

18TH OCTOBER 2024



FRIDAY NEWSLETTER

SAINT MARY'S CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY

A warm welcome to this week's newsletter. Our statement to live by this week is 'I try to stand up for others and myself without hurting others.'

Class 2 have been very busy this week with their sports event at New Mills Leisure Centre on Wednesday and their wonderful class Liturgy on Thursday. Well done to you all – you are excellent ambassadors for our school. During their PE lesson, class 3 demonstrate their team building skills in balloon racing!

Rosary beads - please can class four pupils return the rosary beads so that we can offer them to other classes and families?

A big 'thank you' to families for all your recommendations to others about choosing this school for their children. We had a very busy open day on Saturday with many people commenting on your positive words about Saint Mary's.

Following on from previous communications about carol singing at church on Saturday 9th November, all class 3 and 4 pupils have received a invitation for this. Children will be required to come in their school uniform with an adult. The performance will last for approximately 15–20 minutes within the church hall as part of their Christmas Fair. Please complete the letter if your child can attend, thank you to those who have already let us know.

Thank you to our wonderful PTA for funding the Mary's Missionaries hoodies, the pupils look wonderful in them. The disco was excellent, and all the children had an amazing time—thank you again to our PTA and the DJ, Mr Lomas!

Next week we look forward to our parent and carer consultation sessions (please let Mrs Oxley know if you don't have your time slot), our history collapsed curriculum day and our Countryfile ramble. Please see ClassDojo for more information.

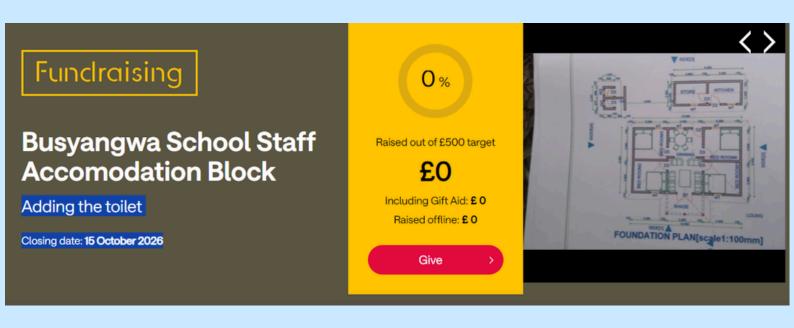
For those children who attend the Monday after school sports club with Mrs Evans, from the 4th November the day this club will run on will change to Thursdays (the finish time remains the same).

As part of our charitable support to our sister school in Busyangwa we are hoping to raise ±350 to fund a staff toilet block, please see the information below.

God Bless and have a great weekend with your family. Mrs Chapman

Thought for this week: Serve the Lord with all your heart and with your soul. Deuteronomy 10:12 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/catholiclife/catholic-social-teaching/
Our Trust newsletter can be found here https://bit.ly/300sldI



The fundaraising page link is <u>fundraising page for the Staff Toilet project.</u>
All pupils will be coming home with different ideas on how to raise funds over the next week – I think some will be rather amusing!

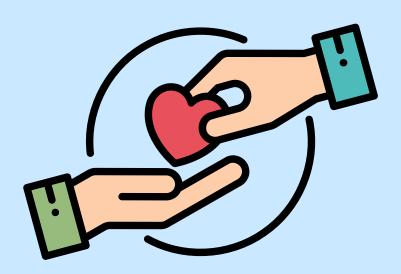
Story

Busyangwa School sits in the foothills of the Rwenzori Mountains ('Mountains of the Moon') in the far west of Uganda. It serves around 500 children who have to walk considerable distances to attend the school. Many of the teachers also have to walk a long way and climb about 800' with books and other materials. A Staff Accomodation Block is being built by friends of the school to accomodate 4 teachers. This will make the school attractive to younger teachers and also those who walk long distances.

St Mary's School (New Mills) is raising money to fund the additional toilet block for the staff which will be 'toilet twinned' with the facilities at the school.

By donating to this project you will help build a lasting facility that improves the lives of many children at a cost that is a fraction of a similar project in the UK.

Take a look at https://youtu.be/Zy-3J6wjXSc to see how the project is proceeding so far. Many thanks for considering a donation to this worthwhile project.



WRAPAROUND CLUBS SURVEY

We currently run wraparound care for children from 7.30am to 5.30pm, breakfast club running Monday to Friday and after school club running Monday to Thursday. We'd love to hear how you feel about the current provision, any changes we can make and other provision you may be interested in. Please complete this form if you are currently using the school's wraparound provision and also if you are not using it. This will give us a good understanding of current and potential demand. Please be aware that this survey is for information gathering purposes only, we are not committing to changes to the current provision.

https://forms.office.com/e/aXrNVf60a9

MEDICINES IN SCHOOL

Just a quick reminder about medicines in school. Any medicines that are brought into school should be taken to the school office and a 'request to administer medication' form should be completed. This will then be passed on to the class teacher.

School will administer medicines but only when this is essential and cannot be done by parents/carers.

If your child needs antibiotics, school will administer these but only if the medicine needs to be administered four times a day or there is a specific instruction (e.g. before/after lunch). If antibiotics are to be administered three times a day, this should be done at home.

If your child has an inhaler, this should be brought to school in a named bag or box and handed in at the office. Your child will need an inhaler that stays in school. Please also complete the 'consent form for use of the emergency inhaler'. Inhalers should not be kept in school bags.

Inhalers will be sent home at the end of every summer term for cleaning. It is the responsibility of parents and carers to check that inhalers have not expired and are working correctly. We recommend this is done termly.

If your child needs an antihistamine (e.g. Piriton) this should be handed in at the office and a 'request to administer medication' form completed. The named bottle should stay in school.

If medicines do need to come home, these should be collected from the school office. This should be avoided wherever possible. All medicines should have your child's name and class on the bottle/box to avoid confusion with other children's medicines.

No child should have any medicines in their school bags at any time. Please ensure that the school office is told of any changes to your child's required medications or their medical conditions immediately. Thank you for helping us to keep our children safe.

THIS WEEK'S CELEBRATION OF THE WORD





Mary's Missionaries - we have been learning about this in Monday's liturgy.

The theme this week was 'poverty'.

The mission was to pray for people in poverty before you go to bed.

The Catholic Social Teaching link was 'option for the poor and vulnerable because Jesus taught us to be selfless and care for others'.



OUR SCHOOL WEEK





















Paul bor to

FOOTBALL SKILLS - CLASS 2















MARY'S MISSIONARIES







to raise money for Children in Need

Friday 25th October 2024 leaving school at 2:30 pm. parents and carers welcome!

children can wear their own outdoor/active clothing to school.

£1 donation for Children in Need

Pudsey ears/decorations welcome!



-Please ensure your child wears suitable footwear and brings a waterproof coat.



I'M RAISING MONEY

FOR BBC CHILDREN IN NEED

© BBC 2022 Reg charity England & Wales no. 802052 and Scotland no. SC039557

This activity has been organised in support of BBC Children in Need.



DATES TO NOTE	Upcoming dates can also be seen on ClassDojo and on our website. Please note that dates and times may change due to circumstances beyond our control.	
Monday 21st October		Parent/carer consultation sessions
Tuesday 22nd October		Parent/carer consultation sessions
Thursday 24th October		History collapsed curriculum day
Friday 25th October		Countryfile ramble – whole school walk from 2.30pm. Everyone is invited to join us. Please send in a £1.00 donation if you can for Children in Need.
Monday 28th October to Friday 1st Nov	ember	Half term holidays
Monday 4th November		School photographer – individuals and siblings. Please feel free to bring younger siblings who haven't started school yet at 8.30am.
Tuesday 5th November		Catch up flu immunisation session
Wednesday 6th November		Open day for prospective parents and carers, 9.00am-10.00am
Monday 11th November		Applications for primary places for September 2025 open
Wednesday 13th November		Open day for prospective parents and carers, 9.00am-10.00am
Thursday 14th November		Mission day
Tuesday 19th November		Class 4 trip to The Silk Museum, Macclesfield
Wednesday 20th November		Mini first aid – whole school
Thursday 21st November		Class 3 assembly (Liturgy) 9.10am

ABSENCES DURING TERM TIME

The Department for Education (DfE) have introduced some new guidance for schools and Local Authorities (LAs) for managing school attendance. They have also introduced a new national framework for penalty notice and amended the law. These changes come into effect from the 19 August 2024 and all schools and LAs across the country will be expected to follow the new statutory guidance.

Support first

The importance of regular attendance at school cannot be stressed enough. All schools and LAs are expected to promote school attendance and provide support to remove barriers where a pupil is struggling to attend school. This may mean that the school raises the issue of attendance even if your child has only had a couple of days off ill. This is not because they don't believe you. By working with you, schools can step in early to help to prevent patterns of absence developing. Schools may identify other underlying issues that are making your child reluctant to attend school and be able to help you and your child.

For this to be successful parents need to work with the school. Where it can be demonstrated that a parent/carer is not fulfilling their parental responsibility to ensure that their child receives a suitable full-time education then the school can consider requesting that the LA take further action. This can be in the form of a penalty notice, prosecution, or the school may suggest other formal interventions.

National Framework for penalty notices

To provide consistency, the Government have introduced a new national framework for when schools and LAs believe that they have exhausted all offers of support and the parent/carer is not engaging with the attempt to improve their child's attendance at school.

The threshold for when a school should consider next steps is 10 sessions (5 school days) of unauthorised absence in a rolling period of 10 school weeks. A school week means any week in which there is at least one school session. This can be made up of any form of unauthorised absence including late after close (attendance code U) of register and odd days of unauthorised absence (attendance code O) which add up to 5 days within a 10-week period. At this point the school will consider if it is likely that the attendance will improve with further support. They may then decide to refer the case to the LA for formal monitoring. This may proceed to legal action if the attendance does not improve.

Education Penalty Notices are issued to parents of statutory school age children. They can be issued to each parent or carer who is deemed liable for the child's absence from school. The new costs and process is outlined below:

First Offence – The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance the amount will be: ±160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days. Reduced to ±80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.

Second Offence (within 3 years) —The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance the amount will be: £160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days.

Third Offence and Any Further Offences (within 3 years) – The third time an offence is committed for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance a Penalty Notice will not be issued, and the case will be presented straight to the Magistrates' Court.

Term time holidays

Pupils should not be taken out of school during term time unless it is unavoidable. Schools are required to consider requests for leave of absence in term time and should only approve the leave if there are exceptional circumstances. If a request for leave is denied and the pupil is absent for 5 days or more then the school is expected to refer the case to the LA. The LA will issue a penalty notice with no requirement for a formal warning to be issued. Penalty notices can also be issued where a pupil is absent for repeated incidents of unauthorised leave in term time that fall below the 5-day threshold. In every case, the request for the Penalty Notice comes in from the school to the LA for the process to be completed.

New registration codes

You might find that your child's attendance report looks slightly different next year. The DfE have amended some of the codes to include numbers as well as letters. These new codes are to enable schools, LA and the DfE to better understand the reasons for absence. For example:

Code C: Leave of absence for exceptional circumstance.

Code C1: Leave of absence for the purpose of participating in a regulated performance. The important thing for you as a parent is still the C which means that the absence was authorised. There is also a new code which has been introduced for pupils who are on the school roll but are temporarily being provided with an alternative education by the local authority, such as a home tutor.

Code K: Attending education provision arranged by the local authority.

Full details of all of the changes can be found by visiting the Government webpage: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-improve-school-attendance



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



No star of the week this week.

Our dinner table discussion this week was 'can you touch the wind?'

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.

Our statement of belief this week was

- I try to stand up for myself and others without hurting others.

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.

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 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.



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about HORROR FILMS & AGEIRATINGS

he 'on-demand' availability of streaming platforms in many homes creates extra possibilities for young viewers to be exposed to age-inappropriate content. Material which features horror or violence can cause anxiety and nightmares for children, especially since it can be hard for young ones to grasp that what they're watching isn't real.

CLASSIFICATION BREAKDOWN

The British Board of Film Classification has the lowing age ratings:

U: Suitable for all ages

PG: For children aged 8 and above; this content shouldn't unsettle them

12A: Children under the age of 12 should not watch without an adult; this content potentially features load language, nudity or sexual references

15: Sultable only for 15-year-olds and above

18: Exclusively for an adult audience, with potentially explicit themes of violence, nudity or sex

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

STREAMING IS EVERYWHERE

Modern mobile devices make it very easy for children to watch streamed films without the need for a TV. The availability of inappropriate centent has risen significantly on streaming platforms, almost all of which host 18-rated content. If not restricted by parental controls, this could be viewed by children who aren't quite ready for such adult themes. concepts and imagery

FACT VS. FICTION

Many children have no trauble separating fact from fiction. However, with modern day technology making pretend violence and horror look ever more realistic, it's becoming harder for youngsters to tell the difference. For instance, consider remarks of older films, where dated special effects (making it easy to discern that something wasn't real) have been replaced by far more convincing monsters and gore.



CHILDREN SCARE DIFFERENTLY

It can be difficult to decide what content is appropriate for children. What's fine for one child could be extremely frightening for another. As many children edmit to not sharing or discussing the content they watch with their parents, encouraging an open dialogue around the kind of media that young people consume can help avoid exposing them to any inappropriate content.



Friends encouraging each other to watch the latest film featuring violence or horror can lead to children consuming content that they're not ready for. As IE+content is available on many streaming platforms, young sters can watch these together – potentially without their parents' or carers' knowledge.

PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPACTS

Horror prides itself on its ability to startle or induce genuine fear in the viewer — so it's no surprise that this genre ien't usually intended for children. A natural side—effect of this is that 'jump scares' or a creepy, suspenseful atmosphere can have lasting effects on younger minds. The resulting anxiety can impact a child's sleeping patterns or eating habits.

Advice for Parents & Educators

WATCH THE FILM FIRST

If you're concerned that a film might be unsuitable for children (whether it's their first dive into the horror genre or a step up in age classification), then take a look for yourself. There's no better way to judge whether this content is something you'd deem appropriate for a child—and if a parent, for example, h actually seen the film (or at least a partion of it), they can construct a far more case if they decide it's inappropriate.

DISCUSS THE CONTENT OF FILMS

If a child has seen a film that you think may have exposed them to potentially uncomfortable themes and ideas, don't shy away from talking about it, and answer any questions they may have. This is especially important if they watched the film without an adult present. Ask them to summarise the story for you, as this will give you an understanding of what they've learned from watching it.

REMEMBER – IT'S NOT REAL

TOO SCARED?

Emphasise to children that the content they're viewing is entirely fictional and has no chance of affecting them in real life. If a child is upset after watching a film, try to understand what exactly has unsettled them: this can help you approach the topic in a healthy and informative manner to dispet any tears or anxieties they may have.

USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Most streaming platforms have the option to put age ranges on children's accounts. This means that films and shows that are inappropriate for children won't be advertised while they're browsing and won't even appear if a child specifically searches for them. This can be changed any time at parents' discretion, but it's wise to protect these settings with a password, so a child can't after anything on their own.

Meet Our Expert

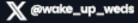
John Insley is an assistant principal at a secondary school. He has been involved with e-safety in schools for over 10 years, writing policies and supporting various schools in developing their e-safety provision. John has introduced a range of strategies at multiple schools aimed at helpin parents to better support their child in the ever-changing digital world.

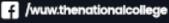




The Nationa College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: https://nationalcollege.com/guides/horror-film







(O) @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 SCHOOL CHROMEBOOKS THAT CLASS THREE AND FOUR CHILDREN HAVE 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





We would love to see you at our

OPEN DAYS

Saturday October 12th
10am-11.30am
Wednesday November 6th/13th
9-10am

All pupils, of any faith or no faith, are welcome at Saint Mary's.

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Longlands Road, New Mills, SK22 3BL



Scan the QR code to visit our website









COMMUNITY NOTICES



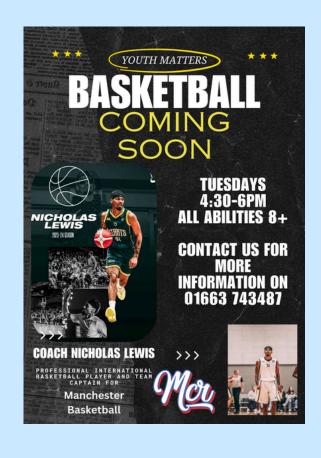












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Gamble Aware

