



St Mary's Catholic First School Newsletter –
Friday 3rd May 2024

We love, we learn, we live.



Dear Parents and Carers,

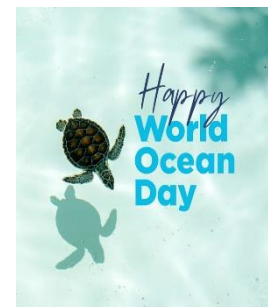
On Wednesday, Reception class were fantastic during their Celebration of the Word to celebrate International Day of Dance. We are so proud of how the children danced and spoke on the microphone and it was lovely to see the reactions of the family members who attended the event. It was fantastic to see how much the reception children have developed in confidence during this academic year!



One of our core values at St. Mary's is in developing our understanding of being a 'Global Citizen'. Global Citizenship can be defined by an awareness of the wider world and how individuals have a sense of their own role as a world citizen. In school, the children have been appreciating our natural world as a source of wonder and inspiration and discussing how we can all play our part in maintaining & improving the environment. As such, to celebrate World Oceans Day, we are hosting an open art afternoon within school on **Wednesday 8th May**. We would like to invite parents and carers to attend between **2:10 and 2:50pm** to support your child/children in completing their 'recycle' themed artwork.



God of creation, who loves all he has
made and all that has evolved,
open the eyes of your people,
that your love might be reflected in
our care for the planet.
Through Jesus Christ, who walked this
earth and calls us by name.
Amen



As our theme is caring for our oceans, we are creating our artwork out of recyclable materials and therefore we would be grateful for any junk modelling donations, particularly plastic bottle tops in the following colours: green, red, orange, blue and white. We look forward to having you in school to support your child/children with their learning.

Have a lovely Bank Holiday weekend,

Mrs. Oakes

Year 4 Quad Kids event

On Monday 3rd June, Year 4 are attending a Quad Kids event at St Joseph's Middle School. The event focusses on key skills such as running, jumping and throwing. It is a great opportunity for those who are attending St Joseph's as their middle school to familiarise themselves with the school grounds and meet some of the staff. All pupils in year 4 will attend this event, regardless of what middle school they are moving to in September. Please ensure your child arrives to school with a water bottle and wearing their **school** P.E kit as usual for a Monday (Year 4 pupils will not require their swimming things on this day). The event is in the afternoon and children will be back to school for normal home time.

School Website

The purpose of this letter is to promote our school website: [St Mary's First School, Hexham – Part of the Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust \(hexhamstmarys.uk\)](http://www.hexhamstmarys.uk). The website has all the key information that parents/carers need, from curriculum information to term dates etc. Our weekly newsletters are always posted on the website (on the bottom of the home page) and have all the key dates and notices for events taking place in and around school.

School Meals

If you would like to take a look at the new Summer Garden Kitchen menu, please use the following link- <https://www.hexhamstmarys.uk/parents/school-meals/>

Extra-curricular clubs

Clubs will begin week beginning 22nd April. Summer 1 clubs are:

Fitness club	Tuesday lunch Y2-4
Singing club	Tuesday lunch Y1-4
Running club	Wednesday Morning 8.15-8.40 Y2-4
Eco-club	Wednesday lunch
Times table club	Thursday lunch – Y4 only.
Mini Vinnies –	Monday 29 th April (3.15-4.30pm) & Monday & Monday 20 th May (3.15-4.30pm)

Class teachers will ask children to sign up for the clubs they wish to join. If your child would like to join running club, please inform the office to sign up.

Year 3 & 4 Swimming

The Summer swimming payment is now available on the Arbor app, (under Clubs). Please ensure these payments are paid before Friday 12th July.



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>

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	Erin	Alfie L	Josie
Year 1	Hazel	Florence	Frankie H
Year 2	Esmee	Frankie	Luca
Year 3	Corey	Oliver	Joe
Year 4	Ariella	Tyler	Archie

St. Mary's Class Attendance	
This Week's Winners: Year - Year 2	
<u>Reception</u>	96.47%
<u>Year 1</u>	94.29%
<u>Year 2</u>	100%
<u>Year 3</u>	95.45%
<u>Year 4</u>	93.18%

Attendance Ladder



Diary Dates

Monday 6th May	Bank Holiday Monday-School closed
Wednesday 8th May	<u>Art Afternoon-World Oceans Day</u> Parents/carers invited into school to support your child (ren) with their recyclable themed art project from 2:10-2:50pm
Y4 Moor House Trip	Thursday 9 th & Friday 10 th May 2024
Friday 10th May	KS1 Mass in Church 9.30am, all welcome.
Thursday 16th May	Pentecost Pupil celebrations of the Word-in class. Parents invited into classes. Rec: 2:10-2:20 /Y1: 2:20-2:30pm Y2:2:30-2:40pm/Y3:2:40-2:50pm/Y4 2:50-3:00pm

Friday 17th May	Y4 & Rec Mass in Church at 9.30am. All welcome
Monday 20th May	Mini Vinnie's 3.15-4.30pm
Monday 3rd June	Year 4 Quad Kids event at St. Joseph's Middle School (All year 4 pupils attending, please can children come to school in their P.E kit and have a bottle of water)
Wednesday 5th June	Years 3 & 4 Celebration of the Word in hall 9.30am- World Environment Day-Parents/carers invited.
Friday 7th June	Y3 Mass in church at 9.30am. All welcome.
Friday 14th June	Y4 Mass in church at 9.30am. All welcome.
Friday 21st June	Y2 Mass in church at 9.30am. All welcome.
Wednesday 26th June	St Joseph's Rounders Afternoon (Children transferring to St Joseph's) 1.30-2.45pm
Friday 28th June	Y1 Mass in church at 9.30am. All welcome.
Wednesday 3rd July	Years 1 & 2 Celebration of the Word in hall 9.30am- Aspirations-Parents/carers invited.
Tuesday 9th July	Hexham Partnership Transfer Day
Friday 12th July	Reception Class Mass at 9.30am
Thursday 18th July	Y4 Leavers Mass in the school hall at 9.30am.

Safeguarding

St. Mary's Safeguarding

This month our E-safety theme is 'Privacy & Security'. The children will discuss the importance of privacy settings on the networks, devices, apps and sites they use.

Please take a look at the following information and advice for parents and carers on supporting your child in discussing 'Privacy & security': [Parental controls & privacy settings guides](#) | [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 (parentcontact@smfs.bwcet.com)

Online Safety

