



26TH APRIL 2024

FRIDAY NEWSLETTER

SAINT MARY'S CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY

A very warm and sunny welcome to this weeks newsletter!

Isn't it wonderful to see longer days and a little sun?

On Monday the chaplains lead Celebration of the word on the theme of Faith. The statement to live by is, 'I can learn from my mistakes and failures.'

Celebrating other Faiths – The focus on this week's newsletter is a celebration of the pupil's work on other faiths. The faith they have been learning about is Islam. Pupils have been taught about how people from this faith use prayer mats and the different positions used during prayer, the different artefacts involved in prayer, the five pillars of Islam, how to use a compass to point their prayer mats to Mekkah/Mecca and how to write in Arabic. A very busy, engaging and fun filled session was had by all pupils. Please see the photographs.

NSPCC

All pupils have had the opportunity to learn about how we keep ourselves and our bodies safe this week. This has been delivered age and stage appropriately by all the class teachers. Please see the video made by class 2 here: <https://youtu.be/4cm0cAl7Q3U>

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/>

ABSENCES DURING TERM TIME

We continue to receive a number of messages from parents/carers requesting time off school for holidays. Please could we remind everyone of your legal responsibilities in relation to school attendance. In September 2013 the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2013 came into force. These regulations make it clear that Headteachers should not grant approval for any leave of absence during term-time, including holidays, unless there are exceptional circumstances. These regulations also state that holidays cannot be authorised retrospectively. Any requests should be on an official school absence request form and handed into the school office for consideration prior to any holiday/leave arrangements being made.

If an absence request is not granted and your child/children are absent on the dates requested, these absences are marked as unauthorised and we have no option but to refer cases to Derbyshire County Council for consideration of legal action.

This may result in:

- A Penalty Notice payable up to £120 fine per child.
- Prosecution under s444 (1) Education Act 1996 where, if convicted, you may be fined up to £1000.
- Prosecution under s444 (1a) Education Act 1996 where, if convicted, you may be fined up to £2500 and/or a community order or imprisonment.

Headteachers of maintained and academy schools across England are expected to abide by these regulations and to request legal action when a child is absent during term time without their permission – regardless of the child's wider school attendance.

Please do not book holidays during term time. We do understand that costs for holidays are higher outside of term time (school staff suffer in the same way), but any time taken out of school for holidays has a negative impact on both the child and the wider school. As a Headteacher, I have a duty to address absences and a duty of my governing body is to hold me accountable for it.

Mrs Chapman

Staff profile – Miss Bowler

Miss Bowler has worked at St. Mary's since 2013 and has supported teaching and learning in Key Stage 1 and 2. She leads the teaching of phonics for Year 1 and OFSTED commented in January 2023 on her demonstration of strong practice.

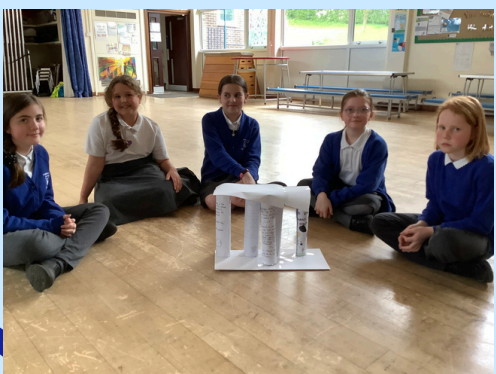
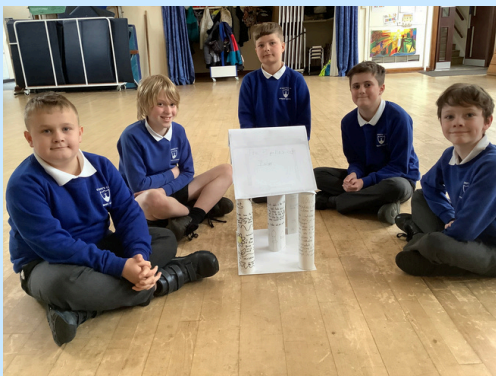
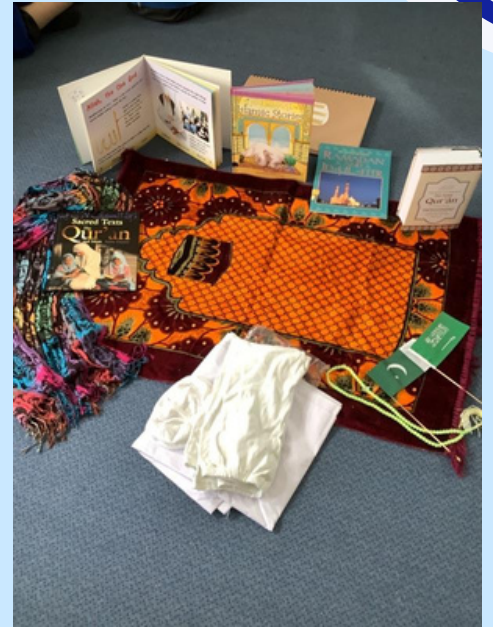
Miss Bowler is currently studying for her Higher Level Teaching Qualification. She has in depth understanding, training and knowledge in safeguarding, autism, dyslexia, white rose maths, first aid, handwriting and religious education. She also organised the installation of a school defibrillator.

She currently supports teaching in Class 2, working with a range of pupils, including intervention groups which also cover speech and language developmental delay.

Fun fact– Miss Bowler loves caravanning!



The faith we have been learning about is Islam.



Thank you so much to the members of the PTA who came into school on Thursday to help with the forest school areas. It is looking amazing!

Thank you also for organising and running the film night on Thursday night, everyone had a fantastic time. We are so grateful for everything you do.



Wraparound club made fat balls this week. We have seen blue tits, sparrows, great tits and even woodpeckers on our bird feeders recently!



News from the PTA

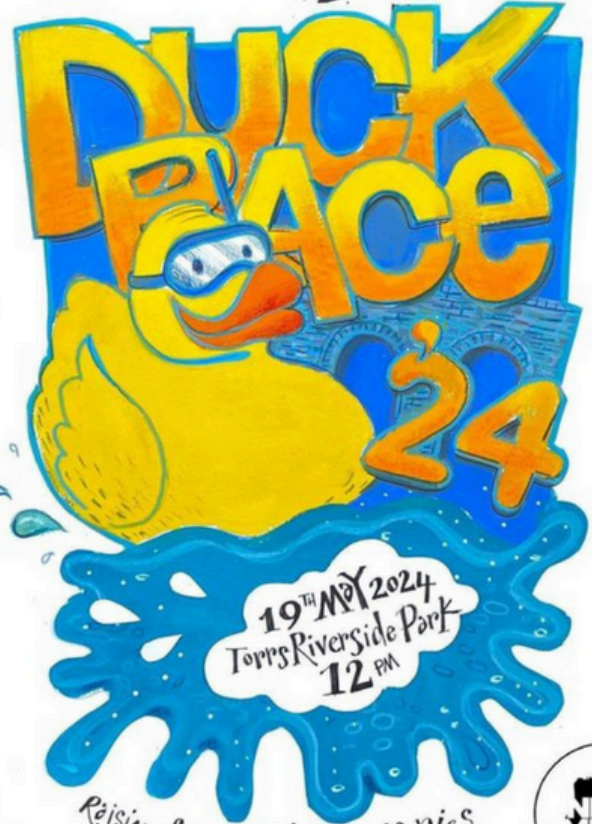
HELP NEEDED

JOIN US ON THE 19TH OF MAY



Join your PTA in raising funds for our school to go towards resources, school trips, equipment and more!

NEW MILLS FOUNDATION
DUCK RACE



Raising funds for local nurseries,
schools and the New Mills Festival



DATE

SUNDAY 19TH OF MAY

TIME

12-3PM

LOCATION

TORRS RIVERSIDE PARK

HOW YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE

We are looking for help on the St.Mary's cake stall:

12-1pm

1-2pm

2-3pm



FOR MORE INFORMATION

Please email
stmaryspta.newmills@gmail.com

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
Wednesday 8th May to Friday 10th May	Year five residential trp 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?'

**The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.
GALATIANS 5:6**

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

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 perseveres.

Our statement of belief this week was - I can learn from my mistakes and failures.

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 97.5% 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

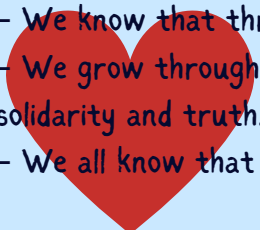
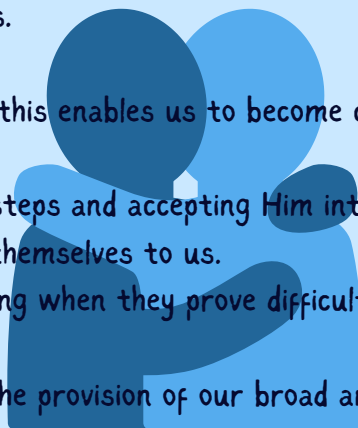
- We know how to say sorry and recognise when we have done something wrong.
- We know how to ask God and others for forgiveness.
- We know how to forgive others as God forgives us.
- We know that we can learn from our mistakes and this enables us to become closer to God.

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

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

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



Ashgate Hospice

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
- Refreshments
- Stalls
- Games
- 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:



www.ashgatehospice.org.uk

Registered Charity No. 700026



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.

Ashgate Hospice

Registered Charity No. 700026

"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.

WE ARE HOLDING A FAMILY FUN DAY AT ST. MARGARET'S, GLOSSOP IN PARTNERSHIP WITH WILLOW WOOD HOSPICE ON SATURDAY 29TH JUNE 11AM-4PM.

THERE WILL BE STALLS, FOOD, DRINKS, FACE PAINTERS, PONY RIDES, ICE CREAM VAN, BOUNCY SLIDE, BOUNCY CASTLE, RIDES, FIRE BRIGADE, LIVE BAND AND A COLOURFUL FOAM BLASTING RUN/WALK CALLED FOAM FEST AROUND THE FIELD FOR ALL TO ENJOY! EVERYONE WELCOME!

From 17th April

- Structured lessons in a safe environment
- With level 1 qualified, DBS checked coaches
- All abilities welcome
- Equipment provided

JUNIOR SQUASH COACHING

When:	Every Saturday	Every Wednesday	
Age 4-6	9:40-10:20	Age 7-11	16:20-17:00
Age 7-11	10:20-11:00	Age 12+	17:00-17:40
Age 7-11	11:00-11:40		
Age 12-16	11:40-12:20		

Where: New Mills Leisure Centre

Cost: £4

Contact: Matt - 07731434420
 Simon - 07846424835

First session free



ENGLAND SQUASH JUNIOR 151

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