



28TH MARCH 2024

FRIDAY NEWSLETTER

SAINT MARY'S CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY

Welcome to this week's newsletter, the last in this Easter Term. Our focus during Holy Week is on the following: – Psalm Sunday, The Last Supper, Good Friday, Easter Sunday and the Stations of the Cross. Please click here and scroll down the page for the Stations of the Cross videos: <https://www.stmarysnewmills.srscmat.co.uk/catholic-life/r-e/>

On Monday all the pupils attended church and class 4 lead the Stations of the Cross through the eyes of Mary. Every child certainly demonstrated solemnity as they sat in silence and reflected on the different stations. Thank you to parents, carers and parishioners who attended this event.

Well done to all the pupils who competed in the Boccia Tournament on Wednesday. You played really well and we're proud of you.

Year 2 optional SATs – All year 2 pupils will be completing the optionals SATs in June alongside all other year group assessment activities. An information booklet has been sent home about this.

Lenten Service – It was lovely to observe how the pupils all participated in our Lenten Service. Class 1 sang beautifully, – 'We have a King who rides a donkey' and waved their psalms confidently, class 2 performed the Last Supper and spoke with eloquence whilst class 3 showed reverence and respect in completing the washing of the feet and the Garden in Gethsemane. Class 4 concluded our service with Peter's denial and the service closed with a video recording by Year 6 on the stations of the cross. Thank you to all that attended this very moving event.

God bless you all. We hope you have a safe, memorable and chocolate filled Easter! We look forward to welcoming everyone back on Tuesday 16 April (Monday 15th April is an inset day).

Mrs Chapman

*At This Easter, May You Be Blessed With
Lots of Joy, Peace, Goodness, Happiness and Love.
Happy Easter to You and Your Family.*



Copies of both the school newsletters and the Parish newsletters can be found here –
<https://www.stmarysnewmills.srscmat.co.uk/news/newsletters/>
Our Catholic life and mission newsletter can be found here
<https://www.stmarysnewmills.srscmat.co.uk/catholic-life/catholic-social-teaching/>

Minnie Vinnies donated books to the community pantry this week. We also gave out jigsaw pieces to members of our community to show that we are all part of one big picture!



Boccia – we came first in the Boccia tournament on Wednesday! We couldn't be prouder of you all.



Parent voice – thank you to everyone who completed the short parent voice form on the parents consultation sessions!

We had some lovely feedback and we really do appreciate all of your kind words. You talked about the family feel of the school, the caring environment, the arts and music offer, the morals of the school, the approachable and friendly staff and the close community feel were all mentioned. You told us that your children love coming to school and that staff are amazing at their jobs as well as caring for the pupils. You told us that you feel valued as parents which makes a massive, positive difference. You talked about our strongly held family values that are at the heart of every decision. You talked about the dedication of the staff.

We always try to respond to feedback, so here are some points from the areas you would like to see improved:

More funding – this is controlled by the Department for Education and is beyond our control. We always try to get the best value for money and make our funds stretch as far as possible.

Too many rules – rules are so important for everyone; children, parents and staff! There are times when we need to remind everyone about rules and enforce the rules that we have, which are usually in place to keep everyone safe.

Religion – As a Catholic school, we feel passionate about empowering our children to become the best adults they can be, we strongly believe with all our hearts that OUR children are the leaders of the future and therefore need to have the life skills, morals and compassion needed to fulfill this role and achieve everything they are capable of.

School meals – meals are provided via Derbyshire County Council. For key stage one children (classes one and two) all infants are entitled to a meal. We encourage children to try something from the hot dinner selection as we always encourage children to persevere and keep trying new things and this is an ideal opportunity to reinforce that.

After school club – We have always tried to keep the prices as low as possible and, compared to other providers, we are much cheaper. We only have one price for breakfast club and one price for afterschool club, this helps us to keep the running costs lower for everyone.

After school club opportunities for key stage 1 – Infants are offered lunchtime sports clubs weekly. As a small school, we do have limited space. We are sometimes able to offer summer sports clubs during the summer term and we'll look into this for next term.

Improve the playground – We'll be discussing this with our wonderful PTA for the next academic year.

More notice for events – We always try to add events to ClassDojo as far in advance as we can, however things do change and we sometimes have to make adjustments for reasons beyond our control. We add events to the calendar on ClassDojo, the dates to note section of the newsletter and the calendar on the website. We add dates for the full term as much as we know them.

Thank you again for all of your feedback, it is invaluable to us!

DATES TO NOTE

Monday 15th January to Monday 29th April	SATs after school revision club for all year six pupils, 3.20pm to 4.15pm every Monday
Friday 29th March to Monday 15th April	Easter holidays and INSET day
Tuesday 16th April	National primary places offer day
Wednesday 17th April	Class photos
Monday 22nd April	Year 3 and 4 begin their swimming lessons
Wednesday 8th May to Friday 10th May	Year five residential trip to The Briars
W/C Monday 13th May	SATs week
Thursday 16th May	Parent meeting regarding the residential trip to Lea Green (year 6 only) 3.20pm-4.00pm
Sunday 19th May	Duck race
Thursday 23rd May	Class one assembly 9.15
Thursday 23rd May	Science collapsed curriculum day
Monday 27th May to Friday 31st May	Half term holidays
Thursday 13th June	Class three assembly 9.15am
Thursday 20th June	Class two assembly 9.15am
Wednesday 26th June to Friday 28th June	Year six residential trip to Lea Green
Monday 8th July	Last swimming lesson for year 3 and 4
Thursday 11th July	Class 1 and 2 trip to the Runway Visitor Park
Monday 15th July	Class four end of year production dress rehearsal (all invited) 1.30pm
Tuesday 16th July	Class four end of year production (all invited) 6.00pm
Friday 19th July	School closes for the summer break

SCHOOL NOTICES



If anyone has any clothes at home that belong to school, please send them back to us ASAP!!

Our dinner table discussion this week was 'do animals have ideas?'

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

"I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." - Jeremiah 29:11

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.

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.

No star of the week assembly this week.

Our statement of belief this week was - I try to appreciate the beauty and the wonder in the world around me.

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.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE WAS 92.4% THIS WEEK!

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

S – Service and Stewardship

- We care for each other – ‘Love one another as I have loved you’
- We understand our obligation and responsibility to other in our local, national and world wide communities.
- We are learning to become global citizens, courageously following in Jesus’ footsteps.
- We are working together to Building God’s Kingdom on Earth.
- We are helping to look after the most vulnerable in our communities.

T – Togetherness

- We work together for the greater good.
- We work together cooperatively as a team.
- We are disciples of Christ and we show this through our actions.
- We are stronger together.

M – Mission

- We ensure all of our pupils receive the best learning opportunities through the provision of a broad and diverse curriculum.
- We bring Christ to all of our children, ensuring that he is front and centre in everything we do – ‘Rip of the Roof’.
- We are the living Gospel.
- We strive to be the best we can be and achieve our God given potential.

A – Awe and Wonder

- We are inspiring our pupils to be future leaders.
- We recognise the awe and wonder in God’s creation.
- We recognising our uniqueness in the eyes of God.
- We are being inspired to learn more, know more and understand more.

R – Reconciliation and Forgiveness

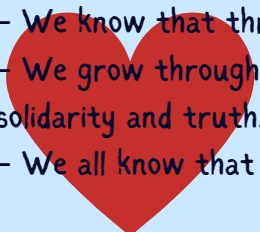
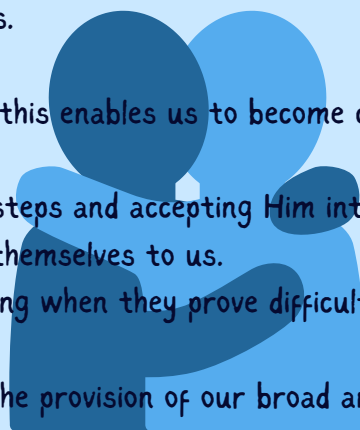
- We know how to say sorry and recognise when we have done something wrong.
- We know how to ask God and others for forgiveness.
- We know how to forgive others as God forgives us.
- We know that we can learn from our mistakes and this enables us to become closer to God.

Y – Yes!

- We are Saying ‘yes’ to God by following in His footsteps and accepting Him into our hearts.
- We are Saying ‘yes’ to opportunities that present themselves to us.
- We are saying ‘yes’ to new challenges and persevering when they prove difficult.
- We are saying ‘yes’ to helping those in need.
- We are saying ‘yes’ to achieving our best through the provision of our broad and diverse curriculum.
- We are saying ‘yes’ to celebrating our differences.

S – Spirituality

- We recognise our faith in God and that we are all part of something greater.
- We know that through prayer we discover who we are and why we are here.
- We grow through our Gospel Values, of acceptance, hope, faith, courage, honesty, love, charity, solidarity and truth.
- We all know that “I am Important and Precious because God loves me”.



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.



SAFEGUARDING ONLINE

SCHOOL CHROMEBOOKS – AS A REMINDER, THE CHROMEBOOKS THAT KEY STAGE TWO CHILDREN BRING HOME EVERYDAY ARE ONLY TO BE USED FOR LEARNING. IN SCHOOL, THE CHROMEBOOKS ARE FILTERED TO ENSURE THAT NO INAPPROPRIATE SITES CAN BE ACCESSED BUT ONCE THE DEVICE IS TAKEN HOME, WE DO NOT HAVE CONTROL OF WHAT IS VIEWED AS THIS IS LINKED TO YOUR HOME WI-FI CONTROLS. CHILDREN SHOULD NOT BE ACCESSING SITES SUCH AS TIKTOK, YOUTUBE, FACEBOOK ETC. ON THESE DEVICES. CHILDREN SHOULD NOT BE LEFT UNSUPERVISED ON THEIR CHROMEBOOKS. IF WE FIND THAT CHILDREN ARE NOT USING THEM PROPERLY, WE WILL REMOVE THE DEVICES FOR HOME USE.

It is really important to think about keeping our children safe online. Please do set parental controls on your children's devices so that you can control what they see and how long they can use their devices for. It is also vital to talk to your children about why you are doing this and let them know that they can talk to you if they see something inappropriate or upsetting.

The NSPCC have some fantastic resources which are free to access, explaining how to keep children safe online and how to set parental controls – <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/#guides>

They also have guides about social media platforms and how to help children stay safe when using them. As a reminder, **no primary school age pupils should be accessing social media at all. Primary aged children aren't able to understand the consequences of decisions made when using social media, they are at risk because of WHAT THEY MIGHT SEE, WHO THEY MIGHT SPEAK TO and HOW THEY MIGHT BEHAVE. Please help to keep all of our children safe by ensuring that none of our children are using social media.**

Please also be alert to children watching films or playing games which are not appropriate for their age and stage. Always follow the age guidance and be mindful of young children watching upsetting or violent films or playing games not meant for their age, This can be very distressing and can cause long term harm.

EXTRA INFORMATION

Book your **FREE** holiday club!

FREE HOLIDAY CLUBS IN DERBYSHIRE

Looking for ways to keep the kids busy this school holiday? It's About Me is running FREE activity clubs across Derbyshire for children aged 4-16 who are eligible for benefits-related free school meals. Activities include Arts & Crafts, Sports, Games, Cookery, Dance, Music and much more!

IMPORTANT: You will need a IAM code from your child's school to book. If you haven't received your code, please contact your school.

Excludes half-terms, weekends and bank holidays.

You can also book online at www.itsaboutmederbyshire.co.uk

@DerbyshireHAF
@itsaboutmederbyshire
@itsaboutme derbyshire

EASTER FAMFEST

APRIL 9TH-12TH
11AM-3PM

LUNCH AND SNACKS INCLUDED

Fun holiday programme delivered by Youth Matters New Mills

DERBY ROAD FIELD NEW MILLS

FREE HOLIDAY CLUB FOR 5-16 YEARS

- Bouncy Castle
- Sports
- Arts and crafts tent
- Bush Craft
- Under 5's area
- Quiet Tent
- And more

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.

COMMUNITY NOTICES



Message from BEING outdoors CIC
EING ADVENTUROUS Easter Holiday Club ...

The team have listened to enquiries and responded... Great news, Easter Holiday club now taking single day(s) or 3 day block bookings. Same fun filled outdoor woodland spring holiday club, just tweaked to fit your Easter schedules. Lots of nature connection and a hot campfire lunch! Shield Tree Wood is ready to spring into action with nature crafts, tool skills and finding friendships.

Bookings are open and filling up, use the link below... for ALL the details you need:
If you are looking for a holiday club fun filled, outdoor woodland, campfire lunch... well frankly we have everything you need.

Our site in Shield Tree Wood has rested over the winter and now ready for some Easter fun.

Bookings are open and filling up, use the link below... for ALL the details you need:

<https://bookwhen.com/beingoutdoorsic>

The BEING Outdoors CIC team are looking forward to welcoming you back to BEING ADVENTUROUS at Shield Tree Wood.

Tractor Fest
Sunday 28 April 2024
Storforth Lane Trading Estate,
Chesterfield, S41 0SN 10am-3pm

Come and see a fantastic display of vintage and modern tractors and machinery.

- Mini tractor driving
- Stalls
- Games
- Refreshments
- Colouring
- Activities ... and much more!

Pre-book your tickets now!
www.ashgatehospice.org.uk/tractor-fest

£3 for adults, FREE for children age 11 and under

With special thanks to:
THE GREEN HALL ESTATE, PDM, Harold Libby & Sons Ltd, Commissionaire care for everyone.

Tractor Fest is a charity fun day for all the family in support of Ashgate Hospice.

Last year, we cared for thousands of people across North Derbyshire. Our quality of care can only be achieved through the energy, care and compassion of our staff, volunteers and our loyal supporters. To everyone who has supported Ashgate Hospice, a heartfelt thank you.

Join us as our successful event returns again this year. There's lots to see and do for all the family. For more information please contact: events@ashgatehospice.org.uk or ring 01246 567 250.

"From mini tractor driving to antique tractors on display, a family fun day is returning to Derbyshire this spring - and kids can attend for FREE!

Tractor Fest will take place on Sunday 28th April from 10am until 3pm at the Storforth Lane Trading Estate in Hasland, Chesterfield.

There will be a huge collection of tractors on display as well as fun activities, including mini fire engine rides, soft play, a climbing wall and more.

The event, which is organised by Ashgate Hospice, costs £3 for adults and is free for children under the age of 11.

Jack Wood, Deputy Director of Income Generation at Ashgate Hospice, said: "We are delighted to be bringing Tractor Fest back to Chesterfield this April.

"Last year was a huge success and we were proud to welcome so many families from across Derbyshire."

All proceeds from Tractor Fest will help fund vital care for patients and families who need the care of the hospice.

The charity must raise £9 million each year so it can continue providing palliative and end of life care to people across North Derbyshire.

Any owners of tractors or other farming vehicles who would like to showcase their vehicles are invited to contact the hospice directly to arrange this.

To book your tickets to Ashgate Hospice's Tractor Fest head to [//www.ashgatehospice.org.uk/tractor-fest](http://www.ashgatehospice.org.uk/tractor-fest)

Alternatively, supporters can contact the hospice's fundraising team on events@ashgatehospice.org.uk or by calling 01246 567250."

Mellor Golf Club are now offering

FREE Junior Membership

to ALL primary school children aged 11 & under!

There has never been a better time to get into golf!

Here at Mellor Golf Club we want to make it even more accessible for your children or grandchildren to learn a new sport, gain life skills, and socialise with other junior members - all whilst getting exercise and experiencing the great outdoors.

Young people are the future of our club and we want as many people as possible to have the opportunity to take up golf!

There are no joining fees, and Mellor Golf Club will even pay your England Golf affiliation fees on your behalf.

To enquire - please contact Cheryl on cheryl@mellorgolf.co.uk or 0161 427 2208

We have a range of opportunities for coaching and playing, so that juniors can develop their skills and build up to being able to play the full 18 holes.

Individual or group lessons are also available if required (at an additional cost) with our PGA Professional Gary. Our Junior organisers are fully DBS checked and we are accredited by Safe Golf.

Happy Easter

KIDS ART CLUBS
"make your mark"

BOOKING NOW OPEN FOR Easter OPEN WORKSHOPS with Rachel

PhotoJENIX, Albion Road New Mills

Week 1:
Tuesday 2nd April
Wednesday 3rd April
Thursday 4th April

Week 2:
Tuesday 9th April
Wednesday 10th April
Thursday 11th April

Online Booking Essential
<https://kidsartclubs.class4kids.co.uk>

Enter our **Super Draw**

Win a £1,000

Sainsbury's Voucher

OR £1,000 CASH PRIZE



**YOUR
SCHOOL
LOTTERY**

- Tickets cost just £1 a week
- Chance to win up to £25,000
- Play weekly, or just play the Super Draw!
- Win £1,000 to spend in Sainsbury's

PLAY NOW:

Go to

www.yourschoollottery.co.uk

Search for: **St Mary's New Mills**



Gamble**Aware**

See website for Terms & conditions. Enter by 30/03/24