



8TH MARCH 2024

FRIDAY NEWSLETTER

SAINT MARY'S CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY

Welcome to this week's newsletter. At last, spring is here with brighter mornings and evenings.

This week the senior chaplains have focused on the virtue, 'Faith' and the theme of Almsgiving. They lead the Celebration of the Word using a display of Fairtrade items and discussed how we need to make sure we give to charity and to those in need.

Our weekly statement to live by was, 'I try to use words that make the world a better place.' Now wouldn't that be a wonderful thought for our world leaders to think about!

Our focus in this week's newsletter is our work on Global learning and British Values. (Please see photographs below). On Wednesday we had an external moderator come into school to review our work on Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural Development. A huge thank you to the parents, carers and governors who were a part of the process and to Mrs Mallabar for her dedication and evidence gathering for this prestigious award. We look forward to sharing the results with you in due course- fingers crossed!

On Thursday we had our World Book Day potato challenge. Thank you to everyone who participated, please enjoy the photos below. We were very, very impressed!

Please can we remind all Year 1 parents to complete the active lives survey link, school can receive £10.00 per response! Thank you in advance.

Just a quick note about the drop off and pick up times. Please don't arrive too early for school, if you do arrive early please be mindful that staff are on site working so noise should be kept at reasonable levels. If you or your child need to use the toilet you are obviously welcome to do so, but please be respectful of staff working in and around the office. Children shouldn't be playing in the reception area. Once children have come into school, please leave the site so that we can lock the gates. Any children arriving late should come through the office, not go straight to class.

Following on from the recent road resurfacing work on Longlands Road, we are still awaiting the repainting of the zigzag lines outside school. We are observing cars parking where the zigzag lines should be. Please don't park directly outside school, even for a short time. This area needs to be kept clear to allow children to cross safely. We all need to do our bit to keep the children safe.

Have a lovely weekend – Mrs Chapman

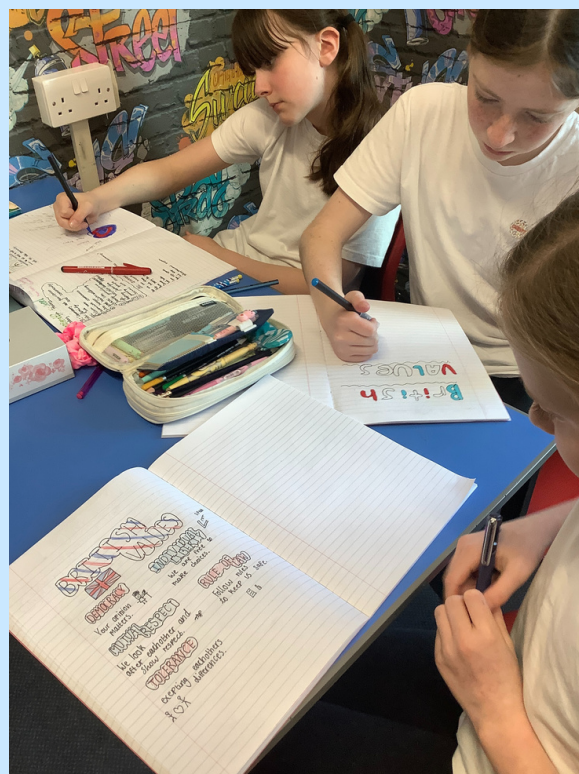
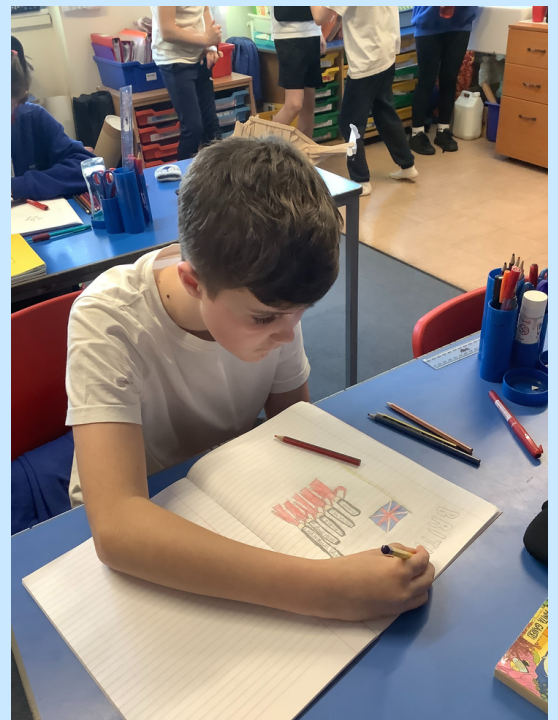
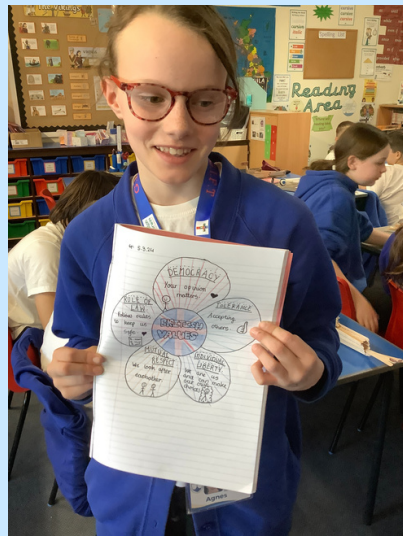
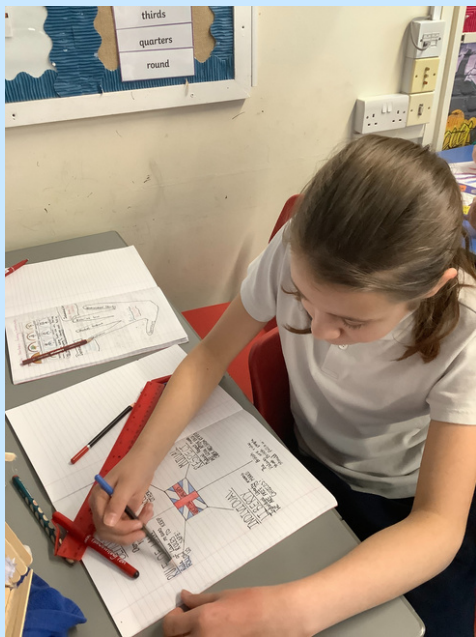
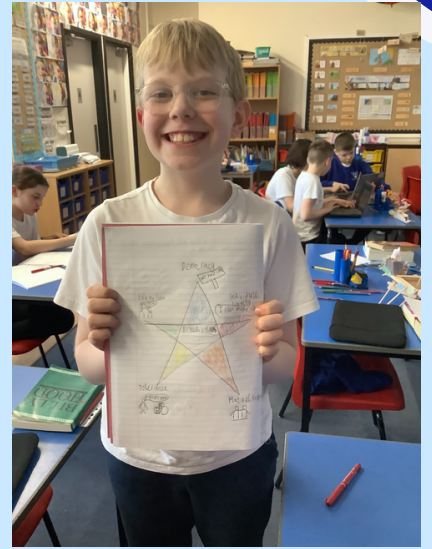
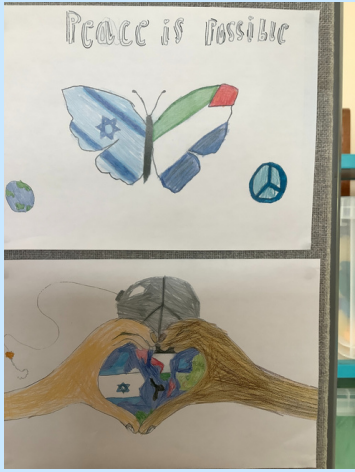
Copies of both the school newsletters and the Parish newsletters can be found here –

<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/>

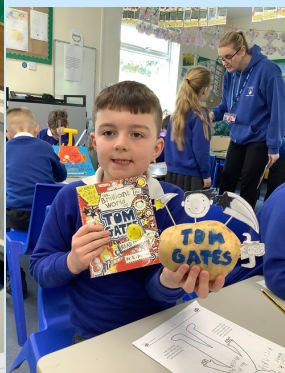
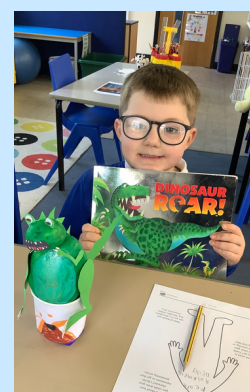
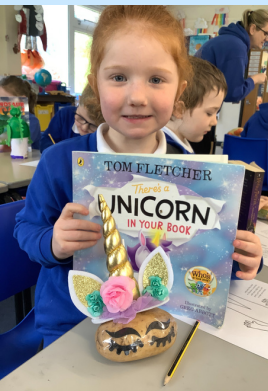
GLOBAL LEARNING COVERING BRITISH VALUES



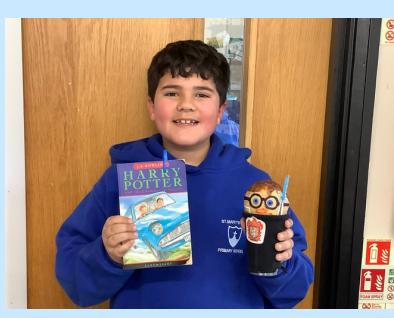
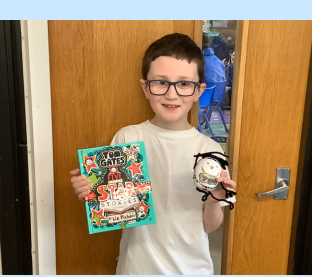
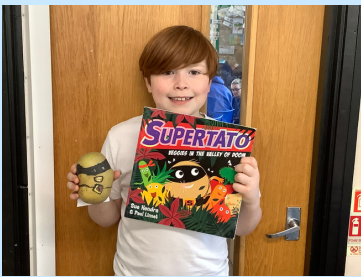
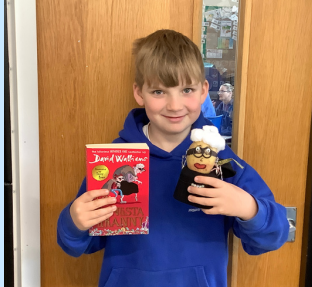
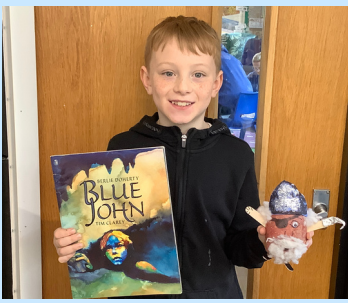
WORLD BOOK DAY POTATO CHALLENGE – CLASS 1



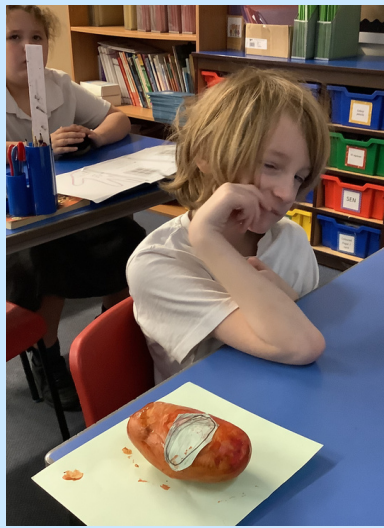
WORLD BOOK DAY POTATO CHALLENGE – CLASS 2



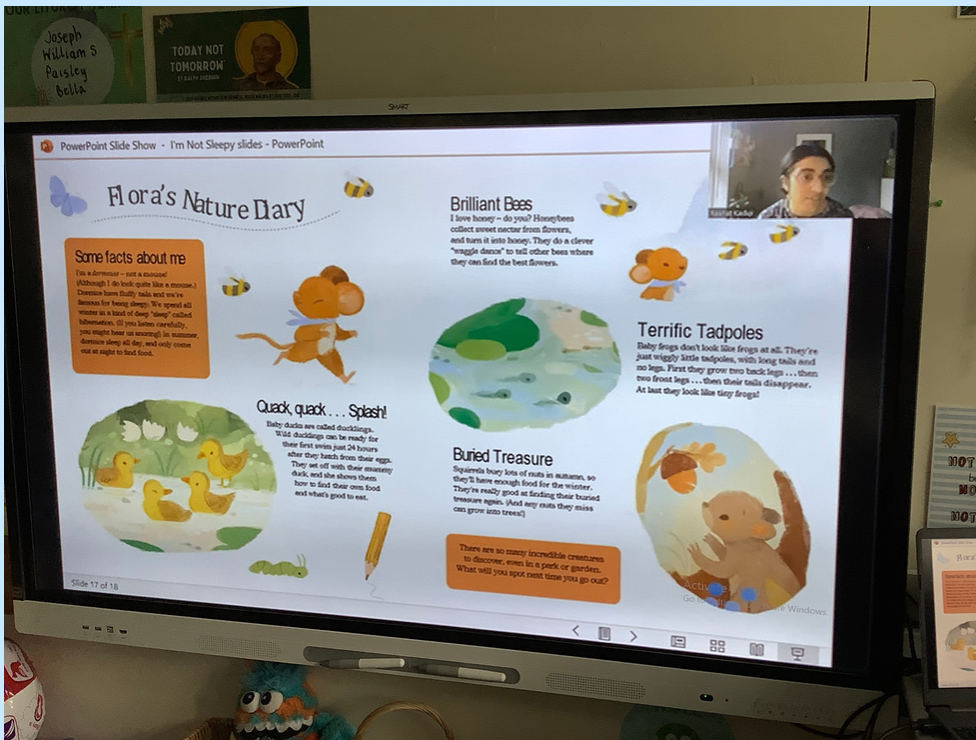
WORLD BOOK DAY POTATO CHALLENGE – CLASS 3



WORLD BOOK DAY POTATO CHALLENGE – CLASS 4



WORLD BOOK DAY – CHOOSING BOOKS AND LIVE CHAT WITH CHILDREN’S AUTHOR!



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
Monday 11th March to Friday 22nd March	Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel event
Wednesday 13th March	Book sale in the hall – second hand, good quality books. Voluntary donations. 2.45pm–3.30pm
Thursday 14th March	Choir to sing at Jubilee day centre
Thursday 14th March	Parents meeting regarding the residential trip to The Briars (year 5 only) 3.20–4.00pm
Monday 18th and Tuesday 19th March	Parents consultation sessions
W/C Monday 25th March	Holy Week
Thursday 28th March	Lenten service in school at 1.30pm – everyone is very welcome to attend. School closes at 2.00pm on this day. There will be no after school club on this day
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
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
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 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 'a wise man once said, 'Love - and do as you wish.' Would that be a good way to lead a life?'

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

The Lord bless you with more hope than your heart can hold...and use the overflow to fill you with the courage to do what you thought impossible.

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.

Star of the week this week was awarded to someone who is thankful.

*Secondary Admissions Consultation - We have 2 consultations re Admissions in 2025-2026 running. Please click here for further details
<https://www.srscmat.co.uk/governance/admissions/>*

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 statement of belief this week was - I try to use words that make the world a better place (please, sorry, thank you).

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE WAS 95% 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

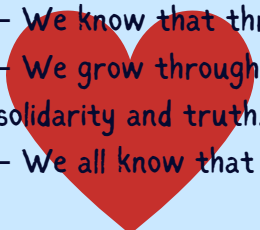
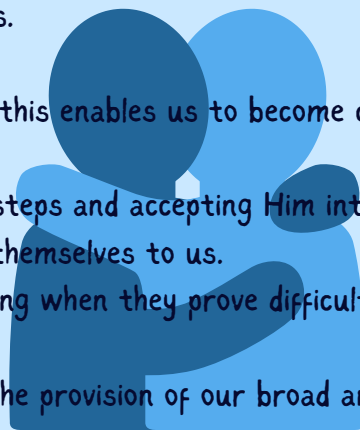
- We know how to say sorry and recognise when we have done something wrong.
- We know how to ask God and others for forgiveness.
- We know how to forgive others as God forgives us.
- We know that we can learn from our mistakes and this enables us to become closer to God.

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

SUSTRANS BIG WALK AND WHEEL



We have some exciting news for you! We are taking part in the 15th year celebration of Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel, the UK's largest inter-school cycling, walking, wheeling and scooting challenge. The challenge runs from 11-22 March 2024. It's free to take part and we would love everyone to be involved.

What do you need to do?

Encourage your child(ren) to walk, use a wheelchair, scooter or cycle to school on as many days as possible during the event.

Why we are taking part

Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel is a great way to build physical activity in children's daily routine which is important for their physical health and mental wellbeing. Active school runs also help to reduce congestion and air pollution outside the school gate. A 2021 YouGov study showed nearly half of UK children worry about air pollution near their school. And that children thought active travel was the best away to bring down these pollution levels.

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

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/beingoutdoorscic>

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

"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."

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Sainsbury's Voucher

OR £1,000 CASH PRIZE



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SCHOOL
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