



St Mary's R.C. First School Newsletter – 20th October 2022



We love, we learn, we live.

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is hard to believe we have reached the autumn half term already! The children were amazing on Tuesday during our Welcome Mass for the Reception children, we received many compliments about the children's beautiful singing. On Wednesday we held our first Harvest Festival themed 'Art Day'. Thank you for the generous donations of food items, we are donating them to Hexham Food Bank on your behalf. Finally, we would like to send our best wishes to Mrs. Stansfield as she begins her Maternity Leave. Mrs Stansfield is leaving year 2 in the capable hands of Miss McNamara who has been working with year 2 and Mrs. Stansfield throughout this half term on a successful handover. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your ongoing support and wish you all a restful holiday.

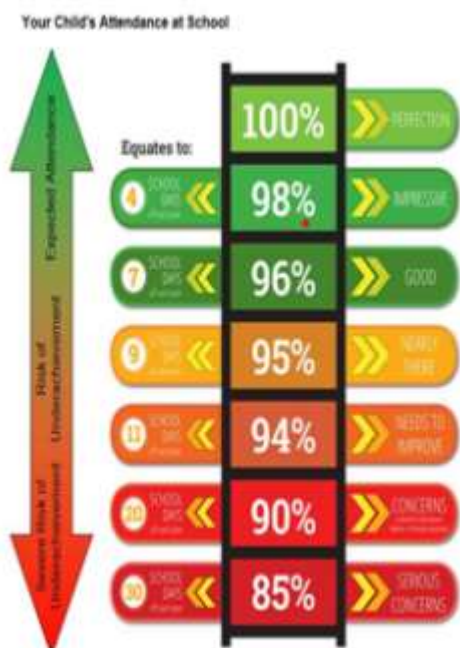
With best wishes,

Mrs. Oakes

Mission Statement Value Award Winners:

Class			
Reception	Olivia C	Olivia W	Frankie H
Year 1	Riley	Frankie	Esmee
Year 2	Charlie	Skylar	Juliette
Year 3	Elsie	Alfie	Spike
Year 4	Delilah	Sebby R	Spencer

We look forward to celebrating the achievements of our wonderful children in partnership with their families!



Attendance Please remember that every day in school counts!	
<u>Reception</u>	100%
<u>Year 1</u>	97.1%
<u>Year 2</u>	97.7%
<u>Year 3</u>	100%
<u>Year 4</u>	94.4%

Application for First & Primary Schools

Applications for St Mary's RC First School, and other Northumberland First & Primary schools, are managed by the admissions team at Northumberland County Council. Online Admissions Portal for First and Primary school admissions will be open on the 1st of November 2022.

https://schadm.northumberland.gov.uk/CitizenPortal_LIVE/en

The deadline for your child's first & Primary school place is 15th January 2023.

Application for Middle School

Applications for St Joseph's Middle School, and other Northumberland middle schools, are managed by the admissions team at Northumberland County Council. Details of the application process can be found at:

<https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Education/Schools/School-admissions-places-appeals-1/Yr-5-Middle-Yr-7-Secondary-Yr-9-High-entry-applica.aspx>

The deadline to apply for your child's middle school place is 31st October 2022.

Accelerated Reader Quizzes- Home Reading Books Y2, Y3, Y4.

We are excited to announce that our Accelerated Reader program for Year 2, 3 and 4 children is fully operational. Children have been able to choose and scan in their home reading books in our library once they have completed an Accelerated Reader quiz in their classes. The quiz scores are recorded in the school planner to keep you up to date. Children in Year 2, 3 and 4 will read their books at home and then the next day at school they will complete their quiz whilst the book is fresh in their memory. The quiz can be read to them by an adult or they can read the questions independently. After each quiz they are awarded points and when their sunflower (point system) has been completed they will receive a prize. All children can change their books as often as possible as long as an adult has signed their reading log page in their school planner. Reading wallets are no longer being collected on Fridays and sent home on Mondays. However, please ensure that the reading planner is in school everyday so school can record and share information. Reception and Year 1 will continue to take home their RWInc home reading books.

Reception Welcome Mass

A huge thank you to everyone who attended the Reception welcome mass on Tuesday. Reception were fantastic and we are extremely proud of how the Year four children looked after their buddies. The whole school's behaviour was impeccable. The children were a real credit to our school!



Harvest Festival Arts Day-photo-RB

What a fantastic first Arts day we had at St Mary's on Wednesday. Our Arts day was themed around the Harvest Festival and the children completed a range of different activities, from leaf hedgehogs to Romero Britto pumpkins. We invited parents and carers to join us in the afternoon to support the children in creating their own unique leaf, which will be added to our school community tree in the foyer, to symbolise the importance of each and every child within our school.



Pumpkin Disco

A huge thank you to the PTA for organising their first event of the academic year. The Pumpkin Disco was a huge success and the children looked great in their outfits. We look forward to working closely with the PTA throughout this year on future organised events.

Let's Celebrate!

Today in Celebration Assembly children with 100% attendance were awarded a golden certificate which they should feel very proud of. In addition, children who are top Marvellous Me badge and Value Card winners for this half term were also celebrated and spent some golden time with Mrs. Stansfield this afternoon playing games and enjoying some well deserved treats. Well done everyone!

Skipping Festival

Year 4 have been invited to take part in a skipping festival at Wentworth Leisure Centre on Thursday 22nd November. All pupils have received a letter outlining the details of the festival. If you would like your child to participate there is a fee of £5 which can be paid via Weduc or the school office. If you have any concerns regarding payment, please contact the school office as soon as possible. Please note that the £5 payment is required in order for your child to take part in this event.

Christmas Performance

On Thursday 15th December we will be visiting the Queen's Hall in Hexham to watch the performance of 'The Wind in the Willows'. This is a special Christmas treat for our children and will strengthen our community links, helping us work towards achieving our Artsmark award. The production will begin at 10am and the children will return back to school in time for lunch. There is a cost of £12.00 for this trip which can be paid in two instalments, **1st payment £6.00 due before 1.11.22 and 2nd & final payment of £6.50 due before 1.12.22.**

Armistice Day

At 10.45am on Friday 11th November, Year 3 will be holding a liturgical prayer in the school hall to mark the end of the fighting of the First World War. Parents and carers are welcome to join us for this event.

Teacher training Day

A reminder that tomorrow is a teacher training day and school will be closed to children. School reopens on Monday 31st October following the half term break.

Vacancies

We have vacancies across both schools which are advertised on the Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust website. Full details of the vacancies and how to apply can be found on <http://bwcet.com/vacancies>

Dates for Diary:

Friday 21st October	Teacher training Day
Monday 31st October	Start of Autumn Term 2
Friday 11th November	Year 3 Remembrance Day Liturgical Prayer in hall 10.45am - Parents invited
Tuesday 15th November	Mass for years 1 & 4 in St. Mary's Church 9.30am Parents and carers are invited to attend.
Friday 18th November	Children In Need Day - More information to follow
Tuesday 22nd November	Year 4 Skipping Festival
Thursday 15th December	Queens Hall performance- Wind in the Willows

