



St Mary's Catholic First School Newsletter –  
Friday 17th May 2024

*We love, we learn, we live.*



Dear Parents and Carers,

On Thursday, we invited parents and carers into our class Pentecost Celebration of the Word. The children always enjoy the opportunity to see their grown-ups in school. It is always lovely to hear all the positive comments from parents following the celebrations too-well done everyone!



This week we have been celebrating Mental Health Awareness week in school. The theme for this year's Mental Health Awareness Week is 'Movement: Moving more for our mental health.' Being active is one of the ways we can support good physical and mental wellbeing. In school, we have been using 'Moodboosters' [Moodboosters \(bbc.co.uk\)](http://bbc.co.uk) and encouraging the children to get moving for mental health and wellbeing. Today, the children will come home with their personalised 'wear it green' ribbon raising awareness of mental health.

Best wishes,

Mrs. Oakes

### **Sun protection & waterproof coat**

We were lucky to be blessed with a couple of sunny days this week. Just a reminder to send children in with a hat or cap for sun protection during the summer term. Please can we ask that children have suncream applied prior to coming to school to avoid children having to bring suncream into school.

Please can we ask that all children bring some form of raincoat to school each day, although the weather is improving, we are still prone to the occasional light shower and children are encouraged to play outside each day.

### **Year 3 & 4 Swimming**

Please can you ensure that all children have a **t-shirt and a pair of shorts** to wear on top of their normal swimwear on Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> May. The children will be taking part in Water Safety Week.

The Summer swimming payment is now available on the Arbor app, (under Clubs). Please ensure these payments are paid before Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July.

### **Year 4 Quad Kids event**

On Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June, Year 4 are attending a Quad Kids event at St Joseph's Middle School. The event focusses on key skills such as running, jumping and throwing. It is a great opportunity for those who are attending St Joseph's as their middle school to familiarise themselves with the school grounds and meet some of the staff. All pupils in year 4 will attend this event, regardless of what middle school they are moving to in September. Please ensure your child arrives to school with a water bottle and wearing their **school** P.E kit as usual for a Monday (Year 4 pupils will not require their swimming things on this day). The event is in the afternoon and children will be back to school for normal home time.

### **Year 4 Transition**

On Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June, Eleanor Stoves will be coming to St. Mary's to talk to those year 4 pupils moving to St. Joseph's in September. On the afternoon of Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> June, Mrs. Stoves will escort these pupils to St. Joseph's for a transition visit and a tour of the school. The children will be back in time for the end of the school day. The remaining year 4 pupils will remain in school as normal.

### **School Website**

The purpose of this letter is to promote our school website: [St Mary's First School, Hexham – Part of the Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust \(hexhamstmarys.uk\)](http://hexhamstmarys.uk). The website has all the key information that parents/carers need, from curriculum information to term dates etc. Our weekly newsletters are always posted on the website (on the bottom of the home page) and have all the key dates and notices for events taking place in and around school.

### **Year 1 and Year 2 Visit to the Discovery Museum in Newcastle**

On Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> July Year 1 and Year 2 will be visiting the Discovery Museum in Newcastle to learn all about History and to be able to see the current exhibitions on display. Both classes will be attending a workshop hosted by specialists and will be able to see and use historical artefacts to support their learning. Year 1 will be taking part in a Transport in the Past workshop and Year 2 will be learning all about the Great Fire of Newcastle and Gateshead. There is now a payment of £17.50 to be made through the Arbor app. The deadline for this payment is Monday 8<sup>th</sup> July.

### Extra-curricular clubs

Clubs will begin week beginning 22<sup>nd</sup> April. Summer 1 clubs are:

Fitness club	Tuesday lunch Y2-4
Singing club	Tuesday lunch Y1-4
Running club	Wednesday Morning 8.15-8.40 Y2-4
Eco-club	Wednesday lunch
Times table club	Thursday lunch – Y4 only.
Mini Vinnies –	Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> April (3.15-4.30pm) & Monday & Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> May (3.15-4.30pm)

Class teachers will ask children to sign up for the clubs they wish to join. If your child would like to join running club, please inform the office to sign up.



### 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>

### School Meals

If you would like to take a look at the new Summer Garden Kitchen menu, please use the following link-

<https://www.hexhamstmarys.uk/parents/school-meals/>




### FRENCH MENU

If your child is currently on packed lunch and would like to change to school lunch next week for the French day on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May, please contact the school office. MERCI!

01434 603791.

**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	Elsie	Elizabeth	Alfie L
Year 1	Dani Skye	Frankie M	Jenson
Year 2	Kohan	Gracie	Frankie
Year 3	Ava	Ruby	Corey
Year 4	Tyler	Jenna	Freddie H

St. Mary's Class Attendance	
This Week's Winners: Year - Year 4	
<u>Reception</u>	87.06%
<u>Year 1</u>	95.71%
<u>Year 2</u>	88.19%
<u>Year 3</u>	88.64%
<u>Year 4</u>	99.09%



## Attendance Ladder



## Diary Dates

<b>Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May</b>	Mini Vinnie's 3.15-4.30pm
<b>Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May</b>	Last day of half term. School closes at 3:15pm
<b>Monday 27<sup>th</sup> –Friday 31<sup>st</sup> June</b>	Half term
<b>Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June</b>	School re-opens at 8:40am for Summer 2
<b>Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June</b>	Year 4 Quad Kids event at St. Joseph's Middle School (All year 4 pupils attending, please can children come to school in their P.E kit and have a bottle of water)

<b>Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Years 3 & 4 Celebration of the Word in hall 9.30am- World Environment Day-Parents/carers invited.
<b>Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Y4 Transition Talk St. Joseph's Middle School
<b>Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Reception Mass in church at 9.30am. All welcome.
<b>Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> June</b>	St Joseph's Middle School transfer visit 1:30-2:45 pm
<b>Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June</b>	KS2 Mass in church at 9.30am. All welcome.
<b>Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June</b>	Y2 Mass in church at 9.30am. All welcome.
<b>Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June</b>	St Joseph's Rounders Afternoon (Children transferring to St Joseph's) 1.30-2.45pm
<b>Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Y1 Mass in church at 9.30am. All welcome.
<b>Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July</b>	Years 1 & 2 Celebration of the Word in hall 9.30am- Aspirations-Parents/carers invited.
<b>Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> July</b>	Reception class end of year trip to Hall Hill Farm. Arbor payments are now live on the app.
<b>Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> July</b>	Hexham Partnership Transfer Day
<b>Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July</b>	Reception Class Mass at 9.30am
<b>Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> July</b>	Year 1 and Year 2 End of Year Visit to the Discovery Museum
<b>Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> July</b>	Y4 Leavers Mass in the school hall at 9.30am.

## Safeguarding

### St. Mary's Safeguarding

This month our E-safety theme is 'Privacy & Security'. The children will discuss the importance of privacy settings on the networks, devices, apps and sites they use.

Please take a look at the following information and advice for parents and carers on supporting your child in discussing 'Privacy & security': [Parental controls & privacy settings guides | 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 ([parentcontact@smfs.bwcet.com](mailto:parentcontact@smfs.bwcet.com))

## Online Safety

### Autism Family Drop In Sessions



Do you have a child aged 0-19 years? Come along for a cuppa and chat and to meet other parents. No diagnosis needed!

Join us on:

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2024 1-3pm

Hexham Family Hub - Hexham First School, Beaufront Avenue, NE46 1JD

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2024 1-3pm

Haltwhistle Family Hub -Haltwhistle Primary Academy, Park Avenue, NE49 9BA

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2024 1-3pm

Prudhoe Family Hub - Broomhouse Lane, NE42 5FT

Facilitators - [rebyn.robinson@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:rebyn.robinson@northumberland.gov.uk) and [adelle.hicks@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:adelle.hicks@northumberland.gov.uk)

Inclusive Education Services

 Northumberland  
County Council