



## St Mary's R.C. First School Newsletter – Friday 11th November, 2022



*We love, we learn, we live.*

Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly, I would like to start by sending huge congratulations to Mrs. Stansfield and her husband Adam on the safe arrival of their baby son last Friday. Both mum and baby are doing well and we are sure you will join with us in sending them all our best wishes.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Miss. O'Shea to the St. Mary's team. Miss O'Shea is an experienced teacher who is working as our year 4 teacher and we are delighted to have her on board. Thank you to the many parents and carers that came into school today to take part in the year 3 Remembrance Liturgical Prayer. Thank you to Miss. Carr and year 3 for organising and delivering such a thoughtful and reflective service.



I mentioned in the newsletter last week, if there any parents would like to become reading volunteers in school we would like to hear from you. The role would mainly involve listening to children read on a 1 to 1 basis. Anyone interested please let the school office know, we would be delighted to hear from you.

With best wishes,

Mrs. Oakes

Mission Statement Value Award Winners

Class			
Reception	Freddie	Frankie H	Austin
Year 1	Ollie	Ashton	Frankie
Year 2	Coey - Jo	Skylar	Oli
Year 3	Jenna	Freddie H	Kaylin F
Year 4	Eliza	Delilah	George

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>	97.1%
<u>Year 1</u>	98.5%
<u>Year 2</u>	92.3%
<u>Year 3</u>	97.2%
<u>Year 4</u>	95.9%

### **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](https://schadm.northumberland.gov.uk/CitizenPortal_LIVE/en)

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

### **Toys**

Please can we ask that children do not bring toys (however small) into school. We have had a number of incidents where items have been lost or damaged whilst in school. Some children are also bringing items into school to trade with their friends, some items involved have been of value and traded without the knowledge of parents/carers.

## PTA

The PTA will be collecting for the class coloured hampers again this year. Any donations of the following colours would be greatly appreciated, please bring them to the school office .

This will be drawn during the Christmas Crafts event on 9th December.

RECEPTION	Yellow/Gold
Y1	White/Silver
Y2	Red
Y3	Green
Y4	Purple

## Anti-Bullying Week & Road Safety Week

The week beginning the 14th November we will be marking National Anti-Bullying Week in school. The theme for this year is Reach Out and we will be looking at how we can reach out to different people in our class and how we can reach out to keep others and ourselves safe from bullying. If you would like to discuss this with your child, more information can be found on: [Anti-Bullying Week 2022: Reach Out \(anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk\)](https://anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk)

Road Safety Week is an annual road safety campaign. In school, children will get involved in learning about how to make safe and healthy journeys every day. We will discuss with the children how to stay safe on roads, especially on these dark winter evenings. Follow this link to find more useful ways in which you can teach road safety to your child:

<https://www.rospa.com/media/documents/road-safety/teaching-road-safety-a-guide-for-parents.pdf>

## Eco Club

Congratulations to our Eco Club members (George, Oliver, Nills, Kaylin, Harrison and Ava) who have achieved the 'School Gardening Awards Level 1' status! They have been hard at work in our school garden, tidying it up ready to grow some fruit and vegetables.



### **Year 4 & Year 1 Mass**

On Tuesday 15th November year 4 and year 1 will be attending Mass at St. Mary's Catholic Church at 9.30am. Parents and carers are welcome to attend this event.

### **Year 4 Visit to Queen's Hall**

On Wednesday 16th November Year 4 will be visiting the Queen's Hall in Hexham. The purpose of this visit is for the children to gain an understanding of the job roles within the Arts. They will have a tour of the venue, including backstage, with the Artistic Director and learn what is involved in a production. The children will also spend some time creating lanterns with a member of staff from the Queen's Hall for the Hexham Lantern Parade, which parents and carers are invited to take their children to on the evening of Friday 18th November.

### **Children In Need - Friday 18th November - Be spotacular!**

On Friday 18th November, St. Mary's will be part of an amazing day of fun, excitement, and fundraising as we host a SPOTacular Children in Need Day.

For a donation of £1 towards Children In Need, children can come to school in fancy dress or in a spotacular outfit! We would also love to hold a spotacular bake sale, so any donations of baked goods would be greatly appreciated. Children can bring in any donation in order to purchase some baked goods at break time. Any remaining cakes will be sold at the end of the school day with all money being donated to Children In Need.

### **Christmas Events**

Please see the table below for the confirmed Christmas events. Please note an additional date has been added for the morning of Wednesday 14th December. Parents are invited into classrooms to share in their child's class Advent Liturgical Prayer service. Specific timings will be confirmed nearer the time.

### **Film Night & Christmas Dinner Day - Wednesday 14th December**

Christmas dinner day for the children will be on Wednesday 14th. More details to follow nearer the time.

The PTA are hosting a film night from 3pm-4.45pm on 14th December where the children will be watching the Christmas film 'The Polar Express'. The tickets will be £3.00, if your child would like to attend then can we ask that you bring the money to the school office in a sealed, named envelope so the PTA can keep a record.

### **Christmas Theatre Visit**

On Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> 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 £12.50 for this trip which can be paid in instalments on the Weduc app. Just a reminder that the final payment of £12.50 needs to be paid **before** 1st December.

**Dates for Diary:**

<b>Friday 11th November</b>	<b>Year 3 Remembrance Day Liturgical Prayer in hall 10.45am - Parents invited</b>
<b>Wednesday 14th December</b>	<b>Class Advent Liturgical prayer (morning event)- Parents &amp; carers welcome-Timings TBC</b>
<b>Tuesday 15th November</b>	<b>Mass for years 1 &amp; 4 in St. Mary's Church 9.30am Parents and carers are invited to attend.</b>
<b>Friday 18th November</b>	<b>Children In Need Day</b>
<b>Tuesday 22nd November</b>	<b>Year 4 Skipping Festival</b>
<b>Wednesday 30th November</b>	<b>Arts Day Parents are invited into school 1.30pm</b>
<b>Friday 9th December</b>	<b>Santa Dash &amp; Christmas Jumper Day PTA Christmas Craft Fayre 3:10pm (School Hall)</b>
<b>Monday 12th December</b>	<b>Christmas Nativity -1.30pm School hall</b>
<b>Tuesday 13th December</b>	<b>Christingle-9.30am St. Mary's Church Christmas Nativity -1.30pm School hall</b>
<b>Wednesday 14th December</b>	<b>School Christmas Dinner Day PTA Christmas Film Night (Polar Express)</b>
<b>Thursday 15th December</b>	<b>Queens Hall performance- Wind in the Willows</b>
<b>Tuesday 20th December</b>	<b>Reception, year 1 &amp; year 2 Christmas Party</b>
<b>Wednesday 21st December</b>	<b>Year 3 &amp; year 4 Christmas Party</b>