



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

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!

Bank Holiday Monday—4th May

School photograph Day—Friday 8th May

Monday 11th May- Thursday 14th May SATs Week Y6

Monday 18th May—Y6 Orienteering

Thursday 21st May—Larks Celebration of the Word
(All Welcome)

BREAK UP THURSDAY 21st May

Sunday 24th May- Pentecost Sunday (End of Eastertide)

Barnard Castle Meet Parade—Monday 25th May.

Early Years Information Meeting—1st June 4pm

Wednesday 10th June- 6 week transition afternoons begin (see dates on newsletter for further info)

Friday 3rd July- End of Year Reports sent out

Friday 10th July- Sports Afternoon 1.15pm

Friday 10th July- Y6 Annual Sleepover- further details to follow

Summer Half Term 22.5.26—29.5.26

First Holy Communion Mass Sunday—7th June

Owls' Residential Visit to Lockerbie 24.6.26—26.6.26

Owls Performance Tuesday 7th July 2pm & 5:30pm

Y6 Sleepover—Friday 10th July

Sports Day—Monday 13th July

Leavers' Assembly—Thursday 16th July—2:30pm

Friday 17th July- Mass at St Mary's Church 10am

Break Up Friday 17th July

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Happy birthday Alfie B and Laila B who both celebrate their birthday this week.



School Photograph Day



On Friday 8th May the photographer is coming into school to take class photos.

Please note—if your child does not have photo permissions they will not be included unless you message Mrs Sedgewick.

Transition Afternoons 2026

Transition Afternoon 1: Wednesday 10th June

Transition 2: Wednesday 17th June

Transition 3: Wednesday 24th June (this session Owls are on residential. Y4 will have their session as planned with Mrs Lewandowski)

Transition 4: Wednesday 1st July

Transition 5: Wednesday 8th July

Transition 6: Wednesday 15th July.

**Transition 6 will be the Teddy Bear's Picnic for our new nursery starters and reception starters together. Children are encouraged to bring along a favourite teddy from home and enjoy a shared picnic as part of this transition afternoon.*

Each afternoon session will be at the same time every week from 1.15pm- 3.15pm. Children will go back to their own classrooms for usual home time arrangements for 3.30pm.

Thankyou Parents- we are looking forward, as always to welcoming our new children in Reception Class. Once again, this year we have a full cohort of 15 children.

Staffing next year will remain the same in each year group:

- Miss Pryke: EYFS
- Miss North: Year 1 and 2 (Larks)
- Mrs Jennings Year 3 and 4 (Swifts)
- Mrs Porter Year 5 and 6 (Owls)

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 **Thank you to everybody who joined us for Mass!**
- ◆ Spring Term Mass: Thursday 12th March 2026 **Thank you to all who were able to attend.**
- ◆ Summer term Mass : Friday 17th July 2026
- ◆

Each Mass will be at 10am. Hope to see you there.

Thankyou.



St Mary's Catholic School Weekly Newsletter

We are journeying together during Eastertide



01.05.26

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

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- 99%
- Larks- 99%
- Swifts- 97%
- Owls- 100%

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!

Statutory Assessment Tests

In the next few weeks the Year 6 pupils will be sitting their SAT tests.

These assessments are nothing to worry about and simply a chance for the children to show what they know and how far they've come. With a positive mindset and plenty of encouragement, it becomes a moment for them to 'shine' and feel proud of all their hard work.

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| Monday 11 th May | Grammar, punctuation and vocabulary paper Spelling test |
| Tuesday 12 th May | Reading paper |
| Wednesday 13 th May | Maths arithmetic paper Maths reasoning paper |
| Thursday 14 th May | Second maths reasoning paper |
| Friday 15 th May | You're done! 🥳 |

Summer Sun

Please remember to send your children to school with suncream, a sunhat and a filled water bottle. These small essentials make a big difference in keeping them comfortable, protected and ready to enjoy their day of learning and playing in the sunshine.



Barnard Castle Meet Parade 2026

Thank you to all those who have volunteered to take part in the parade. Mrs Porter is thrilled to have so much interest and so many keen helpers.

Mrs Porter will be in touch next week to discuss costumes, however any parents/grandparents willing to help with props are invited to school on Wednesday 7th May 3:30pm.



May – The Month of Mary

May is traditionally celebrated as the month of **Mary**, a time when we pause to pray and ask Our Blessed Mother to watch over us with the same gentle care and comfort that a loving mum gives her own children.

It's a month for slowing down, noticing her presence, and trusting that she brings peace into the moments when we need it most.



As you Go Forth this week, maybe you could make your own Rosary beads and pray together to honour her, reflect on her life, and feel connected to one another in faith.