



St Mary's R.C. First School Newsletter – Friday 3rd February, 2023



We love, we learn, we live.

Dear Parents and Carers,

It was lovely to see so many parents and carers joining us in the hall this week to help celebrate National Storytelling Week. Children and their parents came into school early and spent time reading their favourite stories together. Our 'Blast Off With Books' early bird sessions have proved to be very popular with both the parents and children so keep your eyes peeled for similar events in the future.



Next week is Children's Mental Health Week and this year's theme is 'Let's Connect'. Let's Connect is about making meaningful connections for all, during Children's Mental Health Week – and beyond. People thrive in communities, and this connection is vital for our wellbeing. When we have healthy connections - to family, friends and others - this can support our mental health and our sense of wellbeing. Unfortunately, when our need for rewarding social connections is not met, we can sometimes feel isolated and lonely, which can have a negative impact on our mental health. Throughout next week, we will be encouraging the children of St. Mary's to connect with others in healthy, rewarding and meaningful ways.

Best wishes,

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	Mikey	Lumen	Olivia W
Year 1	Heidi	Kohan	Riley
Year 2	Joe	Erin	Ruby
Year 3	Sebastian M	Freddie H	Calum
Year 4	Jack	Damir	Spencer



Attendance
Please remember that every day in school counts!

Reception	97.1%
Year 1	97.1%
Year 2	91.8%
Year 3	95.6%
Year 4	91.1%

Parents Evening

On Monday 13th & Tuesday 14th February 3.15-6pm St. Mary's will hold parents consultations for all year groups. This will be an opportunity for parents and carers to discuss your child's progress with their class teacher and also receive your child's interim report. The interim report provides parents with an insight into your child's progress at this midpoint in the academic year. Any parents that are unable to attend parents evening will have the interim reports posted to them after the parents evening consultations.

The parents evenings will be face to face in school but you will be asked to book your appointment online via the School Cloud booking system. This will go live on Wednesday 8th February at 7pm to enable all parents/ carers the opportunity to book a slot that is best for them. You will receive information on how to book this appointment early next week.

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

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.

Wake up Wednesday

The national online safety information is released late on a Wednesday afternoon, therefore, this information will be sent first thing on a Thursday morning.

Safeguarding

Our e-safety focus in school this month is health, well-being and lifestyle. Throughout this module the children will learn how technology can be a distraction from other everyday things, in both a positive and negative way. Additionally, they will learn to identify situations when it is necessary to limit the amount of time technology is used for.

Our safeguarding leads at St. Mary's are:

Mrs Oakes - Designated Safeguarding Lead

Miss Baird - Deputy Safeguarding Lead

Should you have any queries or concerns please do not hesitate to get in contact with one of us.

Dates for Diary:

Please note-Teacher Training Day - Change of Date

The Teacher Training Day which was to be held today, will now take place on Friday 17th February. This is in line with the majority of the Hexham Partnership.

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