



St. Mary's News

11th October 2019



Parents' Evenings

Don't forget parents evening!

Parents' Evenings will take place on Wednesday 16th and Wednesday 23rd October from 3.40pm – 6.20pm. Nearly all appointments have now been given out. If you have yet to make an appointment, please contact the office to see what available dates and times are left.

Please note that Parents' Evenings are for adults only. If you are unable to find child care for your child, they are able to be dropped off at ABC Club between the hours of 3.30pm–5.30pm for a nominal charge of £1 whilst you are meeting with your child's teacher.

Open Afternoons



There will be two open afternoons to coincide with Parents' Evening on Wed 16th and Wed 23rd October from 2.15pm–3.15pm. These afternoons are a wonderful opportunity for you look through your child's work with them.

We do need to ask that you leave the school buildings promptly at 3.15pm in order for the teachers and children to get ready for home time and in order to ensure that the site is secure.



Harvest Gifts and Harvest Assembly



Many thanks to the families who donated gifts to our harvest collection today. The gifts were taken over to Church and will

be distributed throughout the local community.

Many thanks also to our Infant families who joined us today to celebrate harvest with our younger children. The children were all very excited to share their work with you all and I am certain that you were very proud of them. They were all so brave to stand up in front of you all. Well done children and staff.



Decorate a Halloween Plate Competition

The PTFA would like the children to decorate a paper plate (sent home tonight) that can be used for a decoration on the walls and windows in the Infant Hall for the Halloween Disco.

Plates need to be brought back into school no later than Wed 16th October in order for them to be judged. Prizes will be awarded for the most creative plate in KS1 and KS2 and winners will be announced next week.



LAST FEW TICKETS

There are only a few tickets remaining for both discos, so get yours soon to avoid disappointment. Tickets cost

£5 per child and will include entry to the disco; a party bag containing some Halloween Goodies and light refreshments. Children do not need to be accompanied by an adult as a member of staff will be present.

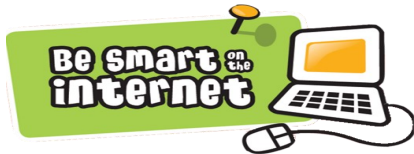
Junior children will be able to bring additional money with them if they would like to have a tattoo or buy something from our Halloween Stall.



E Safety

Sharing Assembly

There will be an E-Safety sharing assembly on Monday 14th October at 2.30pm in the Infant Hall for the families of our Junior children (Y3, Y4, Y5 and Y6).



Whole School Photographs

**DON'T
FORGET**

Proofs have now been sent out to families. If you would like to buy your photograph you now have the option to either pay on line or pay via the school office. If you pay on line, school will receive 25% of all monies taken.

Payments via the office will result in school receiving 10%.



First Holy Communion

Parents' Meeting

There will be an introductory meeting for parents only on Monday 14th October at 6pm in the Infant Hall.

It is really important that an adult attends this meeting as an outline of the First Holy Communion programme will be given, along with key dates.

It will also be a great opportunity for you to meet Father Paul.

We look forward to seeing you there.



Christmas Lunch

If your child usually has a packed lunch, but would like a Christmas Dinner as part of our Christmas Day of Fun on 17th December please let the office staff know.

I know that it is only October, but we have been asked by the schools' meal service to confirm numbers by the 18th October.

Christmas Lunch is free for Infant children and costs £2.40 for Junior children.

Money must be paid in advance.



St Helens Youth Brass Band

St Helens Youth Brass Band are currently recruiting new members and would like to invite any interested children aged 6 and over to go along and showcase their abilities or to try an instrument for the very first time at 'Brass Blast' day on Saturday October 19th from 10am -1pm at Ormskirk Street United Reform Church.

Brass Blast is a free event that will give children the opportunity to participate in a number of music based activities and it doesn't matter whether the children already play an instrument or not. The session will end with a short concert given by all participants.



Key Stage 2 PE Lessons

Please note that pumps must be worn for Junior PE lessons and not trainers. Trainers are only to be worn on a Friday for Junior Games. If there is a medical reason as to why your child cannot wear pumps, please let Mrs Hymers know. If the children do not have pumps they will be asked to work in bare feet.



Good Work

Well done to the following children who were chosen to share their good work with the rest of the school in assembly today.

Year 1 No good work due to Harvest Assembly
Year 2 No good work due to Harvest Assembly
Year 3 Annabel
Year 4 Jacob BP
Year 5 Lottie
Year 6 Chloe



Class Attendance

Reception - 99.57%
Year 1 - 100.00%
Year 2 - 98.52%
Year 3 - 98.81%
Year 4 - 97.78%
Year 5 - 98.08%
Year 6 - 96.30%

Well done to Y1. You had the best attendance this week—a perfect record!

House Points



Infant House Points will return next week due to Harvest Assembly.

Juniors

Matthew Molly
Mark Lucy, Amelie and C.J
Luke Lily
John Hayden

The overall winners this week were Lucy, Amelie and C.J
Well done.



Lunchtime Stars

Congratulations to the following children who have been chosen as our lunchtime stars for this week:

Rec - Jennifer
Year 1 - James
Year 2 - Grace
Year 3 - Olivia M
Year 4 - Ava
Year 5 - Sonny
Year 6 - Megan



Our Reception Stars

Reception Stars will return next week. The children attended Harvest Assembly today and were not in Reward Assembly to receive their stickers and star trophy.

Bucket Filling



Miss Gradwell has chosen both Henry and Jacob Mc D from Y4 as her bucket fillers. She says that the boys always say good morning to her at the start of the day and throughout the day they take time to make sure that the classroom is tidy by tucking in chairs and picking things up off the floor without being asked to.

Both boys have made Miss Gradwell very welcome since she started St. Mary's in September.

Well done boys. This is lovely to hear.



Advance Notice—ABC Closure

ABC will be closed on the evening of Wednesday 13th November for staff training.

Breakfast Club will be open as usual.



Below are a list of dates and events in school that have been confirmed for the new term. Further dates and events will be added as they arise. We will try our best to ensure that we inform you of new events/changes to events as soon as we are able.



Mon 14th Oct 2019	E-Safety sharing assembly. Key Stage 2 parents invited to attend. 2.30pm Infant Hall
Mon 14th Oct 2019	Y4 First Holy Communion Meeting for parents only . 6pm Infant Hall
Wed 16th Oct 2019	Open Afternoon 2.15pm—3.15pm Parents' Evening 1 3.40pm—6.20pm
Fri 18th Oct 2019	PTFA Halloween Disco—Fancy Dress (Tickets needed) Infants—4.15pm—5.30pm Juniors 6.00pm—7.30pm
Tues 22nd Oct 2019	Y1 Stay and Pray 9.00am
Wed 23rd Oct 2019	Open Afternoon 2.15pm—3.15pm Parents' Evening 2 3.40pm—6.20pm
Fri 25th Oct 2019	Break up for half-term
Mon 4th Nov 2019	Return to school
Tues 10th Dec 2019	Key Stage 1 Christmas Play 2.30pm
Wed 11th Dec 2019	Key Stage 1 Christmas Play 2.30pm Key Stage 2 Christmas Play 2.00pm and 7.00pm
Thurs 12th Dec 2019	Y4 First Confession in Church 2.15pm. <u>PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS DATE HAS NOW BEEN CONFIRMED.</u> Families are welcome to attend.
Fri 13th Dec 2019	Reception Christmas Play. Time to be confirmed
Tues 17th Dec 2019	Christmas Pantomime - Sleeping Beauty. Christmas Dinner. Christmas Day of Fun! PTFA Christmas Movie Night (Tickets needed)
Fri 20th Dec 2019	Christmas celebration in Church 2.00pm. Families welcome



Coffee and Tea with the SLT



Many thanks to the parents and governors who attended our Coffee and Tea with the SLT on Tuesday. It was lovely to see you all there and the SLT really enjoyed having the opportunity to talk to you about school life. Time was spent talking about

the Religious side of school life and our Core Values and Mission Statement. It was lovely to hear that the school is warm and welcoming and that our children feel valued. Some parents even mentioned that their children set up prayer tables at home and say their prayers.

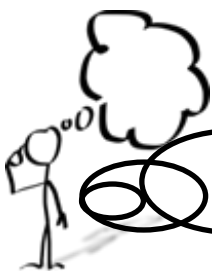
SLT asked for feedback about the new end of year format and the majority of parents said that they preferred the new format. Many said that they thought the comments were more personal and others said that it was easier to see whether their children were making progress or not. SLT explained that the progress measure was really important as in previous reports little mention of progress was made. The old reports simply stated whether a child was working below, at or above expected levels and for some children who were working below it was a little dis-heartening. The new report format allows parents to see just how much progress their child has made—even if they are still judged to be working below expectations, they could have achieved an A progress score to reflect the great steps forward they have made. Parents also felt the Behaviour for Learning score was also very important as good behaviour for learning is key if children are to make progress. One parent preferred the old format as she liked the greater detail in the foundation subjects. All of the parents felt that the teachers' and headteacher's comments reflected just how well staff knew the children, which is lovely to hear as the SLT think that this is so, so important in a primary school setting.

Conversation moved onto the newsletter with all parents present commenting positively on its content and the way in which it is written. A parent also mentioned that she enjoyed reading the Thought for the Weekend. One parent asked if it would be possible to include staff photographs alongside the new class teachers when they are published in July for the new academic year, so that parents who are unfamiliar with the staff can put a face to a name. Look out for this in July.

Mrs Hymers ended the session by inviting the parents to join SLT, governors and children in the Summer term to form a working party to review and update the school's Behaviour Policy.

The next Coffee and Tea with SLT will take place on Monday 16th March at from 9.00-10.00am. Everyone is welcome and we look forward to seeing you then.

Thought for the Weekend



Be sure to taste your words

BEFORE

You spit them out!



before you speak:

THINK

- T** is it true?
- H** is it helpful?
- I** is it inspiring?
- N** is it necessary?
- K** is it kind?