmas Jumper Day

Christmas Jumper Day is Thursday 7th December, all children can come into school wearing their Christmas Jumper (non-uniform).

Christmas Fair

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

Art Exhibition

The art exhibition was a huge success with some fabulous art work on display. You still have the chance to buy your child's art work, to order, please call into the school office.

Y3 Class Liturgy

Y3 will be holding their Class Liturgy on Tuesday 19th December at 9.00am, all parents welcome.

EYFS/KS1 Nativity Production – The Christmas Story

Thursday 14th & Friday 15th December at 2pm

EYFS and KS1 warmly invite you to watch our production of 'The Christmas Story'. Our productions for parents will be held on Thursday 14th and Friday 15th December at 2pm. The production should last no longer than one hour. If you haven't done so already, please click on the link and complete the online form to confirm your attendance. <https://forms.office.com/e/BscWZSJN0F>

KS1 and the Travelling Crib

As the season of Advent begins families across KS1 will be taking part in a special project called "The Travelling Crib". This is to help us remember the journey Mary and Joseph made to Bethlehem, and as a family take time to stop and think about the true meaning of Christmas. Your child will have the opportunity to take the travelling crib home for one night to set up, switch the candle on, say a prayer, read the Christmas story and sing a song together. We would like to hear about your experience of the Travelling crib in your home, so please complete the sheet by attaching a photograph or asking your child to draw a picture and write about how you shared the crib in your home. We look forward to hearing all about it. Don't forget to return the crib the next day so it can be passed on to another child.

Attendance w/c 27th November 2023

Above National Average National Average Below National Average

EYFS	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Whole School
94.2%	89.6%	95%	97.3%	97.4%	96%	96.4%	95.3%

Our attendance target is 97.5%

Well done to Year 4 who had the highest attendance with 97.4%

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


Vacancy - Midday Supervisory Assistant (MDSA)

Position: Permanent

Start date: ASAP

Pay grade: Band 1, Point 1-3

We require a Midday Supervisory Assistant to join our staff team for 5 hours per week, term time only (39 weeks per year). The post involves the supervision of children during the lunchtime break in the building and outside in the playground, as well as a variety of associated tasks: setting up and clearing away of tables and dealing with minor accidents. The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. This post is subject to an enhanced DBS check. If you are interested in applying for the post, application packs are available from the CMAT website: - <https://www.ololcatholicmat.co.uk/work-with-us/vacancies-single/?Category=Midday%2520Supervision&Advert=1OLep71MEs279g9C86q0dQ%3D%3D&Region=BostonStMary%27sCatholicPrimarySchool>

 Boston St. Mary's RC PRIMARY ACADEMY	Well done to all the children who received their Shining Lights Awards on Friday 1st December 2023	
EYFS	Amelia received shining light this week for her amazing work in phonics. She has been trying really hard to remember each sound and has made a lot of progress over the past few weeks. Amelia has also been showing compassion to her friends and displaying the Gospel Value of love through her willingness to share and help others.	Yossi received shining light for her brilliant learning in maths. She is using our STEM sentences to tell us the parts and whole she can see. We were especially impressed with how well she did making number bonds to 5 with the giant Numicon!
YEAR 1	Mateusz has been chosen as Shining Light this week for his fantastic effort towards our RWI lessons. Mateusz has been working hard within his phonics sessions to learn the new sounds and blend together words. In maths he used objects independently to make numbers up to 20 this week. Well done Mateusz!	Sharon has been chosen as Shining Light this week for making a super effort to improve her presentation and the quality of her sentences in English. Sharon has become more confident at using capital letters and full stops and has been using new vocabulary to make her writing more interesting. Well done Sharon!
YEAR 2	Daveed has been chosen as this week's Shining Light for trying really hard with his maths when subtracting this week. He has been able to use objects to cross the tens barrier when subtracting and he has been able to exchange a ten for ten ones confidently. It has been great to see his confidence grow.	Harper-Bow has been chosen as this week's Shining Light for working really hard with all her learning. She always shows a great work ethic and is a great role model for the class. She is starting to use sentence openers in her writing to make it more interesting and in maths she is able to complete challenge 3 confidently. Well done!
YEAR 3	Harriet has been chosen as Shining Light, by the adults in Year 3, for working hard and being the best person she can be! She has been listening carefully and paying attention, and contributing her ideas in group and class discussions, including some lovely ideas for the diary entry we have been writing. She is also being kind and considerate with her friends out in the playground. Well done Harriet!	Joana has been chosen by Year 3 as Shining Light this week because she has been showing our Gospel Values by letting anyone join in her games in the playground. She is also a great friend by being kind, caring and thoughtful. In class, she always works hard and tries her best at everything she does. Well done Joana!
YEAR 4	Nojus has been chosen as this week's Shining Light by the children in Year 4. Everyone that chose him to be Shining Light said that he is kind and caring. They also said that he makes sure everyone is included in his games outside. Nojus is always listening in class, has good manners and is a considerate member of the class. Well done.	William has been chosen as this week's Shining Light by the adults in Year 4. He has been chosen because he's been working independently in English and in particular, Maths. He has worked really hard to understand the 3, 6 and 9 times tables multiplication and division facts, showing enthusiasm within his learning and working really hard. Well done William!
YEAR 5	Mila has been chosen for shining lights this week for her brilliant reading. Just recently, she has increased the number of books she is reading and has impressed the adults in class with her AR quiz scores. Well done Mila and keep up the hard work!	Tanmay has been chosen for shining lights this week for his brilliant effort during maths. He has impressed the adults with his participation in lessons, his presentation and is calculation skills. Tanmay has shown confidence with his fractions knowledge and chosen to complete challenge 3 most days. Well done Tanmay and keep up the hard work!
YEAR 6	Lottie has been chosen as this week's Shining Light by her teachers for her positive attitude she has shown towards all her learning this week. She has been attentive during all lessons and has consistently contributed to our learning discussions in class. We were really impressed with her descriptive use of language in English when looking at symbolism in texts.	Zuzanna has been chosen as this week's Shining Light by her classmates for always setting the example for others to follow. She has a positive attitude at all times and this has been noticed by her classmates. She shows kindness to everyone she meets. One of her classmates commented on how impressed they were with her writing when they read over her work this week. Also, they were very pleased with the way she helped them improve their own writing as well.

CLASS NEWS**EYFS**

This week in EYFS we will be continuing our phonics learning by recalling our set 1 sounds and blending sounds to read words. In maths, we will be learning about 4 sided shapes and recognising properties of these, such as squares having 4 sides that are all the same and rectangles having 2 long and 2 short sides. In RE, we will be learning about the Christmas story and the names of key characters, such as Joseph, Mary and Jesus.

Year 1

This week in maths, we will be comparing and ordering numbers to 20. In English we will write our own versions of Mr Bear's diary. In RE we will hear both the Visitation and Nativity story. We will explore our sense of touch in science, begin to make a hand puppet toy in DT and discuss the similarities and differences in people in PSHE.

Year 2

This week in Year 2 we are going to be writing diary entries based upon Malala's Magic Pencil. We will be using first person language using I, me and my as well as time conjunctions to order our events. In maths this week we are finishing off our adding and subtracting by comparing different number sentences to say which is greater and which is less than. In science this week we will be learning about hygiene and why it is important to stay clean and what would happen if we did not look after our bodies. We will also be practising the school Nativity this week. Please practise your lines at home as it is important your child knows their lines for the play.

Year 3

Over the next couple of weeks in maths, we will be revisiting some fundamental concepts in addition and subtraction and exploring these using various reasoning and problem-solving activities. In English, we are identifying features of instructions and using the picture book 'How to Wash a Woolly Mammoth?' to help us with our own instructional writing. In RE, we are retelling the story of the Annunciation and thinking about how it links to other religious beliefs. During science, we are learning how muscles work and how they provide support and movement, and in history we are comparing advancements in technology (tools and weapons) from the Stone Age to the Iron Age. We are also looking forward to creating our own Bell Beaker pots from clay in DT!

Year 4

This week in English, we will be writing our non-chronological reports all about the Vikings. In Maths, we are using the multiplication and division facts of the 7 and 11 times tables. In R.E we will be creating leaflets/posters about the wise men's journey and what gifts they brought, giving reasons for these. We will be comparing the everyday lives of the Vikings and Anglo Saxons in History and we will be using the glockenspiel in Music to play a piece of music.

Year 5

This week in English we will be learning about and identifying the features of biographies. Alongside this, we will be researching about Tim Peake and will be writing our own biographies about his life and achievements. In maths we will be continuing our learning about fractions and will be adding and subtracting mixed number fractions. In RE we will be exploring and discussing two versions of the Nativity story, making links between them both and we will also be describing how Christians wait in hope for Christ to come again. During our History lesson we will be writing and answering questions about Fu Hao and in MFL we will be asking and stating our ages. During Science we will be describing the difference between lunar and solar eclipses, in DT we will be making our talking boxes as part of our pneumatic challenge and in our RSHE lesson we will be exploring how boys' bodies change during puberty.

Year 6

In English we will be continuing our cross-curricular topic based on WW2 by writing diary entries. Maths will involve multiplying and dividing a mixed range of fractions and finding fractions of amounts. Our History work for next week will be based on the impact WW2 had on British citizens. In Religious Education we will be discussing and exploring what is meant by 'the Word will become human' and Incarnation. In Science we will be measuring light and consolidating how light is reflected. On Friday, we will be supporting Father Dominic during our whole school mass, which will focus on the Blessed Virgin Mary.

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 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