



St Mary's Catholic First School Newsletter –
Friday 26th January 2024

We love, we learn, we live.



Dear Parents and Carers,

We started the week talking about how Jesus invites us to listen to the Good News, believe in Him, and follow Him through our words and actions. We discussed that when you treat a group of people badly because of who they are – their race, or religion, or because they are different from you, this is called discrimination. The children learnt that every year on 27 January, people across the UK mark Holocaust Memorial Day to remember some events in the past when people were treated badly, and even killed, because of their religion. In school, the children decided to 'act' by creating their own 'let your Message grow' tree, writing messages on leaves about speaking out when we see discrimination and hatred. The children were reminded that all of us have the power to stand up and speak out against hatred and prejudice.



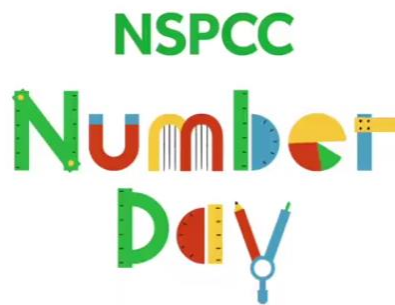
Just a reminder that parents and carers are invited into school next Tuesday and Wednesday after school from 3.15-4pm to look at all the amazing work in your child's books. Next Friday 2nd February, is 'Number Day' and the children can dress up in a number themed outfit on the day. We would also like to invite parents into the hall to take part in Blast Off with Books Breakfast session on Friday 2nd from 8.15am to celebrate National Storytelling Week, followed by a parent 'Winning With Numbers' Workshop at 8:50am (please see further details are below).

Have a lovely weekend,

Mrs. Oakes

Blast Off With Books, Number Day & 'Winning With Numbers' Parent Launch

On Friday 2nd February it is NSPCC Number Day, Number Day is an inclusive maths-inspired fundraising day for children. For a donation of £1, children can come to school dressed in something with a number theme, this could be a football shirt with a number on it or something more elaborate such as a calculator or a dice! All proceeds raised will go towards the NSPCC.



On Number Day, we would like to invite parents from all year groups into school to take part in our Blast of With Books Breakfast from 8.15-8.40am. Refreshments and pastries will be on offer in the school hall, as you spend time with your child(ren) reading through some stories together. Once children have gone to class for the day, we would like to invite parents to stay on to hear all about our exciting Winning with Numbers (WWN) maths programme [Parent and Child Intro \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...). We currently use WWN across school, so children are all familiar with using it. WWN focuses on the development of number fluency, place value, factual recall, and calculation procedures. Moving forward, we would like to encourage the children to also participate in WWN at home too. During the workshop we will demonstrate to parents/carers how WWN works and even have some children on hand to demonstrate how simple it is to use. For parents/carers not attending the earlier 'Blast Off with Books' session, the WWN workshop will start around 8.50am in the school hall. Please feel free to join us when you can!

KS2 Mosque Visit

Leading up to our other faiths topic, Islam, all Key stage 2 children will be visiting Newcastle Central Mosque to have an immersive experience where they learn and explore another faith and culture. On our visit we will find out about the place of worship, and its importance to believers and the community. We are asking for a contribution of £4.70 to help cover transport costs, this payment can be made via ARBOR and we ask that this can be completed by Monday 5th February. If you have any concerns or queries, please speak to Miss Stoves or Miss Carr.

Extra-Curricular Clubs

Registers for extra-curricular clubs taking place during the school day will be managed by teachers during the school day. Please let the office know as soon as possible, if you wish your child to attend a club that is before or after school.

Extra-curricular clubs will commence the week commencing 15th January 2024, as follows:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		MORNING		
		Art Club, Miss Lawson Y1/Y2 8.15-8.40am		
		BREAK TIME		
		Prayer Club, Mrs Oakes 10.30-10.45am		
		LUNCH TIME		
	Board Game Club, Miss Stoves 12.30-1.00pm Y2-Y4	Lego Club (Rec,Y1) Miss Baird 12.30-1.00pm	Homework Club Mrs Stansfield 12.30-1.00pm	
	Times Table Club Miss Carr Y4 Only 12.30-1pm	Eco Club, Miss Kane 12.30-1.00pm		
		AFTER SCHOOL		
Mini Vinnies, Miss Baird 3.15-4.30pm	Mini Vinnies, Miss Baird 3.15-4.30pm	Eco Club*, Miss Kane 3.15-4.00pm		
Monday 22nd January	Tuesday 6th February	Wednesday 24th January		

*Eco Club has changed and will now run during lunchtimes with one longer after school session each half term.

Free School Meals

Universal free school meals - All pupils in reception, year one, and year two are entitled to a free meal, without having to apply for this option.

Eligibility for free school meals - The government has made amendments to the eligibility criteria since April 2018. This is to reflect the introduction of Universal Credit.

<https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Education/Schools/Meals.aspx>

Themed School Lunches- Details to follow

Friday 9th February – Chinese New Year

Wednesday 14th February – Valentines Day

Thursday 7th March - World Book Day

Mission Statement Value Award Winners:

If you would like to celebrate your child's achievements out of school and would like us to give them a mention in Celebration Assembly on a Friday, then simply fill out one of the Mission Statement Value Cards that have been sent home with your child or ask for one at our school office. We love to hear about all the children's wonderful achievements, both in school and out!

Class			
Reception	Felix	William	Isabel
Year 1	Frankie M	Lumen	Dani-Skye
Year 2	Heidi	George	Phoebe
Year 3	Ellie	Corey	Parker
Year 4	Sebastian	Tyler	Jenna

Attendance Ladder



St. Mary's Class Attendance

This Week's Winners:
Year – 4!

<u>Reception</u>	93.85%
<u>Year 1</u>	94.99%
<u>Year 2</u>	95.15%
<u>Year 3</u>	94.81%
<u>Year 4</u>	95.76%

Diary Dates

Parents invited after school to look at progress in their child's books (3.20-4.00pm).	Tuesday 30 th & Wednesday 31 st January
Blast of with Books Breakfast (School hall 8.15-8.40am-all parents/carers welcome-refreshments available)	Friday 2 nd February
Winning With Numbers Parent Launch Workshop (Follows 'Blast off with Books Breakfast session) 8.50-9.20am	Friday 2 nd February
NSPCC Number Day Dress in number themed outfit £1 donation to NSPCC	Friday 2 nd February
Year 2 class Mass at St. Mary's Catholic Church 9.30am (all parents/carers welcome to attend)	Friday 2 nd February

<p>Year 2-Celebration of the Word</p> <p>9.30am in school hall</p> <p>(All parents/carers invited to attend)</p>	<p>Wednesday 7th February</p>
<p>KS2 (Y3/4) Visit to Newcastle central Mosque</p>	<p>Thursday 8th February</p>
<p>Year 1 class Mass at St. Mary's Catholic Church 9.30am (all parents/carers welcome to attend)</p>	<p>Friday 9th February</p>
<p>Whole school Ash Wednesday Mass at St. Mary's Catholic Church 9.30am (all parents/carers welcome to attend)</p>	<p>Friday 14th February</p>
<p>Reception class Mass at St. Mary's Catholic Church 9.30am (all parents/carers welcome to attend)</p>	<p>Friday 1st March</p>
<p>World Book Day</p> <p>(More information to follow)</p>	<p>Thursday 7th March</p>
<p>Year 1-Celebration of the Word</p> <p>9.30am in school hall</p> <p>(All parents/carers invited to attend)</p>	<p>Wednesday 13th March</p>
<p>Parents Evening-Interim Reports to be discussed with parents at meeting.</p> <p>Further information to follow nearer the time.</p>	<p>Tuesday 13th & Wednesday 14th February</p>
<p>Last day of half term for children</p>	<p>Thursday 15th February</p>
<p>Teacher Training Day-School closed to pupils.</p>	<p>Friday 16th February</p>

Safeguarding

This month our E-safety theme is 'Online Reputation'. Pupils will learn about what anyone may or may not be willing to share about themselves online and explore the need to be careful before sharing any personal online.

Please take a look at the following information and advice for parents and carers on supporting your child in discussing 'online reputation': [Resources to deal with online reputation - Internet Matters](#)

Pupil Support & Safeguarding

Designated safeguarding Lead- Mrs. Oakes

Deputy safeguarding Lead-Miss. Baird & Mrs. Stansfield

Assistant safeguarding Lead-Mrs. Stoves

SENDCo/Assistant SENCo-Mrs. Stansfield & Mrs Stoves

Please remember that we are here to support you and your child at any time. You can contact us via the main office (01434 603791) or by email (info@smfs.bwcet.com)



Breakfast with Vicki and Jackie from Family Hubs

Family hubs work with families and children from 0-19: Relationship support, peer support groups, help parents feel less isolated, support for children with additional needs or with worries and anxiety, get free access to workshops and courses online..

**What is a
Family Hub?**



**Come along
after school
drop off on the
8th February**

**Relax after drop off
Find out something new
Share with your friends**

