



St. Mary's News

24th September 2021



Don't forget
parents'
evening!

Parents' Evening

We are planning to hold our Autumn Parents' Evenings on Wed 13th and Wed 20th October from 3.40—6.30pm.

We are planning to hold the meetings face to face, with distancing measures in place, with Rec & KS1 in the Infant Hall and KS2 in the Junior Hall. Parents moving between the halls will need to do so via the footpath along the front of school and entering through the ABC door or side Infant Hall fire door.

Children will not be permitted to attend the evening, so please do not bring them to sit in the hall with you. ABC will run as usual until 5.30pm, but there will not be any capacity, as there has been in previous years, to drop your child off just for the duration of the meeting.

In order to avoid long queues and high numbers of parents in the halls, can we please ask that you stick promptly to your time—staff will also limit their time with you to the 10 minute allocated slot in order to ensure that appointments do not overrun.

Can we ask that lateral flow tests are taken before coming into school for your appointment.

If you would prefer not to come into school whilst infection rates remain high, you can request a phone consultation with staff on the same evenings above. These calls will also be allocated in ten minute slots.

If infection rates continue to rise, then all appointments will take place over the telephone as they were last year.

In order to make appointments, please email or phone the office with your preferred:

- evening - 13th or 20th October
- time slot of a) 3.40 - 4.15pm b) 4.15 - 5.00pm c) 5.00 - 5.45pm d) 5.45 - 6.30pm
- method of meeting - face to face or via a phone call

EMAIL - stmaryrcbp@sthelens.org.uk

Office staff will then get back to you with your allocated date, time and method of meeting.

Open afternoons will not take place at this time, but once it is safe to do so, we will invite our families into school so that the children are able to share their work with you.

The children's books will be available for you to see during the Parents' Evenings.



Uniform Reminders



If your child is wearing a hoodie in place of their school jumper or cardigan it must be a plain, navy blue fleece/ hoodie (zipped or over the head) with the school logo on it. Please do not send your child into school with a hoodie that has a sports logo on it or a hoodie that isn't navy blue.

KS2 PE Tracksuits. In Y3—Y6, school tracksuits must be worn on a Wednesday and Friday as they are being worn in place of a school uniform. These tracksuits should have the school logo on the jacket and should be labelled with your child's name. If your child is struggling to fit into a school tracksuit - as we know that the sizes are either very big or very small for some of our children, then navy blue cotton joggers (not tight fitting shiny tracksuit pants or leggings) should be worn with either a navy blue fleecy hoodie with the school badge on, or the school's tracksuit top, with the school's logo on. PE shorts should be the navy blue school shorts. They should not be leggings or fleecy shorts.

School Shoes - Trainers, including plain, black trainers, must not be worn for school - other than on a Wednesday and Friday for P.E. Several children are wearing these in the place of shoes.

Earrings - Final Reminder

As from Monday, children attending school with earrings in, whether covered by plasters or not, will be asked to remove them. If your child is unable to remove them, you will be contacted and asked to come in to do so. Everyone has now had time to order the plastic retainers that can be worn instead of the earrings and therefore for Health and Safety reasons, if these are not worn, the earrings must be removed. Please support school with this.



Year 6 Parents' Meeting

Thank you to the Y6 parents who attended the Parents' Meeting on Wednesday. We hope that you found the meeting very useful.

The PowerPoint from the meeting has been uploaded onto the class page for you to keep referring back to for key dates.

If you have any further questions about the year ahead, or if you would like some further guidance with the high school application process, please contact Mrs Hymers or Mrs Naylor via the school office. Application information and faith forms for St. Peter's were given out last night. If you did not attend the meeting, information packs and faith forms can be picked up from the school office. PGL Deposits of £80 need to be paid before October half-term and can be paid via School Money. Remaining balances can also be paid via School Money either as one off payments, monthly or weekly payments. As you pay, you will see the balance reduce and the outstanding payment will be shown. Please note payment must be received in full no later than Friday 10th June 2022.

Provisional Calendar Dates for the Year

Please note that these dates may change in response to the local COVID-19 situation and rising infection rates, so please do keep an eye out for any updates.



Wednesday 13th October 2021	Parents' Evening 1 3.40 - 6.30pm
Wednesday 20th October 2021	Parents' Evening 2 3.40 - 6.30pm
Wednesday 20th October 2021	School closes for half-term
Tuesday 2nd November 2021	School re-opens. PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE DUE TO EXTRA BANK HOLIDAY.
Monday 15th November 2021	Non Uniform Day 1 - in exchange for Christmas Chocolate Donations e.g. selection boxes
Monday 22nd November 2021	Non Uniform Day 2 - in exchange for bottles
Thursday 25th November 2021	Selection Box Bingo - further details to follow
Monday 29th November 2021	Non Uniform Day 3 - in exchange for Christmas Hamper donations—further details to follow
Thursday 2nd December 2021	Christmas Movie Night for Rec/KS1 children. 3.30 - 5.30pm £5.00 per child to include refreshments
Tuesday 7th December 2021	KS1 Nativity Play 2.30pm further details to follow
Wednesday 8th December 2021	KS1 Nativity Play 2.30pm further details to follow
Thursday 9th December 2021	Christmas Movie Night for KS2 children. 3.30 - 5.30pm £5.00 per child to include refreshments
Wednesday 15th December 2021	KS2 Nativity Play 2.00pm and 6.30pm further details to follow
Friday 17th December 2021	Reception Nativity Play 2.30pm further details to follow
Wednesday 22nd December 2021	Whole School Carol Service in Church 2.00pm
Wednesday 22nd December 2021	Break Up for Christmas—No After School Club. Breakfast Club will open as normal.
Wednesday 5th January 2022	School re-opens

Meet our Reading Beacons



We love to read at St. Mary's. Books transport us to different worlds and help us to experience new adventures. In order to share our love of reading and to promote different authors and stories throughout our school community, the following children have been selected to be Reading Beacons for their year group. Their job is to shine a light on all of the wonderful books and authors out there for their class mates to read and try out for themselves.



Year One	Amelia
Year Two	Heidi S
Year Three	Tilly
Year Four	Jonathan
Year Five	Emilia
Year Six	Kiera L & Roman



Introducing our School Librarians.

We are very lucky to have a lovely, well resourced library at St. Mary's that all of our children are able to visit. Our Infant children visit during class time and are helped to choose a book. Our Junior children are able to visit on their chosen day at lunchtime and the Y6 librarians use our electronic library system to sign books in and out. Our children are also able to spend time in the library on their chosen day relaxing and reading and sharing books with each other.



A big thank you to Mrs. O'Donoghue for training our new librarians.

Monday	Ava & Isla	
Tuesday	Reggie, Leon & Keira	
Wednesday	Lexie & Faye	
Thursday	Bronagh & Maya	
Friday	Saskia & Iris	

Get Caught Reading!



Get Caught Reading - A Challenge !

If you love a challenge, why not take part in Our Get Caught Reading Competition! Simply take a photograph of yourself reading in a very strange or unusual place and email it into school. There will be a £10 book voucher for the best Infant and Junior entry. We will display all entries around school. Photographs need to be sent into school by Monday October 4th.

Please do join in and let's see how creative you can be!

Rising Numbers of Infections

Primary and Secondary Schools across the borough are continuing to see significant rises in the number of COVID cases in their school communities. Some have already had to revert back to class 'bubbles' and others are approaching the threshold levels that require Public Health intervention and the reintroduction of further measures.

In order for us to keep everyone safe, can we please, please ask that, as a family, you take regular lateral flow tests and that, if positive, you then take a confirmatory PCR test. Many of the cases currently being detected by lateral flow tests are from children who are not showing any symptoms at all - which is rather worrying as the only way of detecting these cases is via testing.

At St. Mary's, our threshold levels for the reintroduction of further measures is 3 children or staff (10%), who have been in close contact with each other, testing positive within a 10 day period.

Our children have really loved being able to mix with each other. We really do not want to have to go back to bubbles, social distancing, face masks on site, eating in classrooms etc. so please, do help us to keep our school/bubbles open and children and staff safe by taking lateral flow tests. Thank you.



Class Attendances for the Week

Reception	97.22%
Year 1	97.99%
Year 2	97.12%
Year 3	97.85%
Year 4	95.19%
Year 5	98.05%
Year 6	97.41%



Well done to Year 5 for their excellent attendance this week.

Year 3/4 Guitar Club

We were overwhelmed by the number of children who expressed an interest in Mrs Connolly's after school Guitar Club—we had 21 responses in a day!

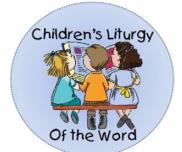
Rather than disappoint 6 children, Mrs Connolly has agreed to take all 21 children who returned their form the day after they went out.

Confirmation of places has been sent to these families. Further details will follow.



Children's Liturgy

Children's Liturgy has returned to the 11.00am Sunday mass. There is an Infant group: 3–7 years of age and a Junior group: age 7+. All children are very welcome to attend and a parent/carer is welcome to accompany very little children to help them settle in. Please bring along your children and let them join in the many different activities that have been planned to enable your child/ren to learn about Jesus and their faith.



Leave footprints of
love and kindness
wherever you go.



A Thought
to End the
Week



I would like to thank the parish and school community for the many kind words, cards and flowers that I have received over the last two weeks following the death of my mum. My family and I have been really touched by your kindness. You have definitely left your footprints of love and kindness in my life. Take care and have a lovely weekend. Mrs Hymers x





Our Celebration Page



This week's Bucket Fillers are

Bucket Fillers

Bucket fillers are children who fill other people's buckets (lives) with kind words and deeds. They are shining examples to others around them.



Rec	Lexie for taking turns with others
Year 1	Wallis for giving Mrs McDonald a lovely picture showing how much she loves her new school
Year 2	Evie for being kind and nurturing
Year 3	Emmie for always helping Mrs Cotterill
Year 4	Angus for always having lovely manners
Year 5	Heidi for always being thoughtful and considerate
Year 6	Gabriel for being a great help to his friends

Good Work Stars

A huge well done to the following children who have all been recognised for their super work week.

Rec	Tyler - fantastic construction work
Year 1	TJ - lovely Come and See work
Year 2	Jude - writing a super postcard
Year 3	Ewan - beautiful handwriting
Year 4	Ethan - excellent comprehension work
Year 5	Joseph - brilliant settings description for The Highway Man
Year 6	Joshua C - super maths work

ABC Star of the Week

A big shout out to Caitlin B in Y4 who has been chosen as ABC's Star of the Week. Staff say that Caitlin is helpful and caring towards the Reception children in club. Well done Caitlyn. We are proud of you.

Star Pupil Award



	Matthew House Winner	Mark House Winner	Luke House Winner	John House Winner	Overall Star Pupil
Rec	Luke	Isabella Rose	Ava	William	Luke
Year 1	Jax	Amelia	Noah	Robyn	Robyn
Year 2	Alanna	Thea	Romeo	Ralph	Romeo
Year 3	Scarlett	Eliza	Harry	Lucas	Lucas
Year 4	Michael	Tristan	Niamh	Grace	Niamh
Year 5	Thomas	Sonny	Adelaide	Olivia B	Sonny
Year 6	Gabriella	Emily	Henry	Lexie	Emily

A big well done to our star pupils. Remember to return your trophy on Monday. Thank you