



10TH MAY 2024

FRIDAY NEWSLETTER

SAINT MARY'S CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY

Welcome to this week's newsletter. I hope you enjoyed the bank holiday and a little sun! The senior chaplains lead our whole school Celebration of the Word on the theme of 'Example'. Pupils said, 'If we do something good others will follow.'

A response to a question this week that I thought I would share with you.

'Why do we have Catholic virtues/values? Our academic excellence is underpinned by our virtues of love, respect, care and trust. All our pupils are confident in articulating what this means and how they live this out in our daily lives.'

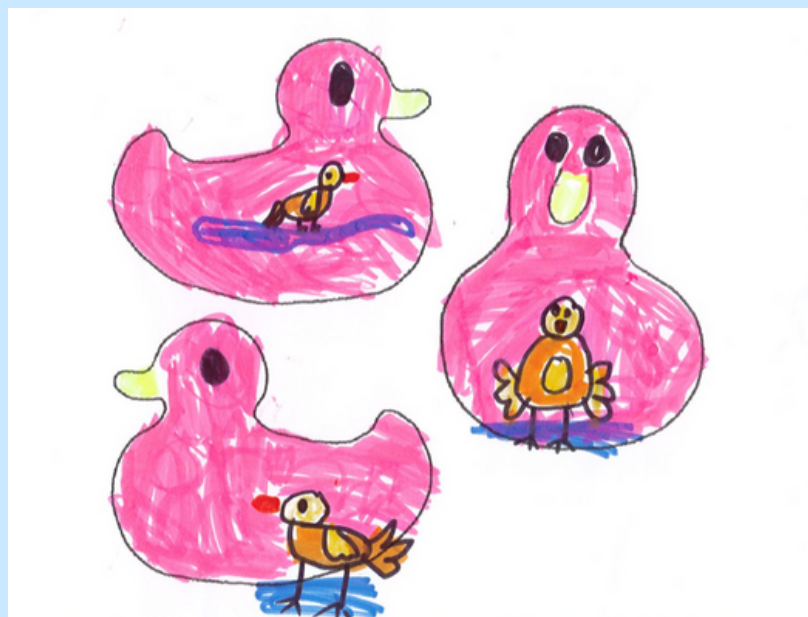
The statement to live by this week is, 'I know what humility means'.

Our main focus this week will be based on our Year 5 residential trip to the Briars, however please see a snapshot of pupils at play, preparing and planning their learning.

Well done to Immy, the winner for our school of the duck race design competition. Her design will be created ready for the race by the artist, Naomi Kendrick. Well done Immy!

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/>

Staff profile – Mr Stone

Mr Stone has worked at St. Mary's for 9 years. He started in Class 1, completing work experience and gaining his apprenticeship as a teaching assistant. Mr Stone has extensive knowledge in supporting all pupils with their self-esteem and confidence. He supports the teaching of mathematics, phonics and English daily within the class. Mr Stone has completed training in early years mathematics, outdoor learning, sensory provision and emotional coaching. He has worked in all classes with all age groups. He also runs wrap around care for breakfast and after school as well as being a mid-day assistant. Mr Stone loves engaging pupils in a range of conversations.

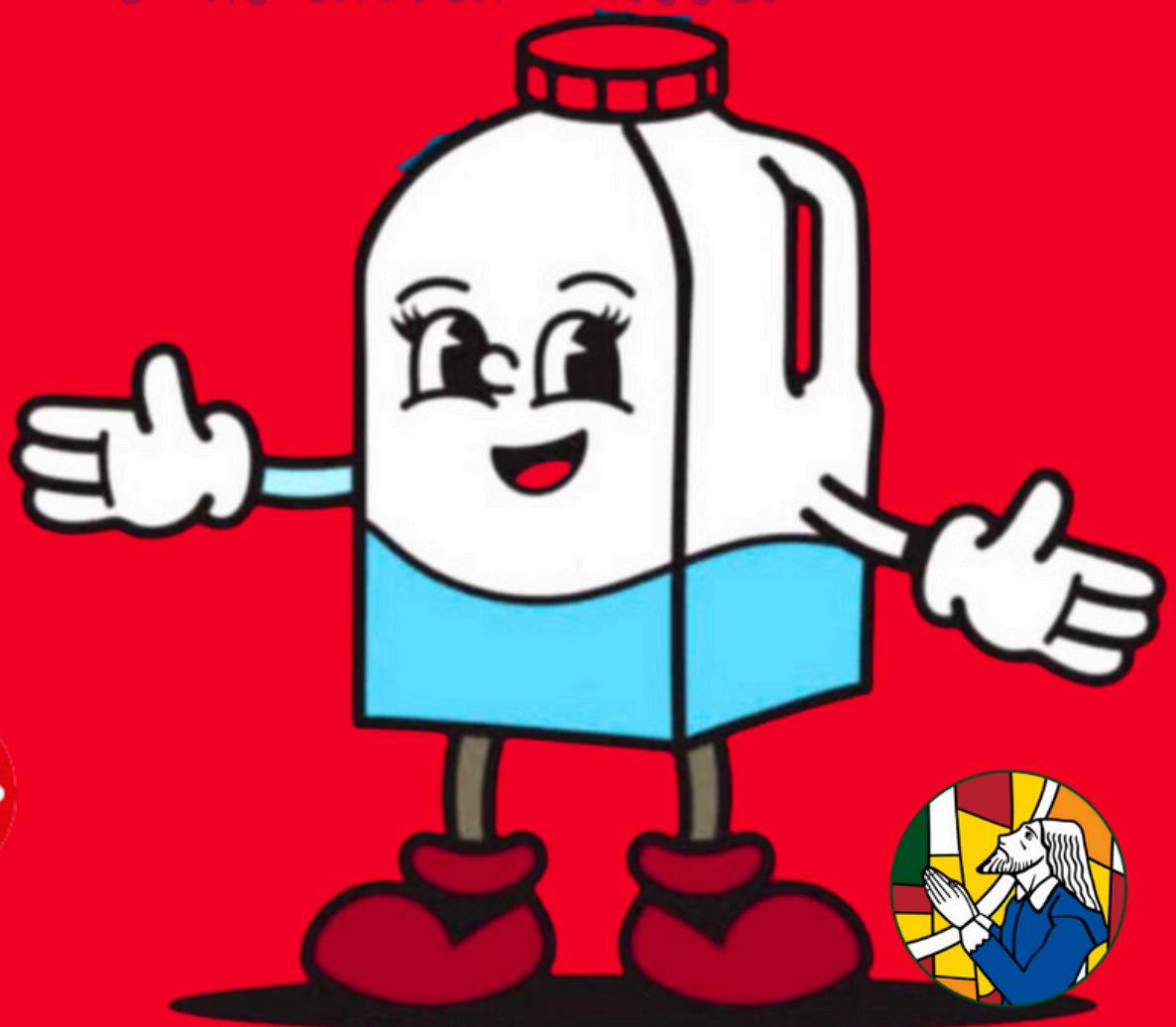
Fun fact – he is an avid Manchester City fan!





MEET Maisy Milk

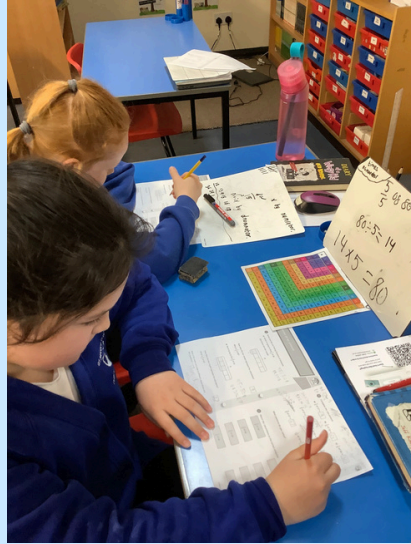
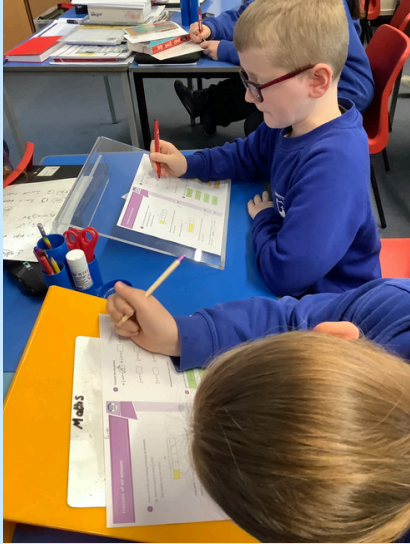
During the month of May we are
praying the Rosary for Peace and
collecting any spare pennies to
support Maisy Milk's work with Aid
to the Church in Need.



A C N



Another busy week in school



Another busy week in school



Football festival



**Photo taken just
after a brilliant goal
was scored!**



The Briars 2024



The Briars 2024



The Briars 2024



The Briars 2024



The Briars 2024



News from the PTA

Buy your

DUCK RACE TICKETS

from the PTA

PLEASE BRING CASH - £2 A TICKET

TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY
AFTERSCHOOL - outside the school office

For more information on the Duck Race please visit:
<https://newmillsfestival.co.uk/event/new-mills-duck-race-2024/>



Donations needed!

Calling all keen bakers!

Donations needed for the Duck Race Cake Stall on the 19th of May.

We welcome any donations of cakes, biscuits, traybakes, muffins, cookies etc to sell during the New Mills Duck Race. Please get in touch if you can help!

Drop off location: Torrs Riverside Park on the morning of the 19th of May or you can email stmaryspta.newmills@gmail.com to arrange pick-up.

Thank you!

DATES TO NOTE

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
Friday 24th May	Non uniform day (PTA), please bring £1.00. Year six to be presented with their leavers hoodies during star of the week assembly.
Monday 27th May to Friday 31st May	Half term holidays
Thursday 13th June	Class three assembly 9.15am
Friday 14th June	Non uniform day (PTA) – bring a bottle for the bottle tombola
Thursday 20th June	Class two assembly 9.15am
Monday 24th June	Drowning prevention talk by New Mills Leisure Centre – whole school
Wednesday 26th June to Friday 28th June	Year six residential trip to Lea Green
Thursday 27th June	Music day! All parents and carers are welcome to come into school at 2.30pm
Friday 28th June	Non uniform day (PTA) – bring chocolate for the chocolate tombola
Monday 8th July	Last swimming lesson for year 3 and 4
Thursday 11th July	Class 1 and 2 trip to the Runway Visitor Park
Friday 12th July	PTA summer fair
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
Thursday 18th July	Leavers Mass, 10.00am at Church. Everyone is welcome.
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 'could a computer be happy?'

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

**Trusting the God of every blessing,
Who is good in every way,
To rest His hand upon you
And bring you joy today.**

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 knows how to include others.

Our statement of belief this week was - I know what humility means.

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 97.1% 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

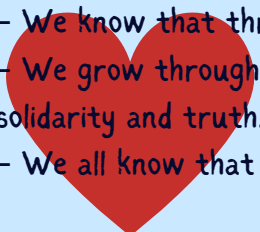
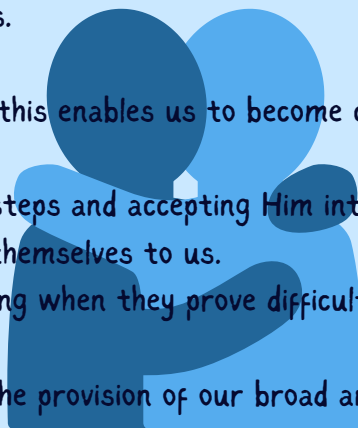
- We know how to say sorry and recognise when we have done something wrong.
- We know how to ask God and others for forgiveness.
- We know how to forgive others as God forgives us.
- We know that we can learn from our mistakes and this enables us to become closer to God.

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.



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about TOWNSHIP



(on the App Store; 'Everyone' on Google Play)

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

MISLEADING PUBLICITY

Township's developers have previously faced criticism for advertising the game on social media by using clips of gameplay which can't actually be found in the final product. This may well lead to a child or young person downloading the game with severely misplaced expectations of what they'll be playing.

IN-GAME ADVERTS

While it's common for mobile games to feature in-game advertisements for other products and services, Township employs a particularly egregious strategy seen in several similar products. It offers users in-game currency in exchange for watching such adverts, which can obviously encourage young people to willingly expose themselves to marketing material.

IN-GAME PURCHASES

The game's core concept of building up a settlement to increase its population and income can feel slow paced at first – and players are incentivised to spend real-world money to move things along more quickly. That can mean handing over anything from £1.99 to £19.99 for these in-game boosts: amounts that can rapidly add up to a considerable sum if left unchecked.

TIME-CONSUMING GAMEPLAY

Township's gameplay loop of acquiring resources and reinvesting them into your little community is a fun one – but this rewarding sense of making progress can lead to players spending far more hours staring at the screen than they realise. There are also special in-game events which run for a limited time, designed to entice players into even longer gaming sessions.

ONLINE MULTIPLAYER MODE

After reaching level 19, players in Township can form a 'co-op' and unlock the option to exchange goods with up to 30 other users. Online multiplayer modes are nothing new, of course – but neither are the potential risks they pose to children and young people. Chances are, youngsters will be interacting with complete (and possibly much older) strangers within the game environment.

Advice for Parents & Educators

DISCUSS THE GAME IN ADVANCE

While older children may notice and understand that Township might be marketed in a potentially misleading way, it could be worth explaining to prospective younger players how and why the game differs from what's been advertised. This will help them to manage their expectations and avoid any possible disappointment if they do decide to download and play it.

MONITOR SPENDING AND SCREEN TIME

More modestly priced in-app bundles can be a welcome treat for a child wanting to speed up their progress in Township, but it's wise not to leave a linked payment method active in case a youngster gets carried away. Likewise, to prevent Township from causing an increase in screen time, parental controls on most devices allow limits to be placed on how long a game can be played each day.

BE WARY OF EXTERNAL SITES

Township's makers state that all in-game ads are age-appropriate: children won't be shown adverts recommending more violent titles, for instance. Even so, clicking on these adverts can take players out of the game and onto external sites that have nothing to do with Township or its developers: this raises the risk of children encountering inappropriate content or being tempted by online purchases.

TALK ABOUT ONLINE STRANGERS

Township's online multiplayer mode (as with any game which includes that functionality), is an avenue through which a child could be contacted by people who they don't actually know. It's worth reminding young Township fans, therefore, not to give out any personal information to strangers online – whether that's within the game itself or in the social networks associated with it.

Meet Our Expert

Editor in Chief of gaming and esports site GGRecon, Lloyd Coombes has worked in the games media industry for five years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new games and tools, he's also a parent who prioritises online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his articles have been published on influential sites including IGN and TechRadar.



The National College

Source: https://www.wired.it/gadget/videogiocchi/2019/11/11/italia-videogiocchi-gratuiti-mobile-game/?refresh_ce=1 (in Italian) | <https://playrix.helpshift.com/hc/en/3-township/faq/16-what-is-a-co-op/>



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Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 03.04.2024

SAFEGUARDING ONLINE

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.

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.

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

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. MARGARETS, 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



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