



4TH APRIL 2025

# FRIDAY NEWSLETTER

## SAINT MARY'S CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY

Welcome to the last newsletter of this Easter term. We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all those who attended the parent/carers consultations this week. Your participation is a vital part of fostering a strong and collaborative school community. This year, you may have noticed a slight change in the format of the consultations with the addition of a feedback slip in Religious Education. This change is directly linked to the invaluable feedback we received from the recent parent questionnaire, allowing us to further strengthen the spiritual formation of our pupils in line with Catholic social teaching.

Catholic social teaching calls us to walk in solidarity with one another, and it is through these ongoing conversations with parents that we can ensure we are nurturing an environment where our pupils are not only academically successful but also growing in their faith and moral development. At the heart of Catholic education is the belief that "God shines within our hearts. Jesus walks by our side. The Holy Spirit gives us strength" and it is in this spirit that we work together as a school community to provide our students with an education that reflects these truths.

This week, we were also blessed to celebrate our school Mission Day on Thursday, which focused on the themes of Easter. The pupils participated in a powerful reenactment of the Easter story, with each class playing an important role in bringing to life key moments of the Passion of Christ. Class 1 shared the significance of Palm Sunday, Class 2 reflected on the Last Supper, Class 3 brought the agony of Gethsemane to the stage, and Class 4 poignantly depicted Peter's denial. The Lenten service concluded with Year 6 leading the Stations of the Cross, providing a solemn and prayerful reflection on Christ's sacrifice for us all.

On Friday, our school community came together for the Big Lent Walk, an event that provided a tangible opportunity for our students to live out the teachings of Catholic social teaching by raising funds for CAFOD. By walking together in solidarity with the poor and vulnerable, our pupils are learning that our actions, however small, can make a significant difference in the world. This is an essential part of our mission as a school – to form individuals who, inspired by the Holy Spirit, are committed to serving others and making the world a better place.

As we continue to grow in faith and community, we are grateful for the support and partnership of our parents, carers, staff, volunteers and pupils. Working together, we know that our school will continue to thrive, fostering a community where all members feel valued and encouraged to reach their full potential, both academically and spiritually.

We wish each and everyone one of you a wonderful Easter break.

Mrs Chapman.

*The Diocesan guide to the Jubilee and more information about the Jubilee can be found here - <https://www.stmarysnewmills.srscmat.co.uk/catholic-life/r-e/>*



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>

# School attendance

## The importance of school attendance

We want our children at Saint Mary's to enjoy coming to school and to love their learning. Our attendance target for the whole school is 95% or above.

Research shows that there is a high correlation between school attendance, academic performance and success. Absence from school is often the biggest single cause of poor performance and achievement.



## Why is it so important to attend every day?

- Learning is a progressive activity; each day's lessons build upon those of the previous day(s). Each missed lesson is a missed learning opportunity.
- Reading the material and completing work independently does not compensate for direct interaction with a teacher.
- Teachers often use whole class discussions, demonstrations, debate, experiments and small group work as part of their daily learning activities, and these cannot be caught up by those who are absent.
- Parents and carers have a legal duty to ensure that their child receives an education.

## Are there other benefits to my child?

- Pupils with good attendance records generally achieve higher grades and enjoy school more.
- Having a good education will help to give your child the best possible start in life.
- Regular school attendance patterns encourage the development of other responsible patterns of behaviour including independence skills and life skills.

## What are the risks of frequent absences?

- A child who does not attend school regularly will be unlikely to keep up with the work.
- The more a child misses school, the lower their grades; the lower their grades, the less they want to stay at school. The only way to break this cycle is regular, high levels of attendance.

## What can parents do to help?

- Parents and carers must model how they value education, including the importance of regular attendance, good punctuality, being respectful to teachers etc.
- If your child starts missing school, work with us to put things right. We are here to support you.
- If your child is ill or must miss school for some other reason, contact school immediately.
- Take an interest in your child's schoolwork and be involved in the school as much as possible – your child will value school more if you do. Come to assemblies, join the PTA, attend parent consultation appointments etc.
- Read with your child/children every night. Reading helps to build a strong and rich vocabulary. It increases empathy, showing children new perspectives and new worlds. Even five minutes per night is hugely beneficial.
- If you are not sure if your child should attend school due to illness, contact the school office who will advise you.

**Check your child's attendance percentage on the Arbor app and compare it to this grid!**

**If you don't have access to Arbor, please let the school office know.**



**If you need help to increase your child's attendance, speak to your class teacher or the school office.**

DEPARTMENT FOR EDUCATION-FUNDED

# HOLIDAY CLUBS IN DERBYSHIRE

it's about me  
Derbyshire's Holiday Activity and  
Food Programme

2025/26

## MORE INFORMATION

**Did you know that as well as free school meals during term time, your child can also benefit from Department for Education-funded spaces at holiday clubs in your local area?**

Thanks to the Holiday Activity and Food Programme, known in Derbyshire as 'It's About Me', your child can experience holiday clubs filled with fun, learning and healthy meals at no cost to you!

**If your child is aged between 4-16 years old\* and is eligible to receive benefits-related free school meals, they're entitled to access It's About Me holiday clubs.**

With a wide range of activities such as sports, arts and crafts, cooking, dance, music and more, there's something for everyone! Plus, every session includes a nutritious meal to keep them energised and happy throughout the day.

Each club offers a unique programme depending on its location and type—there's so much to explore!

Not eligible? Many clubs also offer paid places, so every child has the chance to join the fun.

**IAM CODES HAVE BEEN SENT  
OUT BY THE SCHOOL  
OFFICE.**

## IMPORTANT DATES

### SPRING

**Bookings open:** 17th March 2025

**Holiday clubs open:** 7th April 2025 -  
17th April 2025

### SUMMER

**Bookings open:** 30th June 2025

**Holiday clubs open:** 28th July 2025 -  
3rd September 2025

### WINTER

**Bookings open:** 1st December 2025

**Holiday clubs open:** 22nd December 2025 -  
2nd January 2026

All dates exclude bank holidays and weekends.

## HOW TO BOOK

1

Get your unique IAM/ HAF code from your child's school

2

Go to our website  
[itsaboutmederbyshire.co.uk](https://itsaboutmederbyshire.co.uk)

3

Follow our handy  
[How to Book Guide](#)

4

Sign-up to receive It's  
About Me updates



\*See website for full eligibility criteria.



**MORE INFORMATION:**

[itsaboutmederbyshire.co.uk](https://itsaboutmederbyshire.co.uk)



# NEW MILLS

# DUCK RACE



SUNDAY  
18<sup>TH</sup> MAY  
12<sup>PM</sup>  
at Torrs  
Riverside Park

For more information  
about the event and  
ticket sale please  
scan the code



## THIS WEEK'S CELEBRATION OF THE WORD



The theme this week was sacrifice. The Catholic Social Teaching link was 'Rights and Responsibilities' because the youngest son said sorry to his father (the parable of the Prodigal Son). The mission was to spend time praying and thinking about God's sacrifice for us.

**4th Week of Lent**

**Year C**

*Word of the Week*

# Sacrifice

**Sunday**

*First Reading:*  
Joshua 5:9-12

*Gospel Reading:*  
Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

**Suggestions**

*Hebrew Bible:*  
Genesis 22: 1-19

*New Testament:*  
Hebrews 13: 1-3

**Theme**

During Lent, we reflect on the sacrifice of Jesus and what it means for our lives. The sacrifice of Jesus is a reminder that we are all loved by God, and that we too are called to live our lives for others as humble servants. Sacrifice is a way to show our love for God and our commitment to living a life that reflects his values.

**Mission**

Think about someone who makes sacrifices for you and take a moment to thank them for what they do this week.



**CHILDREN'S LITURGY DATES 2025**

**MAY 4TH**

**MAY 18TH**

**JUNE 8TH**

**JUNE 15TH**

**JUNE 22ND**

**JUNE 29TH**

**JULY 6TH**

**JULY 13TH**

**JULY 20TH**

Our PE kit is: a plain white t-shirt and black shorts, black jogging bottoms and a royal blue hoodie or sweatshirt. Trainers should be designed for sport, well fitting and in good condition.



No earrings should be worn on PE days. If you cannot remove your child's earrings, please tape them up before school. This helps to prevent injuries.



Children should not be wearing Ugg style boots, Converse style trainers or leggings on non PE days.

All children with long hair should have their hair tied back every day.



# OUR PE DAYS ARE:

**CLASS ONE - MONDAY AND FRIDAY**  
**CLASS TWO- MONDAY AND FRIDAY**  
**CLASS THREE- TUESDAY AND THURSDAY**  
**CLASS FOUR- MONDAY AND TUESDAY**



**ACTIVE WEAR SHOES TO BE WORN EVERY DAY**



**PE KIT TO BE WORN ON PE DAYS**



**WATER BOTTLE NEEDED EVERY DAY**



**COAT SUITABLE FOR THE CONDITIONS ON THE DAY NEEDED EVERY DAY**



On non PE days, girls should wear their school sweatshirt or cardigan, a white shirt or polo shirt, a grey pinafore, skirt or trousers or a blue gingham summer dress in summer. Boys should wear a school sweatshirt, grey trousers, a white shirt or polo shirt, grey or black socks and grey school shorts in summer.

**All items of clothing should be labelled with your child's name.**  
**Active wear shoes should be worn every day.**



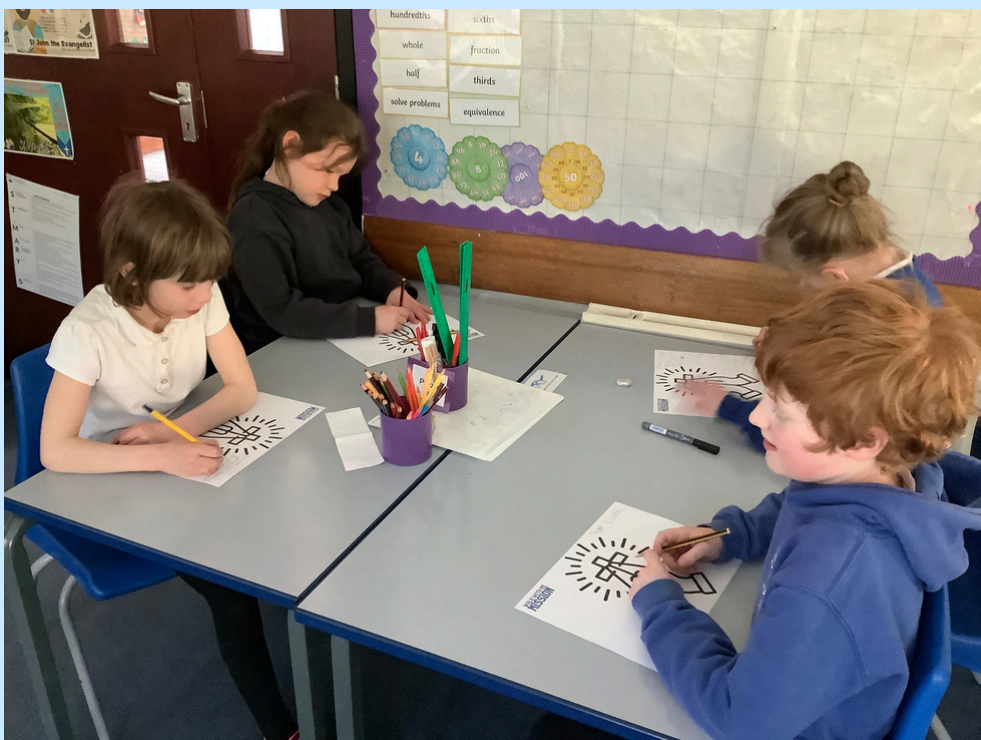
OUR SCHOOL WEEK



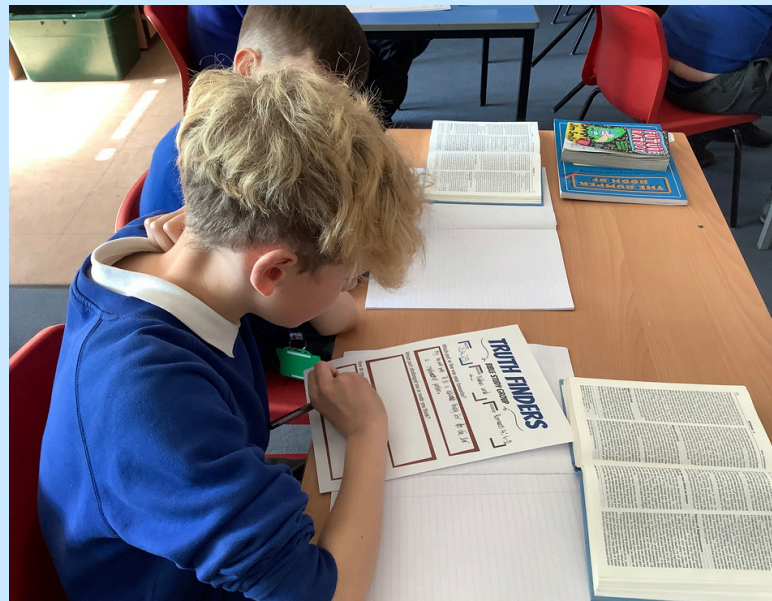
# OUR SCHOOL WEEK



# OUR SCHOOL WEEK



# OUR SCHOOL WEEK



# OUR SCHOOL WEEK



# HOUSE WINNERS EVENT



# HOUSE WINNERS EVENT



# 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!

Please check ClassDojo for any changes to  
the assemblies.

# 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 7th April – Monday 21st April inc	Easter holidays
Tuesday 15th April	Offer day for primary places for September 2025
Tuesday 22nd April	Pupils return to school
Monday 28th April	Year 6 parents and carers are invited in to experience sitting a SATs paper
Tuesday 29th April	<b>National Child Measurement Programme – reception and year 6</b> <b>1:15 PM – 2:15 PM</b> For parents/carers of children in reception and year 6 – The National Child Measurement Programme are planning to visit the school on Tuesday 29th April. They have sent an email or letter to you in the post, please check your junk folders and post. If you have not received it, please contact <a href="mailto:llbd.ncmp@derbyshire.gov.uk">llbd.ncmp@derbyshire.gov.uk</a> to let them know that you have not received an email or letter. Include your child's name, school, and date of birth. Alternatively, you can call them on 0800 085 2299 (option 2)
Wednesday 30th April	<b>Walk through Wednesday</b> <b>8:45 AM – 8:55 AM</b> Following on from parent feedback in our recent survey on Catholic life and Mission and Religious Education we are inviting all parents to visit school between 8.45am – 8.55am on Wednesday 30th April to visit their child's class and look at their Religious Education book. Pupils will talk through what they have been learning about. We will have several sessions throughout the year to showcase pupils work in Religious Education.
Friday 2nd May	School photographer
Monday 5th May	Bank holiday
Monday 12th to Friday 16th May	SATs week
Thursday 22nd May	Science collapsed curriculum day
Thursday 22nd May	Year 6 parent/carer meeting for the Lea Green residential trip 3.20pm–4.00pm
Friday 23rd May	May Queen procession
Monday 26th May to Friday 30th May	Half term holiday
Saturday 7th June	New Mills carnival

# 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>

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about INSTAGRAM

AGE RESTRICTION  
**13+**

Instagram remains one of the world's most popular social media platforms, especially among teens – with around 70% of 13 to 17-year-olds using it. Owned by Meta, Instagram allows users to share photos and videos, create interactive 'stories', broadcast live, send private messages and follow others. With regular updates and new features, it's essential for parents and educators to stay informed about how children are using the app – and what the risks are.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### EXCESSIVE SCREEN TIME

Instagram's design encourages prolonged use through endless scrolling of trending content and generating a fear of missing out (FOMO). Children can quickly lose track of time browsing posts from friends, influencers, and strangers, which may disrupt their day-to-day activities.

### AI CHATBOT CONCERNS

Meta's AI, which is available on Instagram, allows users to chat with an in-app chatbot. While often helpful, it can blur boundaries for young users, who may ask for or read content that is inappropriate or see it as a real friend or confidant. Privacy issues also arise, as conversations may not be as secure or private as children assume.

### RISKS OF GOING LIVE

The livestream feature allows real-time broadcasting to followers – or anyone, if the account is public. This increases the chance of unwanted contact from strangers and pressure to act in ways that gain attention, including engaging in inappropriate behaviour. Viewers may also post offensive or harmful comments during live sessions.

### THREADS INTEGRATION

Threads is Instagram's sister app for public, text-based conversations. Posts from Threads appear in users' Instagram feeds and can lead children to view, share, and comment on public conversations with strangers. The content may not always be age-appropriate and can be misleading or false.

### SCHEDULED MESSAGING

Instagram's newer ability to schedule direct messages means that children could receive messages late at night or early in the morning. This can disrupt their sleep or keep them preoccupied before the school day even begins.

### EXCLUSION AND LOW SELF-WORTH

Feeling left out online can have a real emotional impact. Being left out of photos, receiving fewer likes, being unfollowed, or being ignored in chats and comments can leave children feeling excluded, which often hurts as much as in real life. There is a risk this can lead to reduced self-esteem and a sense of not belonging.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### USE INSTAGRAM'S SUPERVISION TOOLS

Instagram's built-in Family Centre lets parents monitor how much time their child spends on the app. Specialised 'teen accounts' are private by default and offer controls on who can message them. Make sure that children use their real age when registering their account to ensure they have these protections.

### OPEN UP THE CONVERSATION

Talk regularly to the children in your care about what they enjoy on Instagram – and what makes them uncomfortable. Encourage honest chats about filters, body image, and online approval. Reassure them that they don't need to edit their appearance or chase 'likes' to feel valued.

### SET BOUNDARIES FOR THREADS AND AI

Parental controls on Instagram also apply to Threads. These allow parents to monitor time spent in the app, check follower lists and adjust exposure to sensitive content. Discuss AI features, too, therefore helping children understand that chatbots aren't real people and should be used with care.

### BE MEDIA-SAVVY WITH INFLUENCERS

Parents should follow a few of the influencers their child watches, so they can better understand the content they're seeing. Use this as a springboard to talk about the difference between genuine recommendations and paid promotions – and how online personalities can shape opinions and behaviour.

### 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.



#WakeUpWednesday®

The National College®

**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](mailto: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.

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



You can check your child's attendance percentage on Arbor! This is updated daily. Please let the school office know if you need any help with this.

No photography or videos are allowed on personal devices in school. This includes during sports days, assemblies, performances and school trips. This is to keep our most vulnerable children safe.

**Our statement of belief  
this week was – I  
understand what trust  
means.**

**Our dinner table  
discussion this week  
was 'should we say  
sorry for something  
we haven't done?'**

If you need to drive to school, please drive and park considerately, avoiding the zigzags. We regularly get complaints from neighbours about poor parking, especially parking across the lane towards the top of Longlands Road. The police have confirmed that this lane is classed as a road, so blocking it is illegal. The people that live there are unable to leave if cars are blocking the lane, which means people are being made late for work, not able to get their own children to school, being late for appointments etc. This isn't fair. Please don't block this lane and please park using consideration.

Parking is available at the church and higher up Longlands road where the youth club is. If you can walk to school, or park a little further away, please do so. Thank you for reading this.

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 94.9% THIS WEEK!**

## COMMUNITY NEWS



### JOIN BIRCH VALE & THORNSETT UNDER 11's CRICKET CLUB!

🏏 Fun, Friends & Cricket – Sign Up Today! 🏏

Is your child ready to play cricket, make new friends, and have fun? Birch Vale & Thornsett Cricket Club is looking for young players (Under 11s) to join our exciting youth team! No experience necessary—just enthusiasm and a love for the game!

#### ★ TRAINING DETAILS

📍 Location: Birch Vale & Thornsett Cricket Club (on the pitch & in the nets)

📅 Training Starts: Mid-April

🎯 Open to all children Under 11

🏏 Sessions run by On Target In Sport (OTIS) – [www.ontargetinsport.co.uk](http://www.ontargetinsport.co.uk)

★ Led by a professional Australian cricket player!

#### ★ EXCITING OPPORTUNITY

We're working with the ECB All Stars Cricket Programme, giving kids the perfect introduction to cricket in a fun and safe environment! Find out more:

[www.ecb.co.uk/play/all-stars](http://www.ecb.co.uk/play/all-stars)

#### ✉ GET INVOLVED!

To register your child or learn more, contact Josh:

✉ [josh.bannister@norwood.co.uk](mailto:josh.bannister@norwood.co.uk)

Come and be part of the future of cricket! ⚡🏏

**NEW MILLS CRICKET CLUB**

# PLAY CRICKET IN NEW MILLS!

**FUN TRAINING FOR SCHOOL YEARS 2 TO 10 ON FRIDAY EVENINGS**

**GIRLS' AND MIXED TEAMS**

**ANY EXPERIENCE, ANY ABILITY, ALL EQUIPMENT PROVIDED**

**QUALIFIED COACHES**

**EASTER - SEPTEMBER FOR ONE LOW PRICE**

**FREE TRAINING SHIRT FOR ALL PRIMARY-AGED PLAYERS (WHILE STOCKS LAST)**

**E-MAIL: NEWMILLSJUNIORCRICKETCLUB@GMAIL.COM**

**MESSAGE: 07949 970250**

PHOTO: ROB OAKES PHOTOGRAPHY

## BEING AWESOME EASTER HOLIDAY CLUB

(Age 5-12)  
8th - 10th April  
9-3pm

**Includes:**

- CAMPFIRE LUNCH (all dietary needs catered for)
- SMALL GROUP & HIGH STAFF RATIO to support all our young people

**£35 / day**

**BOOK NOW:**  
[www.bookwhen.com/beingoutdoorsci](http://www.bookwhen.com/beingoutdoorsci)

BEING OUTDOORS

The Therapeutic Rest

**DONATIONS WELCOME**

**SATURDAY 14TH JUNE 2025**  
MYACTIVE NEW MILLS  
HYDE BANK RD, NEW MILLS

**JOIN US FOR OUR 2025**  
**SEND RESOURCES FUNDRAISER**

**11.00AM-2.00PM**

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP  
WITH ST MARYS SCHOOL,  
NEW MILLS

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY  
KIDS CLASSES • FACE PAINTING •  
THROW A SPONGE AT A STAFF  
MEMBER • BOUNCY CASTLE • PT A PT



**DONATIONS WELCOME**

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April**  
MYACTIVE NEW MILLS  
HYDE BANK RD, NEW MILLS

**JOIN US FOR OUR 2025**  
**SEND RESOURCES**  
**Bake Sale**

**11am - 2pm**

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP  
WITH ST MARYS SCHOOL,  
NEW MILLS



**Enjoy baking?... Please feel free to contribute!**



# 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.

YES

## 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 AND SEN

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](http://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.org.uk](http://www.zink.org.uk)

For more information about Elective Home Education, please see here – <https://www.stmarysnewmills.srscmat.co.uk/information/send/>

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/>



**Live Life Better Derbyshire are running free programmes for Derbyshire parents and carers of children aged between 0 – 12 years old.**

**Fancy an 8-week programme?** – Meet other parents and carers in a fun weekly online group and learn how to make lasting healthy changes together.

**Fancy something more bite size?** – Parents may choose to join 1 or more sessions from the 4 week online programme covering a range of topics that matter the most to families.

**“Social media shows families have the perfect life, but in reality no-one is like that.”**

**“I came out feeling really supported ”**



**Sign up to take part in the programme here**  
or scan the QR code



**Healthier futures - Live Life Better Derbyshire**

# **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](mailto: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, Class Teacher**

**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.**



# 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

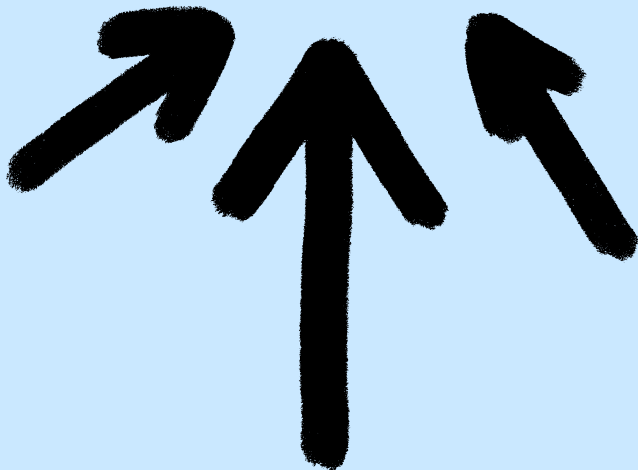
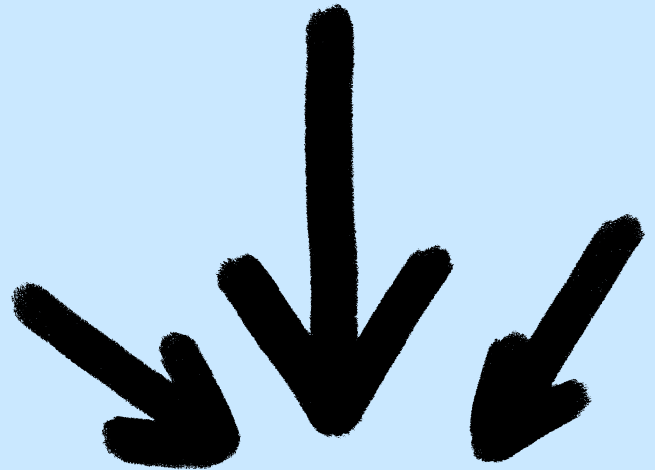


**9.15AM**

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.



# 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](http://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk)**

Search for: St Mary's New Mills



**GambleAware**