



St. Mary's News

16th June 2017



First Holy Communion

Our children will be making their First Holy Communion tomorrow. The children need to be dropped off at the Infant Hall (side door) at **8 o'clock**. They need to bring their own labelled 'party plate' and drink with them. School staff will bring the children over to Church ready for the 9 o'clock Mass. A letter has been sent home with the children outlining the rest of the arrangements for the morning. We are praying for dry weather as white dresses, new shoes and muddy puddles don't mix very well !!!

First Holy Communion - Choir

A big thank you to all of the children in the choir who have kindly volunteered to sing at the Holy Communion Mass. The children are to be dropped off at Church at **8.45am** where Mrs Taylor will be waiting for them. They can then be picked up at the Infant Hall (side door) at **11.00am** after they have had refreshments. Children **MUST** be in school uniform.

Communion Thank-you

We would like to say a big thank you to Mr. Twist, Mrs Hrabowenskyj, Mrs Hymers, Mrs Taylor, Miss Davies and Mrs Talbot-Davies for their help with the Communion preparations. The children really would not have such a memorable day without the help of the staff who are willing to give up their time for them.

We would also like to thank the parishioners who have worked so hard cleaning the Church and arranging the lovely flowers. A final thank you to Fr Bernard and Mrs McBirnie for working with the children and their families in the With You Always preparation sessions.



Arts Week

Monday sees the start of our exciting Arts Week. The staff and children are really looking forward to the week as there are lots of interesting things planned.

On Monday, all classes will be allocated a different country from around the world and the children will spend the week exploring music, art, traditions, food and dance from their chosen country. The children will have the opportunity to cook traditional foods; research into various artists and create art work in a similar style; explore their country's festivals and iconic events; learn and perform traditional dances and learn to play traditional instruments.

As in previous years, we will be having a celebration assembly on the Friday afternoon at 2.15pm to share the children's learning with you. Everyone is welcome to attend the assembly.

On the Friday of Arts Week the children are able to come to school wearing any of the colours in their chosen country's flag. (Children will be told their country on Monday.)

However, we do ask that they not wear football or rugby kits. The children can also paint the country's flag on their faces and even dye their hair to match to country's colours. Go wild !

In order to cover the costs of some of the activities planned (dance workshops, musical workshops and cooking activities) we are asking for a £3.00 contribution per child— £1.00 per workshop. This cost has been subsidised by the PTFA. (Many thanks.) Money can be sent in via your child's class teacher. If you have not yet paid the £3.00 contribution, can we please ask that the money is sent in on Monday. Without your parental contributions we would be unable to hold our themed weeks and our children really enjoy them.

PLEASE NOTE: Children will need to have their pumps in school on Monday as a dance teacher will be working with all classes throughout the day.



PGL

The annual PGL residential holiday will take place from Wed 28th June to Fri 30th June and our Y6 children are getting very excited about the prospect of time away without their parents. All information has already been sent home via a very detailed letter. If parents have any further questions, please pop in to see Mrs. Hymers.



Summer Holiday Club

Our summer holiday club will run for the first four weeks of the summer holidays. Further details will follow.



School Payments

In line with recommendations given, following a finance audit, we can no longer accept one cheque as payment for multiple things e.g. dinner money, toast and clubs. School must now be given a separate cheque for each payment e.g. a cheque for dinner money; a cheque for toast money etc.

In order to make payments easier, don't forget that you can now pay for dinner money using an online payment system. Simply visit www.sthelens.gov.uk/PPS and click 'Register a new account' to begin the process or speak to Paula in the school office.

Payments

Football Results

Our Y5/6 boys' football team played two further league matches this week.

Last night they played their second league match against Carr Mill Primary School—winning a very close and hard fought game 4-3. A Y5/6 girls' team also played a friendly against Carr Mill and they too won their game by a whopping 13-1. Well done to everyone.

The Y5/6 boys' team are playing their third league match against Chapel End tonight - results to follow. A mixed Y5 team are also playing a friendly game. We wish them all good luck.



RSE

RSE work will be delivered throughout the school during the week commencing Monday 10th July. All work will match the content on the long term plans. Long term plans can be found on the school's web-site under the Religious Education tab.

If you would like to discuss the RSE curriculum further, please pop in to see Mrs Hymers or Mrs Talbot-Davies.



Billinge Walk of Witness

The annual Billinge Walk of Witness takes place on Sunday 25th June and we are inviting our children and their families to walk with us in order to represent the school. In previous years numbers have been quite low. We would especially like our Y4 children to join us in the procession as they always look lovely in their communion outfits and it is the perfect opportunity to wear them for a second time. Our Y4 children are also invited to carry the banner. If you are able to join us on that afternoon we are meeting at St. Aidan's at 1.50pm. We will then walk down Main Street to St. Mary's where there will be a short service. We would really appreciate your support and look forward to seeing you then.



Summer Fayre

This year's Summer Fayre is on Friday, 7th July at 3.30pm. We will be having 2 further non-uniform days:

Thursday 22nd June for donations of toiletries

Monday 3rd July for donations of good quality teddies.

Donations of raffle prizes would be very welcome. We are also asking for donations of old school uniform (with St Mary's, Birchley on).

If anyone works for a bank who match funds the PTFA would be very interested in speaking to you.



Thought for the Weekend



Those who bring sunshine into the lives of others cannot keep it from themselves.

James M. Barrie



Dates For Your Diary

Please make sure you take note of the following dates:

Sat 17th June - First Holy Communion

Mon 19th June - Arts & Music week

Sun 25th June - Walk of Witness

Mon 26th June - Y2 Trip

Wed 28th June - Y6 go to PGL

Thurs 29th June - Going Forth Mass for Communion children & picnic.

Everyone welcome to attend the Mass and picnic.

Mon 3rd July - Sports Day (1)

Thurs 6th July - Sports Day (2)

Fri 7th July - Summer Fayre 3.30pm

Thurs 13th July - Leavers Mass 6.30pm in Church

Fri 14th July - Reports go home

Mon 17th July - Charlotte's Web Week

Tues 18th July - Y1 Trip

Fri 21st July - Leavers' assembly

Fri 21st July - School closes for the Summer



Good Work

Rec - Adelaide

Year 1 - Roman

Year 2 - Charlotte

Year 3 - Chloe

Year 4 - Stephen, Kate

Year 5 - Phoebe

Year 6 - Charlotte, Isabel,
Rhianna

Well done everyone!



Sports Day

Sports Day is on Monday 3rd July (and Thursday 6th July as back up should we need it). We hope that the weather is on our side in July. If not, there are no further dates available, so Sports Day would not be able to go ahead at all. As always, we will try to keep you informed of any decisions we make by sending out text messages and by adding the news to the News Board on the website.



Y6 Visit to St Peter's High School

Next Tuesday the children in Y6 are visiting St Peter's as part of their transition to high school. They will be taken there by mini bus at approximately 9.00am so it is important that everyone is in before then. The children need to take their pencil cases and St Peter's suggest taking £3.50 lunch money. The children will be brought back to St Mary's in time for the end of the school day.



Tea @ 2



Joining Mrs Hymers for tea, cake and a chat today were Aaron (Y6), Erin(Y5), Amy(Y4), Olivia(Y3), Elisha(Y2), Leon(Y1) and Jacob from Reception. We talked about school and Arron said he didn't enjoy SATs, but likes coming to school to be with his friends. Olivia doesn't enjoy comprehension and Amy doesn't enjoy Literacy. Elisha likes coming to school to learn new things and Erin likes the fact that the teachers help you. Leon likes playing outside with his friends and Jacob really enjoys playing Lego.

The children asked Mrs Hymers some questions today for a change and Mrs Hymers said that they could ask her anything—apart from her age! The children found out that Mrs Hymers loves chocolate and enjoys relaxing by reading in the bath. She has a brother and a sister and when she was younger she shared a bedroom with her sister. They didn't get on so they divided the bedroom in half with a skipping rope. The best thing about school for Mrs Hymers is the children..



House Points

Infants

Matthew

Reggie Ritson

Mark

Roman Budden McAlice

Luke

Bronagh Barr

John

Saskia Ruddick

Juniors

Eve Twist & Anya Malinova

Erin Cunliffe & Grace Twist

Ethan Dwyer

Lucia Sass



The overall winners were Reggie Year 1 and Ethan Year 5. Well done everyone.

