

# ST MARY'S NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> MAY 2026

Dear parent/carers,

There has been so much to celebrate this week across all year groups.

On Wednesday, families were invited to join their child's class and take part in a special Pentecost Celebration of the Word. The children were amazing—well done to everyone! A big thank you to all the parents for your continued support.

Today we held a Cricket engagement day today, during the day each class from Reception to Year 4 took part in a variety of engaging and age-appropriate cricket activities. The sessions were led by an enthusiastic and experienced coach, ensuring all children were able to enjoy learning new skills in a fun and supportive environment. The day successfully helped to build confidence and enjoyment in cricket, while also inspiring many children to become more involved in the sport beyond school, including at local clubs. It was a fantastic day filled with teamwork, energy and fun!

To bring our week to a close, our Peer Mentors held a cake stall to raise funds for a Peer Mentor bus stop area in the playground, as well as to purchase yellow Peer Mentor sashes. These sashes will help identify the Peer Mentor children on duty each day. Thank you to everyone who supported this lovely initiative.

We are thrilled to share that Mrs Hogg has given birth to a baby boy, Leo. We extend our heartfelt congratulations and wish Mrs. Hogg & her family much joy as they begin this exciting new chapter with baby number 3!

As we come to the end of a busy half term, I would like to take a moment to say how incredibly proud we are of all our St. Mary's children. They have worked so hard, shown great resilience, and made fantastic progress across all areas of their learning. It has been wonderful to see their enthusiasm and positive attitudes each day. I wish all our families a restful and enjoyable half term holiday.

Have a lovely break,

Mrs. Oakes



## PENTECOST PRAYER

Holy Spirit,  
fill our hearts  
with wisdom  
and courage.  
Help us to share  
God's love  
with others.  
Amen.



Reception Fun



Peer Mentor Cake Sale



Class COW



### **After School Basketball Club**

We are delighted to offer an exciting **new after school basketball club**, run by Shooting Stars North East, to build on the enthusiasm following our recent special visit from Paul Sturgess. The children have shown great excitement about basketball, and we are pleased to provide this opportunity for them to get involved!

Club details:

- 📅 Wednesdays
- 🕒 3:15pm – 4:15pm
- 💷 No cost
- 📍 Open to children in Years 2, 3 and 4

Dates: 3rd June, 10th June, 17th June, 24th June, 1st July, 8th July.

Please note that children are required to commit to all 6 sessions, as this will support their development and enjoyment of the programme. Places are limited to 20 children, so we expect high demand.

Please contact the school office to secure a space.

### **KS1 Discovery Museum Trip (Years 1 & 2)**

Year 1 and Year 2 will be visiting the Discovery Museum in Newcastle on **Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June**. Both classes will be attending a specialised workshop where they will have the opportunities to explore and use historical artefacts. We will then have a tour of the exhibits in the museum and take part in a range of different activities. A payment of £15.00 is now live on the Arbor app.

### **World Environment Day-Art Afternoon**

We are delighted to invite you to join us for a special World Environment Day Art Afternoon on **Friday 5th June** from 2:00pm to 2:45pm. This will be a lovely opportunity for you to work alongside your child to create a piece of artwork to celebrate and reflect on this important global event. Together, we will be exploring themes linked to caring for our environment and thinking about how we can all make a positive difference. We hope you are able to join us for this creative and meaningful session—it promises to be a wonderful way to celebrate learning and community spirit. Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to welcoming you into school.

### **KS1 Whole School Celebration of the Word**

All families are welcome to join our school community on **Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June** to participate in our whole school Celebration of the Word on Aspiration at 9.30am in the main school hall (entrance via the rear fire exit door in the hall).

### **Church Class Masses - TBC-**

Throughout the year each class has the opportunity to attend Mass at St. Mary's Catholic Church. Mass is lead by our Parish Priests Fr Jeff and Fr. Paul. Class Masses are usually held on Fridays at 9:30am and all parents/carers and families are welcome to attend these events. Please see rota below for details of dates for each class.

100% Attendance Winner  
Aanika



PTA Cake Raffle Winner  
Luna



Thank you to Mrs Stoves from the PTA for the attendance raffle hamper & pupil prizes

### **Year 3-Hexham Abbey Visit & Bowling Celebration**

Year 3 will be visiting Hexham Abbey on Tuesday 30th June as part of their end-of-year trip, where they will explore Anglo-Saxon life and learning in preparation for their history studies in Year 4. Through hands-on activities, pupils will gain a deeper understanding of local heritage and how the past has shaped the present. This will be followed by a visit to the bowling alley on Wednesday 1st July after lunch, giving children the opportunity to celebrate their hard work this year while developing teamwork, turn-taking and resilience in a fun, social setting. A payment of £9 is now live on the Arbor app under 'trips'.

### **Parents Book Look & Career Showcase**

We are delighted to invite you into school on **Tuesday 23rd June** and **Thursday 25th June**, from 3:20pm to 4:00pm, for our Book Look and Careers Showcase. This is a wonderful opportunity to spend time with your child looking through their books and celebrating the progress they have made this year ahead of their end-of-year reports. You will also be able to see the fantastic work pupils have been completing around aspiration and careers, exploring their interests, ambitions and future possibilities. We are incredibly proud of the effort and enthusiasm pupils have shown in this area and look forward to sharing their achievements with you. We hope you are able to join us for this special end-of-year celebration of learning.

### **Weather-Ready Reminder**

As the weather becomes warmer (and sometimes changeable), please can we ask parents and carers to ensure children come to school prepared. Please can you ensure your child has a Sun hat or cap in their bag and that sun cream is applied at home before school. Children should not bring sun cream into school. We also ask that children have a lightweight raincoat with them, as weather conditions can change quickly during the school day. Thank you for your support in helping children stay comfortable and safe.

### **School Meals**

If you would like to take a look at the new Spring/Summer Garden Kitchen menu, please find our school menu's on the school website under the parent section.

### **Swimming Y3 & Y4**

Please can you ensure that the final 'Swimming Summer Term' payment is paid on Arbor.



### **Salto School Uniform Ordering**

The deadline date for this years' uniform is **SATURDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2026**. All orders that are placed before the deadline will have an extended returns and exchange policy until the start of the new school term in September. Use the **QR code**, online **www.saltouk.com** or call **01661 835240** to make an order.





Mon 25th-Fri 29 <sup>th</sup> May	May Half Term Holiday
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> June	School restarts 8.40am for Summer 2
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Y1 & Y2 Discovery Museum Trip - Payments of £15.00 are now live on Arbor, you can pay in installments or in full. Deadline of 2 <sup>nd</sup> June. <b>School will provide a packed lunch for every child.</b>
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> June	World Environment Day-Art Afternoon. Parents/carers invited into classes to join their child from 2:00-2:45pm
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> June	KS1 Whole School Celebration on the Word-Aspiration-9.30am in school hall. Parents/carers welcome to join us.
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> June	Y4 Rounders afternoons at respective middle schools. School staff will escort pupils there and back during school day, no change to school pick-up times.
23 <sup>rd</sup> & 25 <sup>th</sup> June	Look at Books/ Careers Showcase
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> June/Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> July	Hexham Abbey & Bowling Celebration - Payment of £9 is now live on the Arbor app. (Includes trip to Abbey about Anglo Saxons, bowling and a drink.)
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Year 4 Trust Celebration of Sport Event-Gateshead Stadium. Further information to follow.

Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Reception Honest Farm Trip - Payments of £8.80 are now live on the Arbor app. The deadline for this payment is 19 <sup>th</sup> June. The children will return to school in time for their lunch.
Wk Beg 6 <sup>th</sup> July	Healthy Schools Week, including Sports Day. More information to follow.
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	Sports Day-1.30pm start time. Further information to follow.
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> July	Back up Sports Day
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	Leavers Mass in school hall 9.30am. Parents/carers invited to attend this event. More information to follow.
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	Y4 Talent Show in school hall 12.30pm. Parents/carers invited to attend this event. More information to follow.

All clubs will remain the same after the May holidays

Club	Teacher	Day/Time	Year Group
Mini Vinnie's	Mrs Riches	Wednesday Lunch	All
Basketball After School	Shoot Stars North East	Wednesday 3.15-4.15pm	Y2-Y4 <u>Only 5 spaces left!</u>
Singing	Mrs Stansfield	Tuesday Lunch	All
Colouring Club	Miss Wright	Friday Lunch	All
Regenerators	Miss Stoves	Thursday Lunch	Y2 - 4
Football Club	Miss Carr	Thursday lunch	Rec- Y2
Curling	Mrs Stoves	Thursday 8.20am	All
Wellbeing	Mrs Stoves	Friday 8.20am	All





Class	WE LOVE	WE LEARN	WE LIVE
Reception	Adalyn	Lottie	Robson
Year 1	Theo	Eli	Laya
Year 2	Lizzie	Suzie	Fraser
Year 3	Dexter	Evie	Nathan
Year 4	Esmee	Ashton	Savva



### Attendance Ted



St. Mary's Class Attendance Winners- Well done - Year 2	
Reception	92%
Year 1	97.89%
Year 2	100%
Year 3	96.5%
Year 4	83.57%

# St Mary's Safeguarding Information

## Pupil Support & Safeguarding

Designated Safeguarding Lead- Mrs. Oakes

Deputy Safeguarding Lead-Miss. Baird, Mrs. Stansfield & Miss. Stoves

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)

### Operation Encompass

St. Mary's is an Operation Encompass school, run in partnership with both Northumberland County Council and Northumbria Police. The project, which commenced in April 2015 aims to support children who are affected by domestic abuse. Operation Encompass aims to support children and young people who are affected by domestic abuse. Witnessing domestic abuse is really distressing for a child or young person, who often see the abuse, hear it from another room, see a parent's injuries or distress afterwards or can be physically hurt by trying to stop the abuse. Please visit the Operation Encompass for more information: Home : Operation Encompass & support services: Northumberland-Support-Services.pdf (bwcet.com)

### Online Safety

Northumberland County Council, in partnership with the Solihull Approach, offer free access to online courses expertly designed for parents, carers, grandparents and teens living in the region. All schools in Northumberland are in a pre-paid area for emotional health resources hub:

<https://inourplace.co.uk/northumberland/>

This means parents can access a range of online support to better understand children's emotional health, brain development and wellbeing.

For more comms material and information you can contact [vicki.collins@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:vicki.collins@northumberland.gov.uk)



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