24TH MAY 2024



FRIDAY NEWSLETTER

SAINT MARY'S CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY

Welcome to this week's newsletter. This term has gone so fast and it is hard to believe we only have one half term left this year! On Tuesday, the Eco team were very busy in preparing new plant tubs around school. Thank you to Mrs. Barber for giving so freely of her time to school. Whilst on the subject of volunteers, you may have spotted how wonderful the school grounds are looking. Mr Hibbert has been coming in weekly to weed, tidy and plant a range of flowers and seeds around school, including a new wild flower area. Thank you, Mr Hibbert, for our wonderful display at the foot of our school cross.

On Wednesday, a group of year 5 and 6 children attended the Dynamo cricket session. We also had the Cheerfest event on Thursday! Thank you all for your generosity in donating flowers for our May Queen procession which took place on Wednesday. The children walked to church with our newly appointed May Queen – Faith. We laid flowers at the statue of Mary at the Church grotto and said a decade of the Rosary whilst class 3 led the prayer, Hail Holy Queen. This is a wonderful traditional procession that as a school we continue to embed.

We also had a writing focus across school this week where pupils had the opportunity to write independently. In class 1 the children took their bookmark for an adventure. They created their own bookmarks, dressed up and then talked about and wrote about their wonderful imaginary play. Class 2 created their own stories using traditional tales whilst classes 3 and 4 used their imaginations to write their own stories. Pupils said, 'I love writing my own stories using my imagination, I can go inside my head and be anyone I want to make my own adventure.'

On Thursday we had our science collapsed curriculum day. What an amazing fun filled day of learning all the pupils had, focusing on their science learning. Please enjoy the photographs! Key stage 1 focused on biology and plants, class 3 created torches as part of their physics learning and class 4 investigated the circulatory system using animal hearts! Click here to hear the children talking about their day – https://youtu.be/P23SW8Ov–KE

On Friday, our amazing PTA presented our year six pupils with their leavers hoodies. We also had a wonderful display from our cheerleading team, thank you to Mrs Evans for helping them to create w onderful display of their skills. What a lovely way to finish the term. I wish each and everyone of you a wonderful half term holiday and look forward to seeing you after the break. Mrs Chapman.

Come and read with us! Parents and carers are invited to come and read with their children on the following days:

Class 3 - Thursday 13th June - 9.40am (after assembly)

Class 2 - Thursday 20th June - 9.40am (after assembly)

Year 5 (year 6 will be on their residential visit) – Wednesday 26th June – 2.30pm Class 1 – Friday 5th July – 2.30pm (class one will not be in star of the week assembly on this day)

Swimming lessons for class 3 start again on Monday 3rd June and the last one takes place on Monday 8th July.

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/

Our Trust newsletter can be found here https://bit.ly/3UQsldI

Staff profile - Mrs Smith

Mrs Smith has worked at St. Mary's since 2017, she has over 24 years of experience working with pupils with Special Educational Needs. Prior to working at St. Mary's, she worked at an enhanced resource unit for children with profound needs, challenging behaviour and autism.

Mrs Smith has completed a Level 3 diploma in Children's care and learning development. In addition, she has completed an in-depth range of training in autism awareness, social stories, ADHD, behaviour, emotional coaching, Makaton and sensory processing.

Mrs Smith is passionate about working with pupils with additional needs. She loves being with her family and walking her dog.

Fun Fact - Each week Mrs Smith participates in, 'Reformer Pilates!'



MEET MISSINK

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.



Chromebooks and chromebook chargers

We recently announced that class 3 pupils would no longer be bringing their Chromebooks home each night. Part of the reason is that some children are bringing their Chromebooks into school uncharged, which means they can't do the work the teacher is setting in school.

We sent every key stage two child home with a Chromebook, charger, silicone sleeve and carry bag.

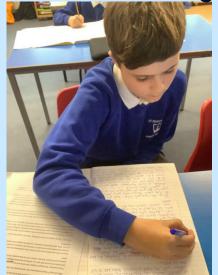
Following on from this, fifteen pupils have informed us that they have 'lost' their chargers. We would be grateful for all chargers to be brought back into school by class 3 pupils.

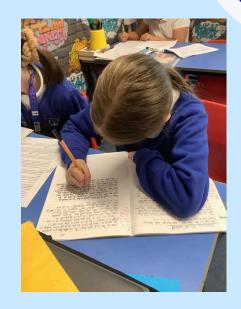
For class 4 pupils, Chromebooks should be charged EVERY NIGHT.

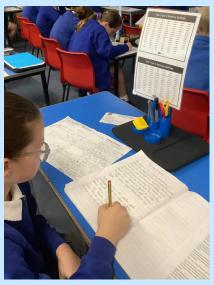
If your child has lost their charger, we would be grateful if you could replace this (they are around £10.00 on Amazon). To replace so many lost chargers is a big strain on the school budget, especially when we have so many other areas where we need to spend money, and budgets are very tight. Thank you for your understanding.

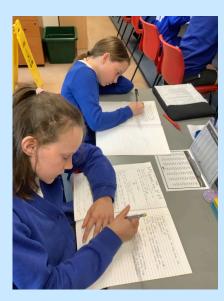












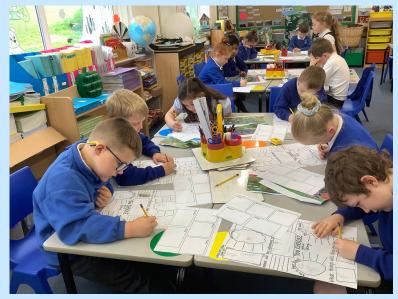




Focus on writing











Class I learning through play









Dynamo cricket





May Queen procession



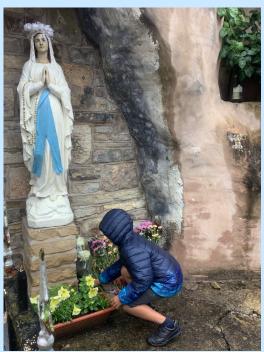


























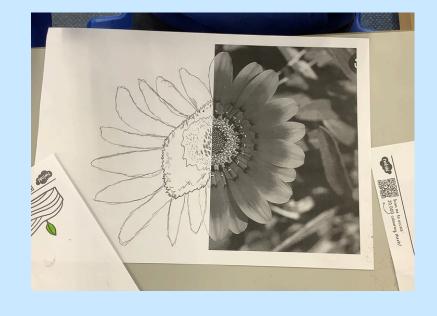






























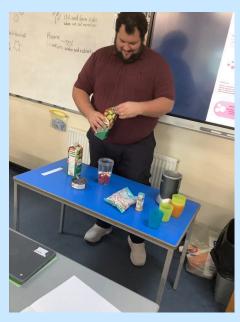




























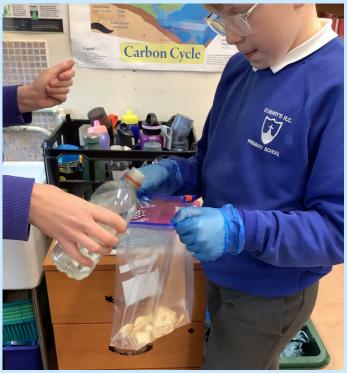














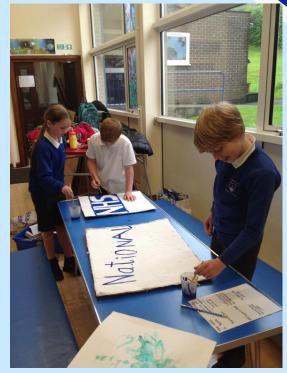




PTA carnival preparation











News from the PTA

PTAFUNDRAISING

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR EFFORTS - WE'VE MADE A TOTAL OF £2336 SINCE MARCH!

WE MADE £161 AT THE VALENTINES DISCO!



£177 FROM CASUAL CLOTHES DAYS



£188 FROM THE SCHOOL LOTTERY AND £180 FROM THE BOOK FAIR!



WE ALSO RECEIVED £700 FROM WAITROSE!









DATES TO NOTE

Monday 27th May to Friday 31st May	Half term holidays
Thursday 6th June	Class one assembly 9.15am (rearranged)
Thursday 13th June	Class three assembly 9.15am
Thursday 13th June	Class three – come and read with us! 9.40am (after the assembly) parents/carers of class three pupils are invited in to come and read with their children
Friday 14th June	Non uniform day (PTA) — bring a bottle for the bottle tombola
Thursday 20th June	Class two assembly 9.15am
Thursday 20th June	Class two – come and read with us! 9.40am (after the assembly) parents/carers of class two pupils are invited in to come and read with their children
Thursday 20th June	Year 6 talk by Derbyshire police
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
Wednesday 26th June	Year five — come and read with us! 2.30pm parents/carers of year five pupils are invited in to come and read with their children
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
Wednesday 3rd July	Railway safety talk by Network Rail
Friday 5th July	Class one – come and read with us! 2.30pm parents/carers of class one pupils are invited in to come and read with their children. Class one will not be in star of the week assembly on this day
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

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.



Saint Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy, New Mills.

Wrap Around Club

Our wraparound club includes lots of enrichment activities including gardening, sports, free play and homework support.





Arts and crafts



Lego and games



Sports and Fitness

Breakfast club runs Monday to Friday from 7.30am and includes cereal, toast and a drink. £4.00 per day

After school club runs Monday to Thursday (not Fridays) to 5.30pm and includes snacks, such as wraps, cheese and crackers, yogurts and a drink. £8.00 per day

BOOK VIA
PARENTPAY FOR
THE SESSIONS
YOU NEED



Call Us
01663 742412
Or e-mail
info@nmm.srscmat.co.uk

Use your tax-free childcare vouchers

Speak to the school office for more information!

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 'is it possible to learn nothing?'

If you don't currently have access to ClassDojo but you would like to, please speak to the school office. God has blessed you with the ability to achieve your goals, the courage to persue your dreams, and the faith to believe in his promises.

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 this week.

Our statement of belief this week was - I can recognise comfortable and uncomfortable feelings. 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 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 Foregiveness

- 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.

<u>S – Spirituality</u>

- 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 seperation 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.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators ENCOURAGING HEALTHY FRIENDSHIPS

Navigating the complexities of childhood and adolescent friendships can be challenging – but with the right guidance, children and young people can cultivate meaningful, supportive relationships, some of which may last for many years. These top tips provide a comprehensive approach to fostering healthy friendships among children and young people. It's important to remember, however, that each child is different, and will require an individual approach to relationship support.

GRANT FRIENDSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Encouraging children and young people to join extracurricular activities can foster healthy friendships by providing shared interests and common ground. Engaging in these pastimes offers a platform for interaction, sometimes alleviating the social pressure of knowing what to say, and helps children develop meaningful connections.

2 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

The children and young people in our lives see how we behave, the connections that we've made and the interactions between us and others. When we model healthy friendships, we set an example and help youngsters to understand what healthy friendships looks like and how to navigate them.

3 HELP THEM LOVE THEMSELVES

Healthy friendships aren't just about dynamics with other people. They're about our relationship with ourselves. For everall wellbeing, it's important for a child to have the space to build their self-esteem and a positive self-image, as these factors can have a notable influence on the friendships they form throughout life.

MONITOR SCREEN

Too much screen time can affect some children's wellbeing in general, but it can specifically impact friendships if it results in fewer positive social interactions. In some cases, reducing screen time and encouraging children and young people to find ways to interact face to-face can have positive results. It's also important to remember that young people can make positive triendships online, but the cafety.

5 TEACH PROBLEM-SOLVING

Inevitably, friendships can run into problems. However, this is also an epportunity to support children and young people to work through any difficulties that may arise. It can be tempting to intervene and try to fix these issues for those involved, but helping them consider ways of resolving conflict or managing difficult situations for themselves can help them create stronger friendships.

🗶 @wake_up_weds

Meet Our Expert

Becky Dawson is an experienced educator who has worked in primary and secondary schools for 20 years. She is a facilitator, consultant and coach working with young people and the adults who work with them, with a focus on developing understanding and skills around mental health, wellbeing and safeguarding.

6 EMPOWER THE CHILD

When we give children and young people the onfidence to choose their friends, navigate interpersonal boundaries and consider how they want to interact with the different people around hem, we empower them to take control of the risendships they have. When young people feel in ontrol of these things, they're more likely to nake positive choices and remain aware of the lans of a negative relationship.

7 TEACH EMPATHY

Healthy friendships' doesn't always mean perfect," Sometimes, disagreements can happen. When we teach children and young people to have empathy, we help them to see both sides of a relationship; to be mindful of the challenges a friend might be facing or whatever else might be going on. This can help children and young people to build stronger friendships.

BE OPEN TO QUESTIONS

alking to young people about their friendships, the they spend time with and who they interact with can spen the door to questions if they have oncerns. Initially, these queries may be traightforward, but if we are receptive to liscussion from the outset, young people are

9 UNDERSTAND BOUNDARIES

One of the keys to a healthy friendship is hancuring boundaries. This can include anything from respecting personal space and belongings to acceptable language and behaviour. Understanding the importance of setting these limits and upholding those set by others can help children stay safe. If young people figure out their boundaries and feel comfortable enforcing them, they're more likely to call semeone out if they go too far.

10 SPOT THE SIGNS

We can't always supervise young people: sometimes, we need to step back and give them some space. However, it's important to consider any indicators that they may be struggling in their friendships. Are they becoming increasingly irritable? Does their behaviour after when they've been with their friends? Are they becoming withdrawn or reluctant to take part in certain activities? These could all be signs that they're finding things difficult, and we should remain alert to such changes.



The National College



@wake.up.wednesday



SAFEGUARDING ONLINE

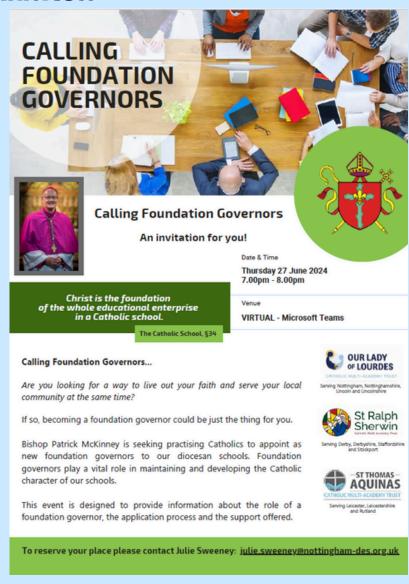
It is really important to think about keeping our children safe online. Please do set parental controls on your children's devices so that you can control what they see and how long they can use their devices for. It is also vital to talk to your children about why you are doing this and let them know 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 THEN PROPERLY, WE WILL REMOVE THE DEVICES FOR HOME USE.

EXTRA INFORMATION



Please see this message from Derbyshire County Council:

Derbyshire County Council Household Support Fund

As part of the Government's Household Support Fund Scheme, Derbyshire County Council is distributing funding to household's struggling to pay for food, energy, and essential living costs.

As part of the scheme, the Council will again be distributing grocery vouchers. Information about who is eligible for the vouchers is available on the website and distribution will start in late June 2024. We will update the website when all vouchers have been distributed and provide details of what parents and carers should do if they have not received their voucher.

Full details about the scheme and the support available for those experiencing financial hardship is available on our website at www.derbyshire.gov.uk/householdsupportfund





COMMUNITY NOTICES

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!



Super Draw

Win a £1,000 Sainsbury's Voucher

OR £1,000 CASH PRIZE







- 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