

8TH DECEMBER 2023

FRIDAY NEWSLETTER

SAINT MARY'S CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY

A WARM WELCOME TO THIS WEEK'S NEWSLETTER.



A warm welcome to this week's newsletter, the first in Advent. This weekend the weekly theme begins with peace. The senior chaplains will lead whole school liturgy on Monday based on this theme.

It is only fitting that we take the opportunity to say thank you to all the families who are using the travelling cribs. Please record your responses within the little booklet or send photographs to school and we will add them to our newsletter and website. All families will receive the travelling crib before the end of term.

The school is a hive of business with carol singing and concert practice and advent activities. It is heart-warming to hear all their beautiful voices as you walk through school. It is hard to believe we are already on the countdown to Christmas. This week some of our year 3 and 4 pupils attended the benchball event. They played fantastically and came second overall. Next week, our year 5 and 6 basketball teams are in action! Please do check the dates to note below or ClassDojo as everyday is a whirlwind of activities in the lead up to Christmas!

Have a lovely weekend

Mrs Chapman



Heavenly Father

We pray for Peace in our hearts and peace in the world so that the world can reflect your loving will.

Amen



LITTLE FISH PRESENTATION

On Friday afternoon many of our pupils completed a range of presentations to talk about their role and the work they do supporting others through their different groups. Each group have different names and all fall under the umbrella of Little FISH (Faith in Small Hearts). I was very proud of the groups who confidently talked about their very important roles in school. We had a full range of groups and pupils including; Eco Team, Fairtrade Team, Pupil Parliament, Faith in Action, Sports Leaders, Well-being, Health Champions, Minnie Vinnies, Chaplains, Diversity and School councillors! As you can see, a lot of pupil led groups across school. Thank you so much to the parents/carers who came along to this pupil led assembly - you all helped to make their day.



BENCHBALL

Some of our year 3 and 4 pupils attended a benchball session at the Lesire Centre on Wednesday. The team played fantastically and placed second overall. Well done to everyone! Next week it is the turn of our year 5 and 6 basketball teams!



WRAPAROUND CLUB

Wraparound club have been busy this week; construction using Lego and Gears, creating incredible art work and catching up on homework! We do have places available at both breakfast club and after school club - please contact the school office for more information.



Due to increasing staff and food costs, from 1st January 2024 we will have to put the price of wraparound up slightly. We have had to take this measure to make sure that we can continue to run the provision for everyone. Breakfast club will increase from £3.50 per session to £4.00 per session and afterschool club will increase from £7.50 per session to £8.00 per session. We're also moving the booking cut off time from midnight to 1.00pm the day before the session is required. This is to help us manage our pupil to staff ratios better. Lastly, we'll only be serving breakfast up to 8.20am. This helps us to make sure that all the pots can be tidied away and tables cleaned before lessons start for the day. Thank you for your understanding.

MINNIE VINNIES

Class three are all part of Mini Vinnies. This is a group of primary school young people who get together to help those in need within their school and local community. Mini Vinnies introduces children to social justice issues and to living faith through action as part of the St Vincent de Paul Society. Class three decided that they would like to help refugees in the local area. They would like to donate toiletries, colouring pencils, colouring books, note pads and books to a project at St Peter's church in Hazel Grove who help refugees. If you can donate any of the above please can these be brought into school by 14th December. Thank you so much to those people who have already donated items, we are very grateful.



DATES TO NOTE



Please do keep an eye on ClassDojo for messages from the class teachers with regards to

nativity costumes. **There are no Star of the Week assemblies on Friday 15th or 22nd December. Active participation awards and house points will continue until the end of term.**

Monday 11th December	Key stage one Christmas performance – morning (9.30am to 10.30am) then the evening performance (6.00pm to 7.00pm)
Tuesday 12th December	Whole school trip to the pantomime at Buxton Opera House
Wednesday 13th December	Key stage two Christmas performance – morning (9.30am to 10.30am) then the evening performance (6.00pm to 7.00pm)
Thursday 14th December	Christmas dinner day. We will also be Carol singing on this day at Watford House, in New Mills town centre and at Jubilee Day Centre. Christmas jumpers on this day if possible!
Friday 15th December	PTA Christmas Corousel day. We would be grateful for a donation of £2.00 per child on this day. For households with more than two children, please only bring £5.00. Our parent and baby group also have their Christmas party on this day.
Tuesday 19th December	Violin performance by pupils learning with Mrs Porter. Everyone is very welcome to come to this performance which starts at 9.15am
Friday 22nd December	Christmas service – songs of celebration. Everyone is very welcome to attend. The service starts at 1.15pm and is being held in school. All children should be collected after the service on this day (2.00pm) at which time school will close for the Christmas break.
Monday 8th January 2024	Everyone returns to school.

SCHOOL COMMUNITY NOTICES

Please do take part in the Parent Consultation to give your feedback to our approach to teaching Relationships Education and Health Education - the letter was sent out on Monday of this week. The consultation process closes on Friday 15th December.

If anyone has changed their name, phone number, address, e-mail address etc. recently please do let us know so that we can amend the database. It is vital that we hold the correct contact details for everyone

Please be very careful when parking outside school. Please drive slowly and don't park on the zigzags, even just to drop off. This helps to keep our children safe.

Please give consent for your child/children to attend the pantomime on the 12th December via ParentPay if you haven't already!

High attendance is vitally important to every child, educationally, socially, and legally. This is a good opportunity to remind everyone holidays should not be booked during term time. Headteachers are not permitted to authorise absences unless there are exceptional circumstances. This does not include reduced holiday costs. If a child is not in school and the absence is not authorised, we are under a duty to report this to the Local Authority who may issue you with a penalty notice.

Our Stay and Play day for parents and carers who have a child due to start school in September 2024 takes place on Thursday 21st December from 1.30pm to 2.30pm. Please do pass this on to anyone you know who has a child of this age.

If you don't currently have access to ClassDojo but you would like to, please speak to the school office.

SCHOOL HEALTH

There is lots of information available about children and young people's health, including the school nursing team, vaccinations and the national child measurement programme here - www.derbyshire.gov.uk/social-health/health-and-wellbeing/your-health/children-and-young-peoples-health/children-and-young-peoples-health.aspx



Information about the neurodiversity hub, which is based in Buxton, can be found here - www.zink.ork.uk

There is also lots of information on our school website, including information about the foodbank here - <https://www.stmarysnewmills.srscmat.co.uk/parents/family-support-and-school-health/>



SAFEGUARDING

If you have any concerns about a child or something else, please contact one of St Mary's designated leads for Safeguarding on safeguarding@nmm.srscmat.co.uk, who are:

Mrs Chapman – Headteacher and Senior Safeguarding lead

Mrs Mallabar – Designated Safeguarding Lead, Class Teacher and Mental Health Ambassador

Mrs Laura Chapman (SENCO) – Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mr Matthew Pearson – Designated Safeguarding Lead

Please see the school website here:

<https://www.stmarysnewmills.srscmat.co.uk/parents/snow-procedures/> for our adverse weather procedures



As a school, we are always here to support you and your family. If your family circumstances have changed, for example a loss of a loved one, a separation or even a house move, please do let us know. Changes like these will impact children and it would really help if we knew about your changing circumstances to help us best support you all.



EXTRA INFORMATION

Everyone is invited to:



St. Mary's
parent and baby group

Every Friday during term time from 9.15am to 10.45am. £2.00 per session which includes a drink and a snack.

EVERYONE IS VERY WELCOME



Longlands road, New Mills, SK22 3BL - 01663 742412

Could your child be entitled to Free School Meals?

For every pupil registered, the school will receive additional funding in the school budget called Pupil Premium which is used to help raise achievement levels.

By ensuring that as many eligible families as possible have applied for free school meals, we will receive our maximum Pupil Premium funding which enables us to provide the best education for our pupils.

Search 'Derbyshire County Council Free School Meals' for the link to apply!

We encourage parents of children who receive Universal Infant Free School Meals to still apply for Free School Meals as this will ensure school receives essential funding.

Please contact the school office if you need any support applying for Free School Meals.

EVERY MINUTE COUNTS

CHILDREN FIND ARRIVING LATE FOR SCHOOL UPSETTING AND THEY MISS OUT ON IMPORTANT OPPORTUNITIES. PLEASE WORK WITH US TO PROVIDE YOUR CHILD WITH THE BEST CHANCES OF LEARNING BY ENSURING THEY ARE IN SCHOOL EVERY DAY AND ON TIME.

Your child has arrived in good time to meet friends and get ready for morning work in class.

8.45AM
The school day begins at 8.45am with soft start for key stage one. The classrooms are open and children should come into school.

8.55AM
The register is completed. Children should be ready to start their learning.

9.00am - Your child is late and has missed the beginning of the school day. 5 minutes late means 3 days lost per year.

9.10AM
The teacher has explained the learning and lessons have started.

9.10am - 15 minutes late means 9 days lost per year

9.15AM
Lessons are well underway and work is being produced.

9.15am - The register closes. Any arrival after this time is an unauthorised absence.

All applications, from pupils with faith or no faith, are very welcome at our school.

STAY AND PLAY DAY

DO YOU HAVE A CHILD DUE TO START SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER 2024?

COME AND JOIN US FOR OUR STAY AND PLAY DAY. SEE OUR FANTASTIC EARLY LEARNING SETTING, MEET OUR WONDERFUL TEACHERS AND EXPERIENCE OUR BRILLIANT LITTLE SCHOOL FIRST HAND!

A FREE AND FUN PLAY SESSION FOR ALL PROSPECTIVE NEW PUPILS AND THEIR PARENTS!

21ST DECEMBER

1.30PM TO 2.30PM

INFO@NMM.SRSCMAT.CO.UK OR 01663 742412

Enter our **Super Draw**

SCHOOL LOTTERY

**WIN A £3,000
CHRISTMAS
CASH BONUS**



- Tickets cost just £1 a week
- Chance to win up to £25,000
- Play weekly, or just play the Super Draw!
- Win a huge festive cash bonus!

**PLEASE HELP US TO
RAISE FUNDS TO BUY
RESOURCES FOR ALL OF
OUR CHILDREN IF YOU
CAN!**



**YOUR
SCHOOL
LOTTERY**

PLAY NOW:

SCAN THE QR CODE OR GO TO
www.yourschoollottery.co.uk

AND SEARCH FOR **St Mary's New Mills**

