



*'I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.' Phil 4:13*  
*If we look closely we will be able to find God in the ordinary of our lives.*

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!**

**Netball coaching (Owls) - Every Wednesday**

**Spring Half term 23.2.26 – 27.2.26**

**11th March—Robotics Competition—Nissan Sunderland (Owls)**

**27th March -Swift's trip to Beamish**

**Thursday 2nd April—Swifts Celebration of the Word  
Easter (All Welcome)**

**Thursday 2nd April- Easter Disco 5- 7.30pm. Tickets required.**

**Easter Holiday 3.4.26—17.4.26**

**Bank Holiday Monday 4th May**

**Y6 SAT Assessment Week W.B. 11.5.26**

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

**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**

**(See MCAS for payment plan)**

**Break Up Friday 17th July**

#### ATTENDANCE MATTERS



**Attend Today = Achieve Tomorrow**

#### HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Happy birthday to Oliver C who celebrates his birthday this week. Have a great day!



#### Super Stewardship!

Thankyou to the three boys who came along to my office today and volunteered to do a Litter Pick around school. Sadly, they did find quite a bit of litter that they think 'has blown in from McDonalds, as there was lots of McDonalds wrappers.' (Dryden)

How sad it is that people feel they can just litter our wonderful world- but how lucky we are that we have children at St Mary's who care for their common home and want to look after God's world. Thankyou boys!



#### 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 12th March 2026**  
**CHANGE OF DATE**
- ◆ **Summer term Mass : Friday 17th July 2026**

#### Holy Communion 2026

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.

**Sunday 7th June 2026**





St Mary's Catholic School  
Weekly Newsletter



*'Let your Light Shine Before Others' Matthew 5:16*

**20.02.26**

Email: [office@stmarysbc.bhcet.org.uk](mailto: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.

### Lenten Journey

We are almost at the end of our first week of Lent. It was wonderful to see so many parents and grandparents join us at Mass on Ash Wednesday- thankyou.

Alfred has been checking the temptation bags in EYFS are all there- he counts every day to make sure there are 10 little bags! The children have been thinking about when Jesus was tempted in the desert and thinking about what they might find tempting in their life too. Keep an eye on those sweets Alfred!



Don't forget to read our termly Sports Newsletter- full of wonderful achievements from the children at St Mary's both at home and at school.

Thankyou Mrs Jennings and Miss Holywell our new Sports Subject Lead.

### Attendance this week

**'Minutes count, Attendance Matters!**



Robins- **86%**  
Larks- **93%**  
Swifts- **84%**  
Owls- **94%**

A drop in overall attendance this week. Lots of bugs but hopefully after half term we will see an improvement.

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!**

### Polite Reminder: Uniform Expectations

Please see additional messages on Weduc with further information about our uniform policy and expectations across school. Please get in touch if there are any issues and don't forget to use our uniform bank too.

The link to our Etika suppliers is below and also don't forget there is no expectation that the children must wear items with school logos. Supermarkets have some fantastic offers on - very reasonably priced.

We have decided to go with black joggers or leggings for PE as this is the colour the majority of children seem to be wearing anyway. **The slight change to PE uniform is expected to be in place across school after the Easter holidays.** Asda have a really good offer on at the minute where you can buy a pack of 3 joggers for £11.

Here is the link for convenience too.

Reach out if you need any support.

Parents, thankyou for your understanding and cooperation with this. Developing a sense of pride, belonging, and respect is so important to us as a primary school.  
Thankyou!

<https://direct.asda.com/george/kids/joggers/black-cuffed-joggers-3-pack/GEM1262277-23534,default.pd.html>

<https://stmarysbc.bhcet.org.uk/school-uniform>