



St Mary's Catholic First School Newsletter –
Friday 2nd February 2024

We love, we learn, we live.



Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been lovely to see and speak to so many parents in school this week. On Tuesday and Wednesday, we had our 'Look at Books' sessions in readiness for our upcoming Parents Evenings that are due to take place on the 13th and 14th February (more information to follow next week on booking slots). The children were thrilled to 'show off' their incredible work to their families and for parents/carers to see the incredible progress in their child's work.



Today, we ended the week inviting parents in this morning to participate in our 'Blast of With Books Breakfast' session before school. Refreshments and pastries were available, as parents/carers spent time with their child(ren) reading through some favourite stories together. As today is Number Day, children came to school dressed in something with a number theme and raised £53.00 for the NSPCC-thank you! Parents were invited to remain in the hall to hear all about our exciting Winning with Numbers (WWN) maths programme [Parent and Child Intro \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ParentandChildIntro). We currently use WWN across school, so children are all familiar with using it. Parents learnt about how WWN focuses on the development of number fluency, place value, factual recall, and calculation procedures and how we hope that following today's workshop, parents will be encouraged to support their child in using WWN regularly at home. The WWN workshop is to be repeated for any parents who couldn't make today's session on Thursday 8th February at 2.45pm in the school hall.



Dear Lord, we pray for all children that they are protected and safe. We pray that they feel your presence and care around them in the people they meet. Amen.

Have a lovely weekend,

Mrs. Oakes

KS2 Mosque Visit

Leading up to our other faiths topic, Islam, all Key stage 2 children will be visiting Newcastle Central Mosque to have an immersive experience where they learn and explore another faith and culture. On our visit we will find out about the place of worship, and its importance to believers and the community. Pupils are to wear school uniform and will be back in time for their usual lunch time in school. We are asking for a contribution of £4.70 to help cover transport costs, this payment can be made via ARBOR and we ask that this can be completed **by Monday 5th February**. If you have any concerns or queries, please speak to Miss Stoves or Miss Carr.

Extra-Curricular Clubs

Registers for extra-curricular clubs taking place during the school day will be managed by teachers during the school day. Please let the office know as soon as possible, if you wish your child to attend a club that is before or after school.

Extra-curricular clubs will commence the week commencing 15th January 2024, as follows:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		MORNING		
		Art Club, Miss Lawson Y1/Y2 8.15-8.40am		
		BREAK TIME		
		Prayer Club, Mrs Oakes 10.30-10.45am		
		LUNCH TIME		
	Board Game Club, Miss Stoves 12.30-1.00pm Y2-Y4	Lego Club (Rec,Y1) Miss Baird 12.30-1.00pm	Homework Club Mrs Stansfield 12.30-1.00pm	
	Times Table Club Miss Carr Y4 Only 12.30-1pm	Eco Club, Miss Kane 12.30-1.00pm		
		AFTER SCHOOL		
Mini Vinnies, Miss Baird 3.15-4.30pm	Mini Vinnies, Miss Baird 3.15-4.30pm	Eco Club*, Miss Kane 3.15-4.00pm		
Monday 22nd January	Tuesday 6th February	Wednesday 24th January		

*Eco Club has changed and will now run during lunchtimes with one longer after school session each half term.

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>

Themed School Lunches-

If your child is in Y3 & Y4 and has a packed lunch, but would like a themed lunch, please let the office know as their meal option would have to change for the week.

- **Friday 9th February** – Chinese New Year
- **Wednesday 14th February** – Valentines Day
- **Thursday 7th March** - World Book Day

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	Aanika	Josie	Elsie
Year 1	Mikey	Olivia C	Evie
Year 2	Charlotte	George	Ashton
Year 3	Bao	Ella	Oliver
Year 4	Nils	Grace	Freddie S

Attendance Ladder



St. Mary's Class Attendance	
This Week's Winners: Year - 4!	
<u>Reception</u>	83.53%
<u>Year 1</u>	91.82%
<u>Year 2</u>	95.83%
<u>Year 3</u>	93.64%
<u>Year 4</u>	95.91%

Diary Dates

Year 2-Celebration of the Word 9.30am in school hall (All parents/carers invited to attend)	Wednesday 7th February
KS2 (Y3/4) Visit to Newcastle Central Mosque	Thursday 8th February
Repeat parents Winning with Numbers Workshop in school hall -2.45pm	Thursday 8th February
Year 1 class Mass at St. Mary's Catholic Church 9.30am (all parents/carers welcome to attend)	Friday 9th February
Parents Evening-Interim Reports to be discussed with parents at meeting. Further information to follow nearer the time.	Tuesday 13th & Wednesday 14th February

Whole school Ash Wednesday Mass at St. Mary's Catholic Church 9.30am (all parents/carers welcome to attend)	Wednesday 14 th February
Last day of half term for children	Thursday 15 th February
Teacher Training Day-School closed to pupils.	Friday 16 th February
Spring 2 starts	Monday 26 th February
Reception class Mass at St. Mary's Catholic Church 9.30am (all parents/carers welcome to attend)	Friday 1 st March
World Book Day (More information to follow)	Thursday 7 th March
Year 1-Celebration of the Word 9.30am in school hall (All parents/carers invited to attend)	Wednesday 13 th March

Safeguarding

This month our E-safety theme is 'Online Reputation'. Pupils will learn about what anyone may or may not be willing to share about themselves online and explore the need to be careful before sharing any personal online.

Please take a look at the following information and advice for parents and carers on supporting your child in discussing 'online reputation': [Resources to deal with online reputation - 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 (info@smfs.bwcet.com)



Breakfast with

Vicki and Jackie from Family Hubs

Family hubs work with families and children from 0-19: Relationship support, peer support groups, help parents feel less isolated, support for children with additional needs or with worries and anxiety, get free access to workshops and courses online..

What is a Family Hub?



Come along
after school
drop off on the
8th February

Relax after drop off
Find out something new
Share with your friends

