



29TH NOVEMBER 2024

FRIDAY NEWSLETTER

SAINT MARY'S CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY

A warm welcome to this week's newsletter. The start of Advent is nearly here! This Sunday marks the First Sunday in Advent. The children will be learning about the Advent wreath and how each candle represents a different meaning. The first week is Hope.

**'We stay awake, watch and wait,
for we do not know the hour
or the day of your arrival.'**

In preparation for this very exciting and spiritual time of the year, the children will be bringing home the travelling cribs this week, please ensure they are returned the following day (except weekends) so we can ensure all pupils have the opportunity to share this lovely resource before the start of the Christmas holidays.

The statement to live by this week was; 'Simple things can make us happy.'

Class one's liturgy on the first week of Advent, 'hope', was absolutely delightful. The children spoke and sang with such confidence throughout. It certainly helps us to get ready for the start of Advent and the birth of baby Jesus.

Class two demonstrated excellent behaviour throughout mass on Thursday. Well done to you all.

In the near future, we'll be launching a new 'Parent Portal' and 'Arbor App' for parents and carers to access. Arbor is the school's 'management information system' which holds information regarding our pupils and contact details for parents and carers. We are going to be launching the new system in stages; the first stage is that you'll be able to access the system, see and check the information we hold for your child/children and for yourself and see your children's attendance percentage. Over time, we'll increase access to the system, including booking parent consultation sessions and allowing you to amend certain information on your file, such as your mobile phone numbers. Look out for more information in the weeks to come!

God Bless and 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/>

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

A MESSAGE FROM DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Derbyshire County Council Household Support Fund As part of the Department for Work and Pensions' 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 to low-income families. Information about who is eligible for the vouchers is available on the website and we hope to start distribution in early January 2025. We will update the website when all vouchers have been distributed and provide details of what parents and carers should do if they haven't 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



HOLIDAY ACTIVITY AND FOOD PROGRAMME (KNOWN AS HAF OR 'IT'S ABOUT ME').



On Thursday, everyone should have received an e-mail from the office with regards to the Derbyshire County Council Holiday Activity and Food Programme, known as HAF or 'it's about me'. If your child is entitled to benefits related Free School Meals (not universal infant free school meals), you should also have received the IAM code to book sessions. Please see the text from the letter send on Thursday as a reminder:

Did you know that as well as free school meals during term time, you are also entitled to access FREE holiday clubs this summer?

The Holiday Activity and Food Programme, known throughout Derbyshire as 'It's About Me' is funded by the Department for Education and gives eligible young people access to FREE places at holiday clubs across the county.

If your child is aged between 4-16 and is eligible for benefits-related free school meals, then they are entitled to access It's About Me holiday clubs for free! There are a huge range of activities available including sports and games, arts and crafts, cookery, dance and music. All clubs include a nutritious meal too! Programmes vary depending on the type and location of each club.

If your child is not eligible for the It's About Me programme, many clubs also offer paid places where you can book with them directly. To book your It's About Me holiday club you will need your unique IAM code which will be distributed via your child's school. If you have not received your code, but believe your child is eligible for the programme, please contact your school office.

To book your activities and to find out more information go to www.itsaboutmederbyshire.co.uk or speak to your school office. To receive programme information and updates directly to your inbox, Sign-Up for It's About Me updates.

The winter holiday clubs will take place from Monday 23 December – Friday 3 January. Excludes Bank Holidays and weekends. Bookings open on Monday 2 December 2024.



Busyangwa staff toilet project

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.

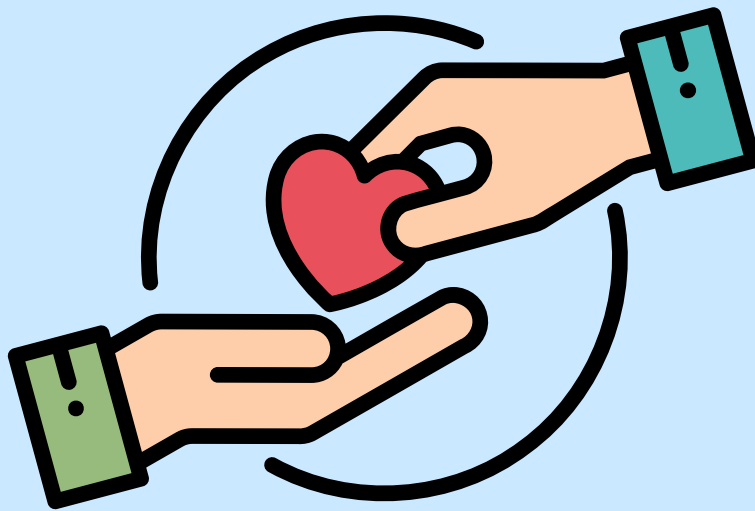
A Staff Accomodation Block is being built by friends of the school to accomodate 4 teachers. This will make the school attractive to younger teachers and also those who walk long distances.

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.

The fundaraising page link is [fundraising page for the Staff Toilet project](#).



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 'Our Lord Jesus Christ'.

The mission was to try and listen to Jesus this week in all that we do even if we struggle.


The Catholic Social Teaching link was 'option for the poor and vulnerable' because Jesus did not have a crown or a palace like a king but showed kindness to others.

**Week 34 in Ordinary Time**


Year B

Word of the Week

Kingdom

**Sunday**

First Reading:
Daniel 7:13-14
Gospel Reading:
John 18:33-37

**Suggestions**

Hebrew Bible:
Daniel 2: 44-45
New Testament:
Luke 23: 35-43

Theme

The Kingdom of God is not just a distant promise, but something we can experience here and now. It's a place where love, justice, and peace reign. We build this kingdom through our actions, our relationships, and our commitment to living out Christ's teachings. The Kingdom is a place of belonging, where everyone is valued and loved. When we work together, we can create a glimpse of heaven on earth, a place where God's love shines through in all we do.

Mission

Think of one thing you can do to make your community more like the Kingdom of Heaven.

CLASS ONE ASSEMBLY



Thank you to everyone who came to class 1's assembly on Thursday. Class 1 – you were brilliant!



LOVING LUNCHTIME!



St. Mary's CVA PTA Events at a Glance

Oct 18th End of Term Disco <i>£2 per pupil</i>	Nov 28th Colours of Christmas Casual Clothes Day <i>Bring in an item</i>	Dec 13th Christmas Carousel <i>£2 per pupil</i>
Jan 24th Crazy Hair Day <i>£1 per pupil</i>	Feb 13th Valentines Disco <i>£2 per pupil</i>	March Easter Activity <i>No cost</i>
April Whole school Clubbersize! <i>Sponsorship</i>	May Duck Race Carnival Prep <i>No cost</i>	June Casual Clothes Days <i>Bring in an item</i>
July Summer Fair & Colour run! <i>No Cost</i>		

We hope this calendar of events is helpful - more detail for each event will be shared closer to the time.

The biggest strength of our committee is our drive to create the best memories for all children while at school – we look forward to another exciting year!

Feedback is always welcome, please contact us via email:
stmaryspta.newmills@gmail.com

A decorative border of gold, glittery stars of various sizes is located in the top left corner, extending diagonally down towards the center.

EVERYONE IS INVITED! STAR OF THE WEEK ASSEMBLY

EVERY FRIDAY WE HAVE A STAR
OF THE WEEK ASSEMBLY
STARTING AT 2.30PM. EVERYONE
IS WELCOME TO ATTEND!

A small cluster of gold, glittery stars is located on the right side of the text block.

Please check ClassDojo for any changes to
the assemblies.

A decorative border of gold, glittery stars of various sizes is located in the bottom right corner, extending diagonally up towards the center.

Saint Mary's family



Follow us on Facebook!

www.facebook.com/Saintmarysnm



Follow us for school
communication, information and
local events!

View our school website here -
www.stmarysnewmills.srscmat.co.uk



The website contains lots of useful
information including a school calendar,
details about the curriculum, latest
news, the school dinner menu, links to
ParentPay and information about
wraparound care!



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.

Thursday 5th December	Fairtrade tuckshop, please bring 50p for a treat!
Friday 6th December	Christmas crafts
Friday 6th December	Pantomime visit – whole school
Monday 9th December	Last swimming lesson for year six
Tuesday 10th December	Key stage one Christmas performance 9.30am–10.30am then 6.00pm–7.00pm
Wednesday 11th December	Key stage two Christmas performance 9.30am–10.30am then 6.00pm–7.00pm
Wednesday 11th December	Christmas dinner day
Thursday 12th December	Carol singing
Thursday 19th December	Advent service in school, all welcome. 2.00pm
Thursday 19th December	School closes at 2.45pm for the Christmas break
Friday 20th December	Inset day, school closed to pupils
Monday 6th January 2025	School reopens for the new term
Wednesday 15th January	Primary applications close today

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>

**IN AN EMERGENCY, WHEN THE SCHOOL ANSWERPHONE IS SWITCHED ON,
RING 07355 221723 TO SPEAK TO WRAPAROUND STAFF.**



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 assembly this week.

Our dinner table discussion this week was 'is a wooden table still a tree?'

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 – Simple things can make us happy.

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”.



YES



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.



SNAP STREAK
97
DAYS

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

SNAPCHAT

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

My AI is Snapchat's new chatbot, which replies to questions in a human-like manner. However, the software is still in its infancy and has significant drawbacks, such as biased, incorrect or misleading responses. There have already been numerous reports of young users turning to AI for medical help and diagnoses, which could be inaccurate and therefore potentially dangerous.

PREDATORS AND SCAMS

Predators can exploit Snapchat's disappearing messages by, for example, telling a user they have naked photos of them and will post them unless they're paid. Snapchat's own research found that 65% of teenagers had experienced this – on this app or others. This likely isn't helped by 'SnapMap' – a feature which highlights your exact position in real-time. This is meant to help friends keep track of each other, but could be used for more sinister reasons.

MY EYES ONLY

Snapchat has a hidden photo vault called 'My Eyes Only'. Teens can conceal sensitive photos and videos from parents and carers in this folder, which is protected by a PIN. You can check for this by clicking on the lock which looks like two playing cards. This takes you to the 'Memories' folder which stores photos, stories and the My Eyes Only folder.

SCREEN TIME ADDICTION

Snapchat prioritises user engagement, with features like streaks (messaging the same person every day to build up a high score). The app also has sections called 'Discover' and 'Spotlight', which show tailored content to each user. However, this could also be seen as an attempt to hook users into watching videos endlessly. Furthermore, constant notifications can lure people into using the app.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some content on Snapchat simply isn't suitable for children. The hashtags used to group content are determined by the poster, so even an innocent search term could still yield age-inappropriate results. The app's 'disappearing messages' feature also makes it easy for young people to share explicit images on impulse – so sexting continues to be a risk associated with Snapchat.

ONLINE PRESSURES

Although many of Snapchat's filters are designed to entertain or amuse, the 'beauty' effects on photos can set unrealistic body image expectations – creating feelings of inadequacy in younger users. Snapchat now also has 'priority' notifications (which still get displayed even if a device is in 'do not disturb' mode), increasing the pressure on users to log back in and interact.

Advice for Parents & Educators

UTILISE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Snapchat's 'Family Centre' lets you view the details of the child's account – their friends list and who they've spoken to in the last week – and report any concerns. You must invite a child to the Family Centre for them to join. To keep the child's location hidden on the app, go into settings and turn on 'Ghost Mode' and 'Hide Live Location', and ensure they know not to share their location with anyone.

BLOCK AND REPORT

If a stranger does connect with a child on Snapchat and begins to make them feel uncomfortable through bullying, pressure to send explicit images or by sending sexual images to them, the child can tap the three dots on that person's profile and report or block them. There are options to state why they're reporting that user – such as annoying or malicious messages, spam or masquerading as someone else.

FAMILIARISE YOURSELF

Before you allow a child to download Snapchat, download it yourself and familiarise yourself with the app. Snapchat has produced a parents' guide to the app to help you understand how it works and any protections they have in place. A link for this can be found in the sources below.

ENCOURAGE OPEN DISCUSSIONS

Snapchat's risks can be easier to handle if you nurture an open dialogue. For example, discuss My AI's responses to questions and how reliable they are. Talk about scams and blackmail before letting children sign up. If they're lured into a scam, encourage them to tell you immediately. Talk openly and non-judgementally about sexting, emphasising its inherent risks. Furthermore, explain how popular 'challenges' on the platform can have harmful consequences.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/snapchat-2023>

X @wake_up_weds

f /www.thenationalcollege

@wake.up.wednesday

@wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 31.10.2024

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 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 THEM PROPERLY, WE WILL REMOVE THE DEVICES FOR HOME USE.



EXTRA INFORMATION

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.

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.

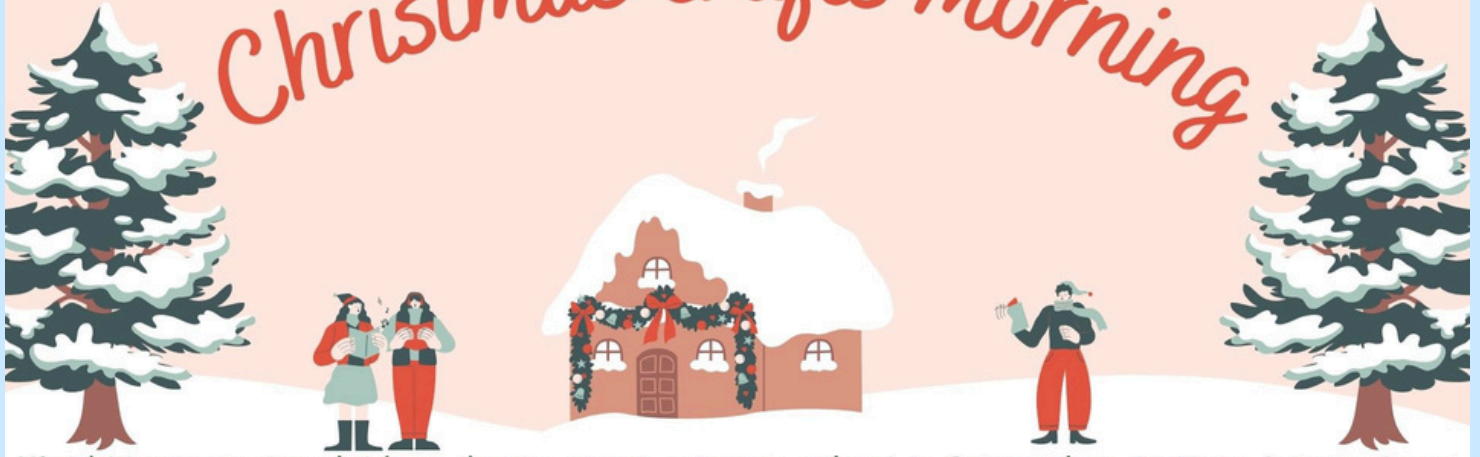
ADMISSIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2025

Please do let us know if
you can come!
joxley@nmm.srscmat.co.uk
or 01663 742412

You are invited to a:



Christmas crafts morning



We'd like to invite children due to start primary school in September 2025 to join us for a Christmas crafts morning on Friday 6th December from 9.30am to 10.30am at Saint Mary's Primary School, Longlands Road.

An invite to all children due
to start school in September
2025!



Class 1 and 2 would like to invite you to our Christmas performance. This takes place in school on Tuesday 10th December from 9.30am to 10.30am.



Please let us know if you can come!
info@nmm.srscmat.co.uk

Saint Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy, Longlands Road, New Mills, High Peak,
Derbyshire, SK22 3BL 01663 742412

COMMUNITY NOTICES

For vacancies in our Trust, please see – www.srscmat.co.uk/work-with-us/vacancies/

Latest vacancy: Premises officer at St Thomas More School in Buxton

<https://www.srscmat.co.uk/work-with-us/vacancies-single/?>

Category=Premises%2Fsite%2FCaretaking&Advert=NwkvxMuEXuJFXKoR3Vqtcw%3D%3D
&Region=StThomasMoreCatholicVoluntaryAcademy



Senior Citizens' Christmas Party

Join us at St Thomas More for our Senior Citizens' Christmas Party on

Friday 13th December 2024
13:30-14:45

We will be having Carols from the school band, Bingo, cakes and festive fun.

If you wish to attend please contact the school office on 01298 23167 by Monday 9th December

The event is free to attend but we are hoping to fundraise for some of our students to attend the diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes

St Thomas More, Palace Fields, Buxton SK17 6AF

RAFFLE

BINGO

St Thomas More Catholic Voluntary Academy



YOUTH MATTERS

BASKETBALL

STARTING 26TH NOV

TUESDAYS 4:30-6PM
ALL ABILITIES 8+

CONTACT US FOR MORE INFORMATION ON 07539001555

NICHOLAS LEWIS
2023-24 SEASON

COACH NICHOLAS LEWIS
PROFESSIONAL INTERNATIONAL BASKETBALL PLAYER AND TEAM CAPTAIN FOR Manchester Basketball

McU

POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER'S L2U CONSULTATION 2024/25



Derbyshire Police and Crime Commissioner, Nicolle Ndiweni-Roberts, would like to hear views on crime and community safety in Derbyshire. Throughout the year the Commissioner runs a survey called Listening 2 You, asking for Derbyshire residents' views on crime and community safety. This is done to ensure that the priorities the Commissioner sets for policing, community safety and victim services reflect the issues that matter most to Derbyshire residents, wherever they live in the City or the County. Using the responses from the survey, the Commissioner will work with the Chief Constable to ensure that resources are balanced efficiently with residents' concerns.

We need to hear from as many people as possible to ensure the results are fair.

The survey questions cover feelings of safety, experiences of crime and anti-social behaviour in the area where they live, and opinions on local policing. The survey should take no longer than 4 minutes to complete. The link for the survey is below:

Listening to you | Office of the Derbyshire Police and Crime Commissioner (derbyshire-pcc.gov.uk) <https://www.derbyshire-pcc.gov.uk/taking-part/listening-to-you/>

Enter our **Super Draw**

**Win a £1,000 Amazon
Gift Card**

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!
- 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.