



St Mary's Catholic School
Weekly Newsletter



14.11.25

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

'I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.' Phil 4:13
'In November, We Remember'

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!

Jubilee Finale Celebration of the Word (approx. 15 mins) Friday 21st November 9.10am

Join us to celebrate the end of our special Journey as Pilgrims of hope. Led by staff and pupils.

Friday 5th Dec —Some of our Owls class will be serving Advent Lunches in our local parish hall. Volunteered by Evelyn- love it!

Tuesday 9th Dec - Choir carol singing at Barnard Castle Scouts Hut.

Break Up Friday 19th December and return to school Monday 5th January 2026

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 Hayden who celebrated his special day this week. Have the best day Hayden!



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
Get in touch: 01833 637029 see FB page for further info too.

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**

Holy Communion 2025

Children making their First Holy Communion this year are: **Katie, Rosalia, Gabriela, Margaret and Raph**. Please keep the children in your prayers throughout their preparation journey. Next sessions planned are 24th Nov and 1st

December, here in school 4-5.15pm.

Thankyou to both Father Thomas and Mrs McAuley who lead and organise the weekly preparation classes.





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



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fice@stmarysbc.bhct.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- 96%
Larks- 99%
Swifts- 99%
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

Improving every day but we need to keep it up- thank you parents. Great to see children in, on time, ready and settled on a morning.

Every minute counts!



Poster and Poetry Competition
'KINDNESS WINS'

Thankyou to everybody who participated in our Kindness Wins poetry or poster competition. Wow- the entries were all just brilliant- I can see that there's so much thought gone in to your work and I love how each of them is different.

I think I can confidently say that here at St Mary's we know that Kindness really does win! Well done everybody and to our overall winners:

Anna, Rowan, Charlie C and Flo



'In a World where you can be anything, Be Kind.'

Samaritans Purse- Shoe Box Appeal

A **HUGE** thankyou to our wonderful families and staff who have supported the Shoe Box Appeal this year- both by bringing in boxes to school to be delivered or by donating online.

It is wonderful to see everybody gladly embracing charity with such open arms and compassion for others.

Your little shoe box will bring SO MUCH joy to children all around the world- our global neighbours.

THANKYOU!

The boxes were delivered today to the Well in Bishop Auckland along with our Food Bank Friday donations too.

St Mary's, thankyou!

'Deep Faith, Lively Hope and Active Charity.'
Pope Francis



Don't forget to have a look at our Around School Blog and our Faith Journey section of the website where you will find lots of lovely photographs and information about the teaching and learning across school.