



St Mary's Catholic School  
Weekly Newsletter



19.12.25

Email: [office@stmarysbc.bhcet.org.uk](mailto:office@stmarysbc.bhcet.org.uk)  
<https://stmarysbc.bhcet.org.uk>

*'I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.' Phil 4:13*  
*'We are journeying together, during Advent.'*

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!

**TODDLER SESSIONS BEGIN AGAIN IN JANUARY 2026.**

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.

### Carol Service 2025

We hope to see lots of our families and friends join us for our Carol Service today at 3.45pm, St Mary's Catholic Church.

The Owls class are narrating—their singing is beautiful!

Join us if you can, it is a wonderful way to gather together as a school community one last time before we all break up for Christmas!



### HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Happy birthday to both Maddison and Joey who celebrated their birthday this week. I hope you both enjoyed your special day.



On behalf of all staff I would just like to say a **HUGE** thankyou for all of the lovely cards, kind words and beautiful gifts for Christmas. You are overwhelmingly kind and they are very much appreciated. **THANKYOU!**

We hope you all have a very happy, holy Christmas, put your feet up, eat lots and forget what day of the week it is ( my plan!!)

**Merry Christmas St Mary's**  
**See you in the New Year!**



### 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. 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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**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- 93%**

**Larks- 100%**

**Swifts- 98%**

**Owls- 92%**

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!**



**CHRISTMAS DISCO**



We all had a fabulous time at the Christmas disco last night- the children (and staff) had their dancing shoes on and were in full festive swing!

Great to see the children enjoying themselves with their friends, making treasured memories during their primary years. So lovely to be part of. More photographs are also on our FB page.

Thank you to everyone for coming along and as always to staff for giving up their own time to be here in school. All money raised from the food and tickets will go towards school funds. Thankyou.

**Together we raised just over £1,000 from our disco ticket sales and other festive events over these last few (very busy) weeks in school.**

**AMAZING!!** We will be using pupil voice to help us best spend some of the money. Huge thankyou.

