St. Mary's Catholic Primary School, Wingate

NEWSLETTER

November 2026

WINTER UPDATES

As the weather becomes colder, please ensure that your child comes to school each day with a warm coat, hat and gloves.

In the event of snow, children are welcome to wear wellies to school and bring a spare pair of shoes in a bag so they can change into them once inside school.

Please note, only children with suitable clothing and a change of suitable footwear can go out in snowy weather.



Our nursery is now **open** and we have places available. Please signpost friends and family to the school office if they are looking for a nursery. We are ready to give tours, can happily meet any prospective parents and answer any questions.

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Attendance

Overall school attendance is currently 94.2% and we have an above average number of persistent absentees. (Pupils with attendance under 90%). We will be reaching out to parents/carers next week to update you on your child's attendnace.

Where possible, please avoid taking your child out of school during term time, as every day in school supports their learning and progress.

We have also seen an increase in the number of children being collected early from school. We appreciate that, on occasion, children may need to leave early; however, we kindly ask that this remains the exception rather than the norm.

If your child has a medical or other appointment during school hours, you may be asked to provide a copy of the appointment letter or confirmation of the appointment.

Lateness: Numbers of pupils arriving late at school is beginning to increase again. There will be occassions when people are late. This should be in exceptional circumstances.
We will be **monitoring lateness** closely over the next 2 weeks and invite parents in for a meeting where there are persistent absences.

Arbor Parent Portal / Communications

Can all parents/carers please ensure that they can access their child's Arbor account and that their contact details are up to date. We use Arbor to send in-app messages and emails, as well as to manage payments. It is therefore essential that you are able to access your account.

Please check your emails regularly, as not all correspondence will be sent out in paper form. Where possible, we aim to communicate via email and Arbor. If you are experiencing any issues accessing Arbor, or if you need to update your contact details, please contact the school office and we will be happy to assist.

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IMPORTANT DATES

Please see below for upcoming events in school.

Friday 27th November	Christmas Fayre 2pm Friends of St. Mary's ***Please note we do need volunteers for this to take place.*** Contact the office if you can volunteer for a stall or help with organisation.
Monday 30th November	C2 & C3 Trip to Hancock Musuem
Wednesday 2nd December	EYFS (Nursery & Reception) & KS1 (Year 1 & 2) Winter Stay and Play 9am - 10:30 Further details will be shared
Thursday 3rd December	Class 2 leading Advent Mass **2pm** **All are welcome**
Wednesday 9th December	EYFS & KS1 Christmas Play - 9:30am NB the early **start time 9:30** - this is so that nursery children are included.

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Please see below for upcoming events in school.

Thursday 10th December	Christmas Jumper & Christmas Dinner day
Friday 11th December	EYFS (Nursery & Reception) Trip - The Snowman, Ushaw College
Fridy 11th December	KS2 (Years 3, 4, 5 & 6) Nativity / Carol Service - **2pm** details to follow
Monday 14th December	Santa Run - more details to follow Pupils only
Wednesday 16th December	EYFS & KS1 Christmas Party Pupils can come to school in their party clothes.
Thursday 17th December	KS 2 Christmas Party (yeras 3,4,5 & 6) Pupils can come to school in their party clothes.

IMPORTANT DATES

Friday 18th December	**SCHOOL CLOSES AT 1PM TO PUPILS FOR CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS**
Monday 4th January	**SCHOOL REOPENS AS NORMAL**