



7TH JUNE 2024

FRIDAY NEWSLETTER

SAINT MARY'S CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY

Welcome to this week's newsletter! We have been learning about Corpus Christi (Body of Christ/Eucharist) this week. The children have all been learning about what these words mean and have been creating art pieces based on the Eucharist. Class four linked this art work to their religious education topic on 'Witness'.

Several of our children have been helping our local parish in gardening this week. Each month different pupils will continue to help with gardening during the summer term.

On Friday 14th June, as part of our Modeshift active award, we are asking children to bring their bike or scooter decorated however they'd like to promote sustainable travel to school! The children will have an opportunity during the day to show their decorations. Thank you.

The leavers assembly will take place on Friday 19th July at 1.30pm until 2.30pm. School closes on this day at 2.30pm following the assembly. All children should be collected at 2.30pm at which time school will close for the summer.

We look forward to seeing you at New Mills carnival tomorrow – Meal Street 12.30pm!

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)

God bless and have a wonderful 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/>

Our Trust newsletter can be found here <https://bit.ly/3UQsIdI>

Class one transition

Miss Kemp will be informing all parents and carers of reception children which class their child will be in next year. As you are aware from information on the website, there are a range of decisions and reasons why we very carefully choose which children move where. There is no set criteria each year, it is always based on the needs of the child and the needs of the class cohort.

Please note that all year one pupils are taught the national curriculum. More information, including a video by Miss Kemp talking through the transition, can be found here:

youtu.be/rfzWA6_Nc3c



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.



Our Eco Team put up signs to encourage everyone to protect the newly planted wild flower patches.



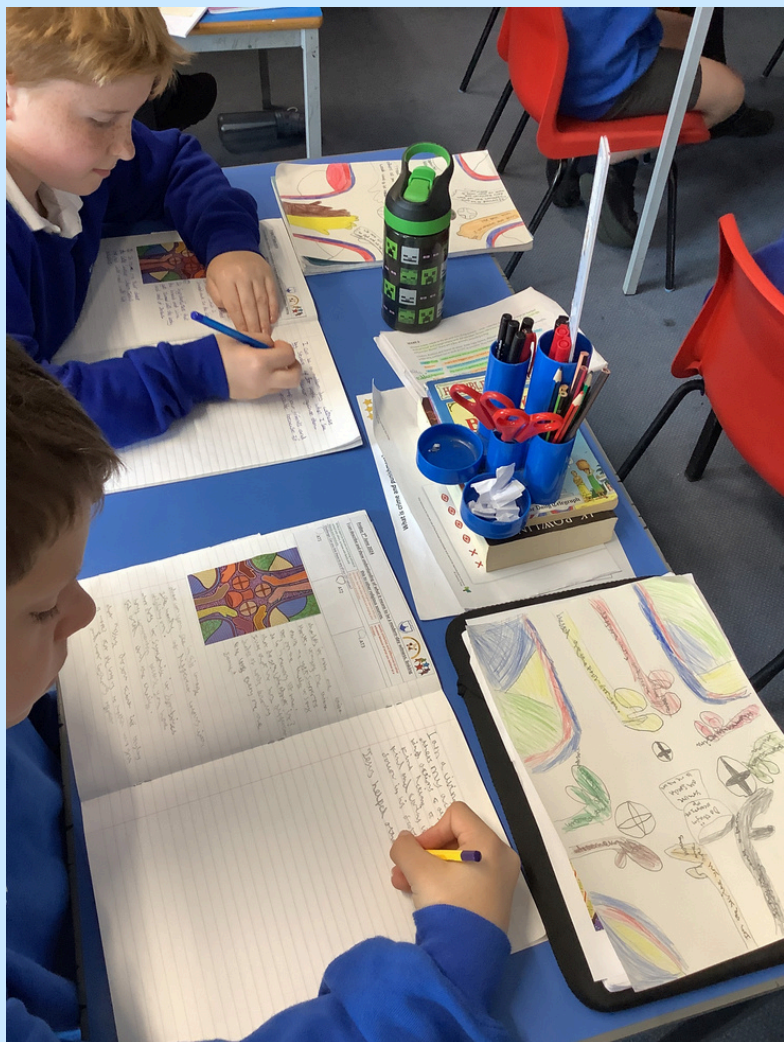
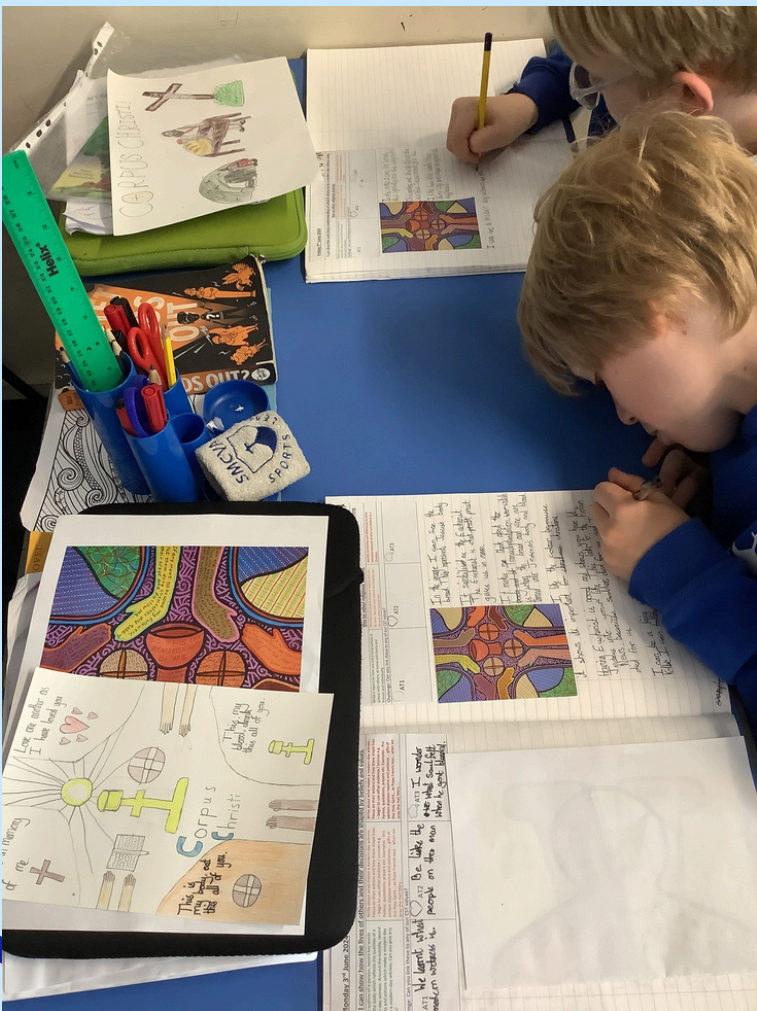
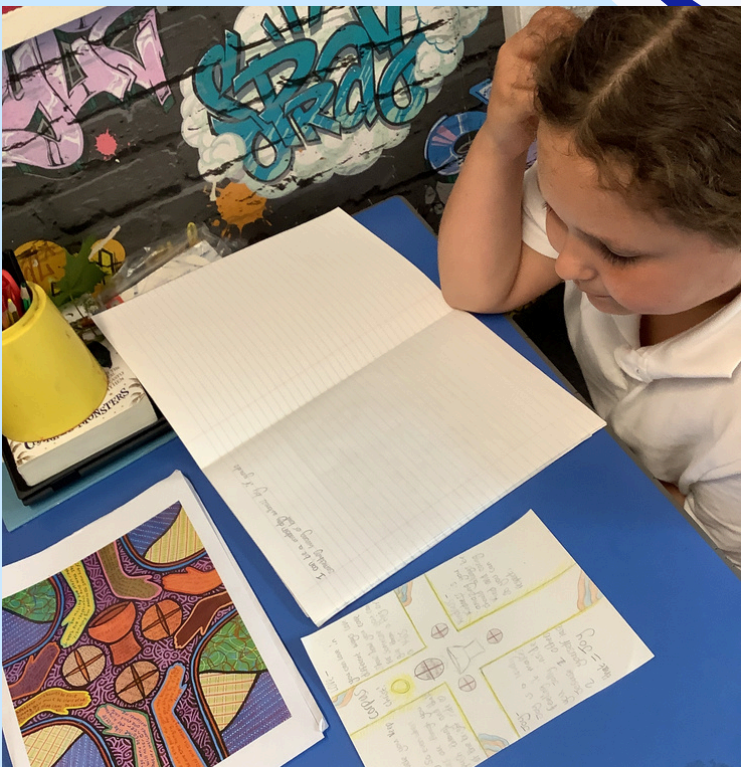
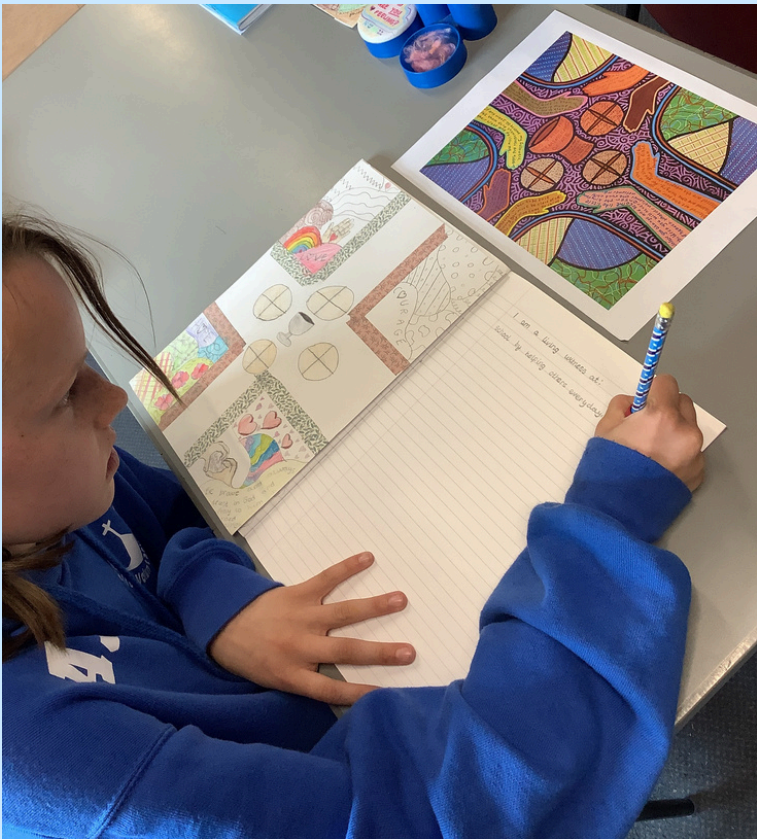
Learning through play



Corpus Christi



Corpus Christi



DATES TO NOTE

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
Friday 14th June	As part of our Modeshift active award, we are asking children to bring their bike or scooter decorated however they'd like to promote sustainable travel to school! The children will have an opportunity during the day to show their decorations.
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	Leavers assembly 1.30pm–2.30pm. All are welcome to attend as we say goodbye to our year 6 pupils.
Friday 19th July	School closes for the summer break at 2.30pm after the leavers assembly. ALL CHILDREN should be picked up at 2.30pm at which time school will close for the summer.

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 'can being sad bring you pleasure?'

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

May your day be blessed with the wonderful assurance of knowing that in you, God created someone very special.

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 those who have shown a positive mindset.

Our statement of belief this week was - I know how to help others when they are in trouble.

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 96% 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

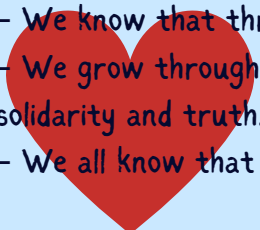
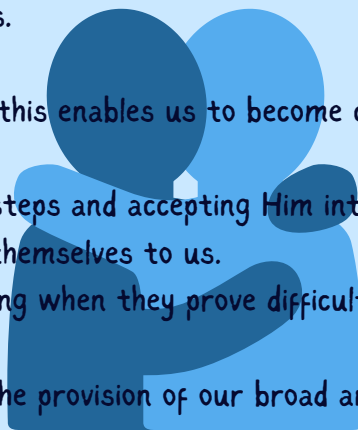
- We know how to say sorry and recognise when we have done something wrong.
- We know how to ask God and others for forgiveness.
- We know how to forgive others as God forgives us.
- We know that we can learn from our mistakes and this enables us to become closer to God.

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.

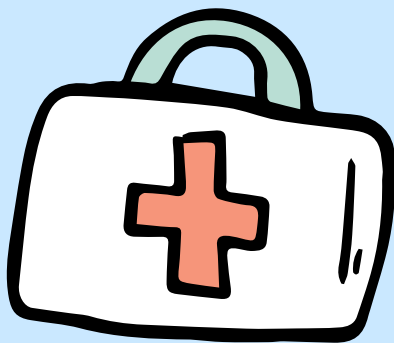
S – Spirituality

- 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 SCHOOL AVOIDANCE

Emotionally Based School Avoidance is a term used to refer to reduced attendance or non-attendance at school by a child or young person. It's often rooted in emotional, mental health or wellbeing issues. The rate of children who miss school more than 10% of the time in England has more than doubled since before the pandemic: rising from 10.9% in 2018-19, to 22.3% in 2022-23.

UNDERSTANDING SCHOOL AVOIDANCE

IMPACT OF SCHOOL AVOIDANCE

REASONS FOR ABSENCE

School avoidance is sometimes underpinned by several factors rather than one single cause. This could include something going on for the child or young person within the family or at school. A child may have caring responsibilities at home, for instance, or a change in family dynamics; bullying and friendship difficulties at school; pressure to achieve in schoolwork and exams; or moving from primary school to secondary school.

PATTERNS OF ABSENCE

You may notice patterns in regular absences or children regularly expressing that they don't want to attend school (particularly being reluctant to leave home on school days). If a child or young person is neurodiverse, there is some evidence to suggest there are more aspects of school life which can cause distress – such as changes in the environment, changes of routine and sensory stimuli.

COMPLAINTS ABOUT PHYSICAL SYMPTOMS

There may be an increase in a child or young person's complaints about physical symptoms, particularly on school days or the evening before school. These could include complaining of a tummy ache, headache, or saying they feel ill when there doesn't appear to be a medical cause. Always check with the GP first to rule out medical causes or illness.

LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT

School refusal can negatively impact a young person's learning and development. Attending school on a regular basis not only supports academic attainment but is also important for the development of key life skills and the growth of children and young people as citizens.

LONG-TERM OUTCOMES

The difficulties associated with school non-attendance can be far reaching and may have a negative impact on long-term outcomes. It may, for example, lead to reduced future aspirations, poor emotional regulation, mental health difficulties, limited academic progress and restricted employment opportunities.

CYCLE OF ABSENCE

Consistent absences may contribute to sustained school avoidance over time. Further to this, the longer a pupil is out of education, the more likely it is that there is a rise in their ongoing need to avoid the activity which is making them anxious – increasing their desire to stay at home.

Advice for Parents & Educators

WORK TOGETHER

If there's a concern about a child's absence and emotional wellbeing, it's important that there is clear communication and a consistent approach between the child's parents and the school, so you can take a child-centred approach together towards a plan of support or reintegration. This ensures a consistency of approach from both home and school, creating better outcomes for the child.

MANAGING OVERWHELMING FEELINGS

While there may be times you feel frustrated or angry, try to stay calm; acknowledge the child's worries, listen and discuss a range of coping strategies together to help them face the discomfort and overwhelming feelings. These could include mindfulness, deep breathing or going for a walk and practice the strategies in less overwhelming situations first.

FOLLOW REGULAR ROUTINES

Children can benefit from a regular and consistent routine. This could be a morning routine, from waking up and having breakfast through to getting dressed, packing their bag and leaving the house. A consistent evening routine which is calm and limited time on screens can also give children much needed predictability and familiarity. Schools can help create a timetabled routine for the child's school day, if required.

REDUCE STIMULATING ACTIVITIES AT HOME

If a child is avoiding school, reduce their access to more stimulating activities (such as watching television, playing games and spending time with friends) during school hours, where possible. This reduces the potential for the child having rewarding experiences at home, which could be interpreted as a positive aspect of avoiding school.

Meet Our Expert

With 30 years' experience as a teacher, trainer, consultant and interim executive board member, Anna Bateman has a superb understanding of what works in pedagogy, school improvement and leadership. She has also advised the Department for Education on their mental health green paper.



The National College®

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: nationalcollege.com/guides/school-avoidance

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/www.thenationalcollege

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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: 15.05.2024

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 CLASS FOUR 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



CALLING FOUNDATION GOVERNORS



Calling Foundation Governors

An invitation for you!



Date & Time
Thursday 27 June 2024
7.00pm - 8.00pm

Venue
VIRTUAL - Microsoft Teams

Christ is the foundation of the whole educational enterprise in a Catholic school.

The Catholic School, §34

Calling Foundation Governors...

Are you looking for a way to live out your faith and serve your local community at the same time?

If so, becoming a foundation governor could be just the thing for you.

Bishop Patrick McKinney is seeking practising Catholics to appoint as new foundation governors to our diocesan schools. Foundation governors play a vital role in maintaining and developing the Catholic character of our schools.

This event is designed to provide information about the role of a foundation governor, the application process and the support offered.





To reserve your place please contact Julie Sweeney: julie.sweeney@nottingham-des.org.uk

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



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



More information can be found here :
www.srscmat.co.uk/3273-2/

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Gift Card**

OR £1,000 CASH PRIZE



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SCHOOL
LOTTERY**

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- Chance to win up to £25,000
- Play weekly, or just play the Super Draw!
- Think about what you could spend it on!



PLAY NOW:

Go to

www.yourschoollottery.co.uk

Search for:

St Mary's New Mills



GambleAware



See website for Terms & conditions. Enter by 29/06/24.