



'A smile is a curve that sets everything straight' Phyllis Diller

Dates for diary (Please also see Weduc Calendar and News-feeds)

[School Holidays \(stmarysprimary.durham.sch.uk\)](http://stmarysprimary.durham.sch.uk)

- Thursday 19th January- Chinese New Year Lunch. Payable via Scopay. (Chinese New Year 22nd January , year of the Rabbit)
- Monday 6th- 12th is Children's Mental Health Week.
- Monday 6th- Dress to Impress non uniform Day: Celebrate being YOU! Fundraising event. Details to follow on Weduc.
- Tuesday 7th February- Reception Vision checks with NHS
- Spring Term Mass Thursday 16th February- St Mary's Church 10am. Everybody welcome.
- 22nd February: Ash Wednesday. School will attend Mass today, time tbc.
- Monday 27th February- Fairtrade Fortnight
- Thursday 2nd March- World Book Day. Further info will follow after speaking with the children and staff.
- Wednesday 22nd March- EYFS visit to Hall Hill Farm. Further details to follow from Mrs D via Weduc
- Friday 31st March- Break Up for Easter
- Palm Sunday- 2nd April... Holy Week.
- Good Friday 7th April, Easter Sunday 9th April
- Monday 17th April- Return to School



This week in school we have introduced our feelings trees in each class and also the staffroom. The children now have an opportunity, twice a day to share and express their feelings, using their coloured leaves: green, amber and red. The idea behind it is so that St Mary's ensure children have an opportunity to discuss and express their feelings, become familiar with, and grow in confidence with talking about their feelings, and more importantly, realising that they are not on their own... even teachers can have a morning where they feel 'amber' or even 'red' but the important thing is... we try our best to talk about it.

The response already has been wonderfully positive and the children are already discussing their feelings more openly, and being considerate, and accepting of the feelings of others.

Staff have also found it beneficial and feel it is an important part of their work day too.

Well done everybody—and thank you Mrs Lewandowski for preparing all of the resources to make this happen.

Next week our Virtues are: **Confidence** and **Honesty**

Belief in oneself and one's powers or abilities;

Feeling self confident and assured.

The quality of being honest

An aspect of moral character that indicates positive and virtuous attributes such as integrity and truthfulness



No birthday celebrations this week.

Stars of the week—don't forget to look on our school website to see who are our Stars this week and photographs on the Around School Section too.



'We are journeying together through Ordinary Time'

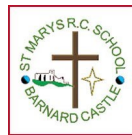
Our Trust Virtues

(Please see the additional A4 poster I have attached with further information about each Virtue)

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 7 Virtues that we promote and celebrate as a school community:

- ◆ **Respect**
- ◆ **Responsibility**
- ◆ **Justice**
- ◆ **Compassion**
- ◆ **Self Belief**
- ◆ **Resilience**
- ◆ **Honesty**
- ◆ **Confidence**



Have that conversation with your child... can they tell you the Virtue we have been exploring in school and more importantly, do they know what that looks like in action?

Thank you parents.



Attendance this week:

(% from Wednesday- Friday so lower than usual!)

Robins: 96.3 %

Larks: 95.7%

Swifts: 94.4%

Owls: 93.8%



Well done Robins class!

Please see our attendance policy on the school website for further information about expectations and parental responsibilities.

Holidays in term time will not be authorised and fines may occur.

Another wonderful week at school. Busy bees! Enjoy the weekend and see you all on Monday.

