



St Mary's Catholic School
Weekly Newsletter



'I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.' Phil 4:13



17.10.25

Email: office@stmarysbc.bhcet.org.uk
<https://stmarysbc.bhcet.org.uk>

Dates for diary (Please also see Weduc Calendar and Newsfeeds)

[School Holiday sheets available from the office](#)

For sports festivals for your child's class, please see additional messages from Mrs Jennings our sports lead and class teachers too.

Every Tuesday Morning: Toddler Group 9.15- 10.45am. £3 per session. All very welcome!

Monday 20th October- EYFS Stay and Play- 9-11am. Autumn themed activities. See FB post and Weduc messages from EY staff for further details.

Thursday 23rd October- Autumn colours non- uniform day- as requested by Joey!

Thursday 23rd October- Break Up for half term.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS



MINUTES COUNT!

Attend Today= Achieve Tomorrow

Every minute counts so can we make a big effort to get our children to school before **9am, ready for prompt registration at 9am. Anyone arriving after the 9am register is marked late. Fines FOR BEING LATE CAN ALSO OCCUR.**

Holidays during term time WILL NOT be authorised, and the fine for holidays is increasing to **£80 per child, per adult.**

Thankyou as always parents for your support.

Christmas Dates for diary:



Wednesday 3rd December: Christmas Fayre 4-6.30pm in school.

Wednesday 10th December: Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper day.

Friday 12th December: Christmas Party day

Tuesday 16th December: Nativity Performances: EYFS (Wrens and Robins) 9.30am

Larks and Swifts Class 2.30pm and 5.30pm

Thursday 18th December : School Disco 5.30pm -7.30pm

Friday 19th December: Carol Service at Church. Owls class narrating.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Happy birthday to Casper, Erika and Maisie who all celebrate their birthday this week.



St Mary's Christmas Fayre

Wednesday 3rd December
4pm -6.30pm



If you would like a stall at our Christmas Fayre then please just get in touch with the office. We will ask for £10 per table and the rest of the money you make is your own!

If you are a local business perhaps, a keen baker or a talented parent we would love to hear from you. Teesdale Toys, Yasho's crafts and kitchen, Lisa's fudge, Summer's crafts are already on our list!

It is going to be fabulous!

Get in touch: 01833 637029

Family Mass Dates for 2025-2026

Each term here at St Mary's we gather together for our 'Family Mass' with Father Thomas, at St Mary's Catholic Church in Barnard Castle.

Parents, Grandparents, friends and family are all very welcome to join us- catholic or non- catholic, you are all so welcome and we do encourage you (if you can) to come along and join us.

The dates for your diary are as follows:

- ◆ **Autumn Term Mass: Thursday 18th September 2025**
Thankyou to everybody who joined us for Mass!
- ◆ **Spring Term Mass: Thursday 26th March 2026**
- ◆ **Summer term Mass : Friday 17th July 2026**

Thankyou to the parents who joined us for our tea and chat on Monday. We didn't have many there but we completely appreciate work or other family commitments are often difficult to juggle. It is important to us the invitation is there for you to come along and have an informal chat and meet the staff.

Once again, thankyou parents, grandparents and also of course to our dedicated team of staff.



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PILGRIMS OF HOPE: Jubilee Year 2025
'Let your Light Shine Before Others' Matthew 5:16



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Our Trust Virtues

Our Trust Virtues are weaved into all areas of our curriculum, and everything we do here at St Mary's. It is important that as we teach the virtues to our children that they have a good understanding of the vocabulary as well as what that looks like in themselves, in

others, in our school. Here are the 8 Virtues that we promote and celebrate as a school community:

- ◆ Respect
- ◆ Responsibility
- ◆ Justice
- ◆ Compassion
- ◆ Self Belief
- ◆ Resilience
- ◆ Honesty
- ◆ Confidence



These virtues link closely to our Catholic Social Teaching Principles (CST) that underpin everything we do as a school, and as a Trust.

Attendance this week

'Minutes count, Attendance Matters!'



Robins- 97%
Larks- 93%
Swifts- 97%
Owls- 98%

School holidays during term time will not be authorised. Our attendance policy is available on our website for further information.

Please don't let your child miss out on the education they deserve.

Every day. Every pupil. Every minute!
Make it count!

Punctuality

Another improved week of pupil punctuality - getting better, let's keep it up!



Thankyou parents and pupils- it really does make a difference to the day ahead for us all.

Thank you once again for the donations we received both for our local harvest offerings and also for our local foodbank. The children delivered the fresh fruit and vegetables this week and we will be delivering the other items next week to The Well in Bishop Auckland.

Our foodbank Fridays mean that at St Mary's we can give a little throughout the whole of the year to those who need a little helping hand. The little hands at St Mary's are always ready to help and give what they can- thankyou!



What a gorgeous surprise we had on Thursday this week when Miss Herbert popped in to see us all! The children and staff were delighted to see her - we love your pink hair Miss Herbert and we love you!



CONGRATULATIONS and well done to our Cross Country team for coming first place in the KS2 cross country event at Staindrop this week. Both Mrs Metcalfe and Mrs Leighton were very impressed with each and every one of our runners- their resilience and determination but also their wonderful compassion where, without needing to be prompted encouraged and supported one pupil from another school to keep going and finish the race. I am always so proud when I hear stories like this- our school virtues in action!

Well done St Mary's and all other schools who took part in the event too.

