



Welcome Back!

A very warm welcome back to everybody; children and their families, teachers and governors. A special welcome to our new starters both in nursery and reception and also across school... our family continues to grow!



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 Miss C our sports lead and class teacher too;

Please can I politely remind parents that any holidays taken during term time will not be authorised. Thankyou

Tuesday 10th September: Toddler Sessions Start back 9.15am- 10.45am £3 per child/session and includes refreshments. All welcome.

Monday 16th September: Tea and Chat Night. An opportunity to informally meet your child's teacher/ teachers over a cuppa. Drop in from 3.30pm - 4.45pm. Mrs Sedgewick will also be available to have any Weduc questions answered and demos/ workshops if necessary.

Friday 20th September: Year 1 and 2 at the Whitham 'Aladdin Showcase' FREE Children get to meet the cast too.

Wednesday 25th September Flu Vaccinations R-Y6 * all children need consent forms completing.

Thursday 26th September Whole School Family Mass (not including nursery) All welcome. 10am St Mary's Catholic Church Barnard Castle.

Friday 27th September Macmillan Coffee Morning 9am- 11am drop in.

Friday 11th October: Turn Barny Pink awareness day: Come to school dressed in something pink!

Half Term

School Closes Thursday 24th October and reopens Monday 4th November

School Lunches

First of all a big thankyou for your patience and understanding with our technical hitches this week with MCAS. This has been across the whole of the Trust, but hopefully sorted now for bookings- apologies for added stress and inconvenience over the first week!

Choosing lunches: Each week you will see our meal choices available to view, select and then submit on MCAS. It is always best if the meals are picked together with your child as often we have children say they don't like their choice or get upset at their choice once they are at the hatch. If children do not have a meal selected then we will automatically give them whatever the hot choice is for that day. Please make sure you take the time to pick meals in advance. Many thanks.

Cost: Children in nursery pay additional cost for lunches.

Reception -KS1 (Year 2) ALL have free school meals

KS2 (Y3 upwards) pay for lunches.

We've invested in a brand new oven/ steamer... Miss Bunford is in her element! Its amazing and as always the food really is delicious! Fish and chips went down well today!

ATTENDANCE MATTERS



MINUTES COUNT!

Attend Today= Achieve Tomorrow

As a school we are very fortunate to have parents that completely understand and support the importance of attendance.

Whilst our attendance is very good overall, I just want to reiterate the importance of attendance and every day , and minute counting!

We often see patterns from our attendance data showing the same children arriving late. Every minute counts so can we make a big effort to get our children to school before **9am, ready to start the lessons. 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.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



Happy birthday to Harry B who celebrates his birthday this week. Have a great day Harry.



Late Arrivals

Parents, a polite reminder to please make sure your child arrives to school in good time for register. Children can arrive from 8.45am when there is an adult in the classroom and then be in, ready for register for 9am.

We are seeing an increase in late registrations, heightened anxieties and children arriving without having breakfast.. Unfortunately, repeated late marks can also result in a fine from the authority.

The impact on the rest of the day for some children is huge, and unfortunately it seems to be these children that are often late. It also impacts on staff.

Individual messages and meetings will need to take place with myself and the attendance team if we do not see improvement.

If there is any further support as a parent you feel you need with any issues regarding morning arrivals and punctuality then please do ring me- we are here to help and support our families.

Breakfast Club runs from 7.45am each morning



St Mary's Catholic School
Weekly Newsletter

We are journeying together through Ordinary Time



6.9.24

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-100%
Larks- 98%
Swifts-97%
Owls- 96%



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!

EYFS Morning Drop Offs

Important Information

A reminder to parents, particularly those new to our school and our morning routines.

Unless your child is at breakfast club then they should arrive from 8.45am ready for a prompt 9am start/ registration. The EYFS gate will be closed until this time. **PLEASE DO NOT OPEN ANY GATE IN SCHOOL IF IT IS CLOSED.** A member of staff will then be stood on the gate to welcome you in as you go to class. Once the children are handed over there are then two members of staff in the classroom to help organise the children with their things. If you can see the morning is particularly busy- this time of year staff may have to deal with children who are upset or go the wrong way, maybe try and run back to their parents- then please wait to physically hand over you child. Safeguarding must be our utmost priority. I (or another member of the SLT will be on the drive as part of the morning routines from 8.45am.

Thankyou so much parents
We appreciate your support and understanding
Mrs Box

Always part of our St Mary's Family... don't they look smart! We look forward to our annual visit- seeing you all in your new uniforms. You are all in our thoughts and prayers!



We have had such a wonderful first week back at school, the new starters have been brilliant and Miss Herbert has settled in well too... but she is very tired!! I hope you all have a well deserved weekend and we will see you Monday.

Don't forget to look on the school website/ FB and Around School section for further info and also photographs from around school.

Thankyou