



14TH NOVEMBER 2025

FRIDAY NEWSLETTER

SAINT MARY'S CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY

Welcome to this week's newsletter. On Tuesday, the whole school went to the Cenotaph to pay their respects to all our fallen heroes. They laid wreaths and made poppies so that we can all remember those who lost their lives through war.

COP 30 live from Brazil – Pupils in key stage 2 had the opportunity to view the live COP sessions from Brazil. All world leaders attend these important yearly events to discuss action around climate change.

STEM Friday – On Friday morning, all pupils had an amazing opportunity to be part of a range of activities delivered by QTS/network rail. Pupils learnt about engineering through railways.

We are receiving a large number of e-mails to our SENCO with questions around SEND provision. Whilst we will always try to answer any messages as thoroughly as we can, please do bear in mind that Mrs Chapman is a class teacher as well as our SENCO, and therefore does have a limited amount of time to field questions from home. We will be introducing a triage system in the near future to help us prioritise those families who most need our support. More information on this will follow. In the meantime, our school website has lots of useful information, signposting to support and outstanding evidence based resources.

Next week, we have our reception activity day on Wednesday, class 2's assembly on Thursday and the PTA's colour's of Christmas day on Friday!

Have a lovely weekend,

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/30Qsidi>

APPLICATIONS FOR SCHOOL PLACES SEPTEMBER 2026

ADMISSIONS TO PRIMARY SCHOOL FOR SEPTEMBER 2026

SOME IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOU:

OUR OPEN DAYS ARE SATURDAY 11TH OCTOBER 10.00AM TO 11.30AM THEN WEDNESDAY 12TH NOVEMBER AND WEDNESDAY 10TH DECEMBER, BOTH 9.00AM TO 10.00AM. COME AND SEE OUR SCHOOL IN ACTION! WE ALSO HAVE A CHRISTMAS CRAFTS MORNING ON FRIDAY 5TH DECEMBER 9.30AM-10.30AM

APPLICATIONS FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL PLACES FOR SEPTEMBER 2026 OPEN ON **MONDAY 10TH NOVEMBER AT 9.00AM**. A GUIDE ON HOW TO APPLY FOR A SCHOOL PLACE CAN BE FOUND HERE -

[HTTPS://WWW.DERBYSHIRE.GOV.UK/EDUCATION/SCHOOLS/SCHOOL-PLACES/PRIMARY-ADMISSIONS/PARENTSGUIDE/PARENTS-GUIDE-TO-PRIMARY-ADMISSIONS.ASPX](https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/education/schools/school-places/primary-admissions/parents-guide-to-primary-admissions.aspx)

IF YOU NEED ANY HELP WITH THE ADMISSIONS PROCESS OR IF YOU HAVE ANY WORRIES OR QUESTIONS AT ALL, PLEASE JUST LET US KNOW!
INFO@NMM.SRSCMAT.CO.UK OR 01663 742412



The applications process for primary school places opens on **Monday 10th November!**

If you would like to come and look around school, please ring 01663 742412 or e-mail info@nmm.srscmat.co.uk

We also have two open mornings, we'd love to see you then! Please see the posters for more information.

To see our school prospectus, please visit our website: www.stmarysnewmills.srscmat.co.uk/parents/prospective-parents

We would love to welcome you and your child to the Saint Mary's family!

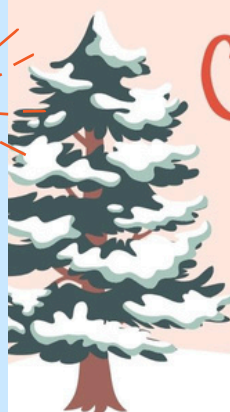


Longlands Road, New Mills, High Peak, Derbyshire, SK23 9BL
www.stmarysnewmills.srscmat.co.uk

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 2026 to join us for a Christmas crafts morning on Friday 5th December from 9.30am to 10.30am at Saint Mary's Primary School, Longlands Road. Everyone is welcome!





THIS WEEK'S CELEBRATION OF THE WORD



Mary's Missionaries

The theme this week was remembrance, the virtue was charity and the Catholic Social Teaching strand was dignity. The mission was for all pupils a minute's silence with their friends and family at home to remember all those who lost their lives or were injured in war.

Week 32 in Ordinary Time

Year C

Word of the Week

Remembrance

First Reading:
2 Maccabees 7:1-2, 9-14

Gospel Reading:
Luke 20:27-38

Hebrew Bible:
Lamentations 3: 19-27

New Testament:
Luke 22: 14-23

Theme

In our faith, remembrance is more than just remembering the past; it's about keeping our connection to God and to our loved ones alive. We remember the saints and martyrs who came before us, their examples guiding us on our own journey. We remember the sacrifices of Jesus and we remember those who have passed away, their love and influence continuing to shape us. Remembrance is a way to honour our past, cherish our present, and hope for our future.

Mission

Spend time in prayer to remember those people who are important to us and who are no longer with us.

NOVEMBER 2025 - YEAR C - 32ND WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

Remembrance

Virtue Link: **Charity**

CST Link: **Dignity**

Mission: Spend time in prayer to remember those people who are important to us and who are no longer with us.

At this time of the year we remember with gratitude the sacrifice of people who were prepared to lay down their lives in various wars so that future generations could live in peace with one another. We often hear the words 'We will remember them' at this time.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
9TH	10TH	11TH	12TH	13TH	14TH	15TH
<div style="background-color: #FFA500; padding: 5px; border: 1px solid #FFA500;"> DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA Feast </div>	<div style="background-color: #FFA500; padding: 5px; border: 1px solid #FFA500;"> St Leo the Great, Pope, Doctor </div>	<div style="background-color: #FFA500; padding: 5px; border: 1px solid #FFA500;"> St Martin of Tours, Bishop, Patron of chaplaincy </div>	<div style="background-color: #FF0000; padding: 5px; border: 1px solid #FF0000;"> St Josaphat, Bishop, Martyr </div>	<div style="background-color: #008000; padding: 5px; border: 1px solid #008000;"> Thursday of Week 32 </div>	<div style="background-color: #008000; padding: 5px; border: 1px solid #008000;"> Friday of Week 32 </div>	<div style="background-color: #FFA500; padding: 5px; border: 1px solid #FFA500;"> St Albert the Great Bishop, Doctor </div>

IMPORTANT REMINDER ABOUT WRAPAROUND CLUB

Just a reminder to book any wraparound sessions (breakfast club and afterschool club) at least 48 hours in advance. We do have strict limits on the number of children we can have in each session, and we are at capacity at some sessions. This means that we may not be able to accommodate your child/children if you haven't booked in advance. Please don't bring your child to breakfast club or leave your child at afterschool club unless you have booked and paid for the session.

If you need a place for your child at any wraparound sessions and you haven't booked, please contact Mrs Oxley who will do her best to book the sessions you need but this may not be possible if we have reached the limit for pupil numbers.

Please also remember that we're not able to cancel sessions if the 48-hour limit has passed. If your child won't be attending a booked session, please let Mrs Oxley know but you won't get a refund for the session. This includes for sickness absences. We are also not able to administer medicines (other than emergency medicine such as inhalers or epi-pens) during wraparound sessions.

Many thanks.

Mrs Oxley.



WOULD YOU LIKE TO WORK WITH US?

We currently have a vacancy in school which is a mixed role vacancy, including a teaching assistant and mid day role. Please see the information here:

<https://www.stmarysnewmills.srscmat.co.uk/our-school/vacancies-2/>



A message from Derbyshire County Council

Derbyshire County Council Household Support Fund

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

As part of the scheme, the Council will again be distributing grocery vouchers. Information about who is eligible for the vouchers is available on the website and distribution will start in mid-January 26. We will update the website when all vouchers have been distributed and provide details of what parents and carers should do if they have not received their voucher.

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



CHILDREN'S LITURGY DATES AUTUMN/WINTER 2025

NOV. 16TH, 23RD, 30TH

DEC. 7TH, 14TH.

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 WEDNESDAY

CLASS THREE- THURSDAY AND FRIDAY

CLASS FOUR- MONDAY AND FRIDAY



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 – REMEMBRANCE DAY



we will remember
we will remember
we will remember

OUR SCHOOL WEEK – QTS VISIT











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.

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.

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.

Wednesday 19 th November	<p>Reception activity day</p> <p>We are hoping to take all of class one to the activity day at New Mills Leisure Centre. The event takes place in the afternoon and we'll be walking to and from the centre with staff. Class one children should wear their full PE kits on this day, including trainers. Children should also bring a water bottle and a coat suitable for conditions on the day.</p>
Thursday 20 th November	Class 2 assembly – 9.10am. All welcome
Thursday 20 th November	PTA meeting, 7.30pm Torr Vale Tap – everyone is welcome
Friday 21 st November	PTA Colours of Christmas day (please see the poster below)
Monday 24 th November	Flu immunisations – all afternoon
Wednesday 26 th November	Whole school mini first aid training
Thursday 27 th November	Class 1 assembly – 9.10am. All welcome
Thursday 4 th December	Fair trade tuck shop
Friday 5 th December	Christmas crafts session for prospective parents/carers and their child
Monday 8 th December	<p>Key stage one Christmas performances:</p> <p>Dress rehearsal 9.30am–10.30am (all welcome)</p> <p>Main performance 6.00pm–7.00pm (all welcome)</p> <p>Children should arrive back for 5.30pm in readiness for the evening performance</p>
Wednesday 10 th December	<p>Key stage two Christmas performances:</p> <p>Dress rehearsal 9.30am–10.30am (all welcome)</p> <p>Main performance 6.00pm–7.00pm (all welcome)</p> <p>Children should arrive back for 5.30pm in readiness for the evening performance</p>
Wednesday 10 th December	Open morning for prospective parents and carers 9.00am–10.00am
Wednesday 10 th December	Christmas dinner day (we will not have sandwiches or jacket potatoes on this day)
Thursday 11 th December	Pantomime day

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PTA



Colours of Christmas Casual Clothes Day – 21st November



The PTA will be selling tickets for 4 hampers to raise money for the school. On the 21st of November please **bring in something the colour assigned to your class** to help fill our hampers! The 21st is also a casual clothes day - children can wear the colour assigned to their class or anything they feel comfortable in.

Thank you for the support!

Class 1 – please bring in anything red!

Examples: Can of Coca-Cola, Christmas pudding, Maltesers, A red pen, Tomato Sauce, Red wine, A box of celebrations, Skittles, Strawberry Jam, Red lipstick, Red Candle, A red toy, Red lentils, Chilli powder, a candy cane, can of kidney beans, red bubble bath/shower gel, a box of Yorkshire tea, BBQ sauce, jammie dodgers, can of salmon, pringles, anything in a red packet/label....

Class 2 – please bring in anything yellow/gold!

Examples: Chicken supernoodles, gold blend coffee, gold biscuits, thatchers cider, Yorkshire gold tea, pineapple rings, gold decoration, gold frame, yellow candle, packet of pasta, lemonade, Fanta lemon, Twix, Toblerone, marmalade, a yellow toy, a gold notebook, a gold pen, cellotape, yellow shower gel, anything in a yellow packet/label...

Class 3 – please bring in anything silver/white!

Examples: white chocolate, pack of Lovehearts, Lees' snowballs, Dove toiletries, white wine, candle, milkybar chocolate, desiccated coconut, white rice, Vanish white stain remover powder, white digestives, white rum, white sauce, white hot chocolate, toothpaste, white sugar, vinegar, white pepper, flour, white toy, notebook, icing, silver tree decoration, corkscrew...

Class 4 – please bring in anything green!

Examples: a pack of mint clubs, can of apple tango, After Eight Mints, Matchmakers, Mint Aero, Sour cream pringles, jar of green curry paste, onion rings, lime jelly, green bubble bath/shower gel, chicken and mushroom pot noodle, a green toy, a green book, matcha, jar of pesto, olives, green tea, elderflower cordial, green pen, washing up liquid...

All donations must be new/unused, unopened and in date please. Thank you!

THANK
YOU



ST. MARY'S CVA

PTA *Meeting*



Thursday 20th Nov 2025

7:30pm

Torr Vale Tap

Everyone welcome, hope to see you there!
stmaryspta.newmills@gmail.com

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

Star of the Week this week is awarded
to somebody who always tries to do
good for others and our planet.

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.

We will start using Arbor app notifications very soon so please log in!

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.

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.

Our dinnertime discussion this week was –
'It is natural to be greedy?'

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE WAS 91.9% 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.

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 SEND

The SEND page of our school website can be found here –

<https://www.stmarysnewmills.srscmat.co.uk/information/send/>

There is lots of useful information about our SENCO, our SEND offer and support we can offer.

Please also see our SEND newsletter here –

<https://www.stmarysnewmills.srscmat.co.uk/news/newsletters/>

Latest news from Mrs Chapman – SENCO



Once a half term, I will also be offering an informal parent drop session, with a key focus. This is an opportunity for parents to chat, share experiences, ask for advice and support one another. I will aim to share resources at the drop-in and share some quick information about our SEND area focus before allowing parents to connect over coffee and cake!



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.org.uk

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

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 and class teacher – Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mr Matthew Pearson – Designated Safeguarding Lead, Class Teacher

Mrs Amy Hodgson – 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.

A message from the PTA

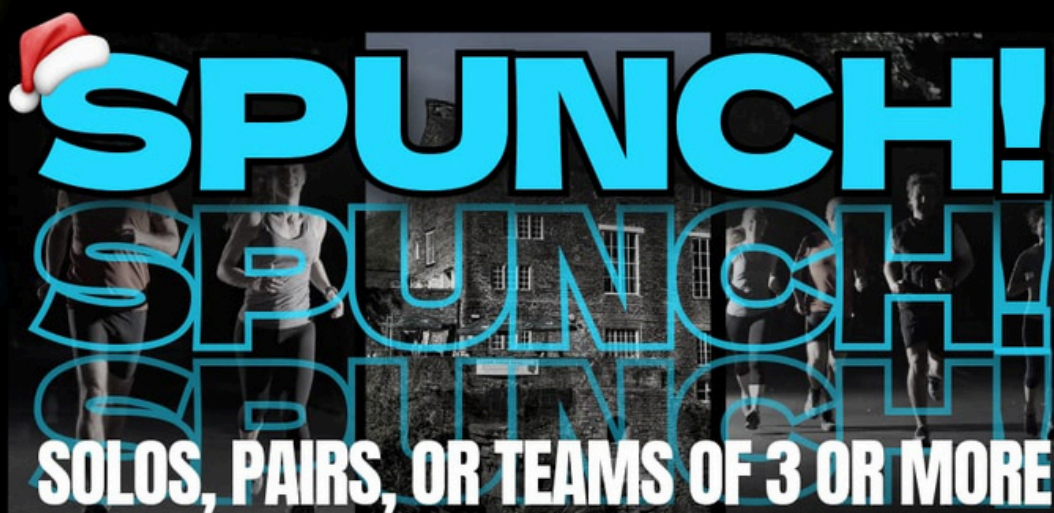
We have been busy planning the christmas markets taking place on
Sunday 7th December 2025 at MyActive New Mills.

The Santa's Grotto is now available to book!
Spaces are limited so please use the link to book in to avoid
disappointment

www.ticketsource.co.uk/saint-marys-catholic-voluntary-academy-pta



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