



St Mary's Catholic School
Weekly Newsletter



09.01.26

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

'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

Tuesday 17th Feb—Netball Competition (Owls)

Friday 13th Feb 2:30pm —Wrens and Robins Celebration of the Word

Valentines (All Welcome)

Wednesday 18th Feb 10am ASH WEDNESDAY MASS

Thursday 19th Feb—Multi-skills Festival (Larks)

Spring Half term 23.2.26 — 27.2.26

Thursday 2nd April—Swifts Celebration of the Word

Easter (All Welcome)

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

Owls' Residential Visit to Lockerbie 24.6.26—26.6.26

(See MCAS for payment plan)

Break Up Friday 17th July

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.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Happy birthday to Grant, Lucas, Florence and Archie who celebrated their birthday this week. I hope you have all enjoyed your special day.



Welcome

Happy New Year Everyone!

As always, it is so lovely to see all of the children returning to school after a much needed break— all a little taller and eager to learn.

This term we welcome 4 new pupils to St Mary's and a new member of teaching staff.

Welcome Blossom, Bodhi, Freya and Willow ...and Miss North!

We hope you have enjoyed your first week at St Mary's and made lots of new friends.

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**

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

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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'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- 100%

Larks- 94%

Swifts- 97%

Owls- 97%

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!**

Digital Lives



Parenting today can feel overwhelming — especially when childhood looks so different from what we grew up with. There's no manual, and it can be hard to keep up with the fast-changing digital world your child moves through every day. This guide aims to make those conversations easier and help you support your child with confidence.

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/resource/what-i-wish-my-parents-or-carers-knew-a-guide-for-parents-and-carers-on-managing-childrens-digital-lives/>

[What I wish my parents or carers knew: A guide for parents on managing children's digital lives.](https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/resource/what-i-wish-my-parents-or-carers-knew-a-guide-for-parents-and-carers-on-managing-childrens-digital-lives/)

