



St Mary's R.C. First School Newsletter – Friday 27th January, 2023



We love, we learn, we live.

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to all the parents and carers that joined us in school today to take part in our whole school liturgical prayer on the theme of world peace. Reception class did amazingly well contributing to all the readings and prayers in their first whole school collective worship at St. Mary's.



Today is 'Holocaust International Day of Commemoration' which aims to remember the genocide of millions of Jewish people and other groups of people who were killed by the Nazis during the Second World War. The children of St. Mary's have spent time in lessons discussing this with their class teacher in an age appropriate way and have been given the opportunity to ask questions and discuss their thoughts and feelings with regards to this subject.




Our extra-curricular clubs for spring term are up and running with our Regenerators upcycling pencil pots (one of which I am proudly displaying on my desk!) Our prayer group looked at 'Me, Myself & I' focusing on God's love for each one of us and celebrating this through prayer and illustrations. Our Singing club has been filling the corridors with music and we are delighted to have our gymnastics coach Gail in supporting our key stage 2 pupils. Just a reminder for next week, all parents and carers are invited to join us in the hall next week to help celebrate National Storytelling Week, which takes place from 30th January until 6th February. Each class has a designated day where parents and carers can come into school early and spend time reading their favourite stories with their children. Please see further details below.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend,

Mrs. Oakes

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	Nyla	Phuc	Beauden
Year 1	Luca	Miya	Kacey
Year 2	Gabriel	Juliette	Scarlett
Year 3	Freddie H	Nils	Sebastian
Year 4	Eliza	Sebby R	Tommy

Attendance Please remember that every day in school counts!	
<u>Reception</u>	92.4%
<u>Year 1</u>	94.2%
<u>Year 2</u>	95.5%
<u>Year 3</u>	95.2%
<u>Year 4</u>	84.4%



Blast Off With Books!

As National Storytelling Week approaches, we at St. Mary's feel that reading is the best way to start the day. With that in mind, during the week beginning the 30th January, we are inviting parents into school before the start of the school day to take part in our 'Blast Off With Books' early bird sessions. The sessions will be held in the school hall, where we will have a selection of reading books available for you to read with your child. We also encourage parents to bring along any favourite story books from home that you enjoy reading with your child. We would like to invite parents and carers to come into school from **8.15am-8.40am** on the following days:

Monday 30th January-**Year 1**
Tuesday 31st January-**Reception**
Wednesday 1st February-**Year 3**
Thursday 2nd February-**Year 4**
Friday 3rd February-**Year 2**

Parents will enter the school via the hall fire exit door and will exit at 8.40am, leaving your child in school ready for the start of the school day. School staff will also be available to supervise the children.

Mini Vinnies

We would like to invite our Mini Vinnie volunteers to attend two meetings this half term from 3:00-4:00pm. We will be focusing on our school 'Year of Mary' mission and how we can turn our concerns into Action.

We would like to invite our Mini Vinnies to the following sessions:

Monday 6th February & Monday 6th March 3.00 - 4.00pm

Art Club

During art club this week the children helped to paint a large picture of Mary, which will be displayed on our Year of Mary display in school.



Running Club

Please note, running club is no longer on this term.

Year 4 Fairtrade Liturgical Prayer

Just a reminder that on Wednesday 15th February, Year 4 class will hold their class liturgical prayer alongside the rest of the school on the theme of 'Fairtrade'. All parents and carers are invited to join us in the hall for this event which will start at 10am. We ask that parents enter school via the fire exit doors of the hall, the door will be opened at approximately 9.55am

Safer Internet Day 2023

Supporting children's online safety with ongoing conversations

Safer Internet Day 2023 takes place on Tuesday 7th February and is centred around conversations with its theme 'Want to talk about it?'

It's never too early or too late to start an online safety conversation and keep it going. In school we will celebrate Safer Internet day, promoting the importance of speaking about any worries and concerns that may arise from being online.

Safeguarding

Our e-safety focus this half term is 'Online Reputations'. Throughout this half term our children will learn how to search for information about others online, with a strong emphasis on the fact that information about anyone online could have been created, copied or shared by others. The children will learn ways to protect their 'digital personality' and online reputation, including degrees of anonymity.

Please follow the link below to gain an insight into how you can support your child's learning regarding 'Online Reputation'.

<https://www.childnet.com/help-and-advice/online-reputation/>

Teacher Strikes

As you will be aware The National Education Union (NEU) has announced several days of strikes in February and March:

1st & 28th Feb

15th & 16th March

St. Mary's First School will be **open as usual** for all our pupils on these days.

Dates for Diary:

Please note-Teacher Training Day - Change of Date

The Teacher Training Day which was to be held on Friday 3rd February, will now take place on Friday 17th February.

This is in line with the majority of the Hexham Partnership.

National Storytelling Week-'Blast Off With Books!' family storytelling sessions: <u>8.15-8.40am</u>	8.15-8.40am Mon 30th Jan-Year 1 Tues 31st Jan-Reception Wed 1st Feb-Year 3 Thurs 2nd Feb-Year 4 Fri 3rd Feb-Year 2
Year 4 whole school Fairtrade Liturgical Prayer in hall	Wednesday 15th February 10am Parents and carers are welcome to attend.
Mini Vinnies	Monday 6th February 3:00-4:00pm Monday 6th March 3.00-4.00pm
Parents Evening	Monday 13th & Tuesday 14th February 3.15-6pm (Booking details to follow nearer the time)
School closes for half term	Thursday 16th February
Teacher Training Day	Friday 17th February
School reopens	Monday 27th February