



30TH JANUARY 2026



FRIDAY NEWSLETTER

SAINT MARY'S CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY

A warm welcome to this week's newsletter. Well done to all our pupils in Year 5 and 6 who competed in the athletics events at New Mills Leisure Centre on Wednesday. We are very proud of you all.

The Lacrosse after school club with Miss Baythorpe continues every Thursday after school for year 3 children.

As you know, we have had our Catholic inspection this week. We'd like to thank everyone for the messages of kind support that we've received.

Over the next few weeks the willow tunnels will be pruned if you would like spare cuttings please let us know.

Looking forward to the weeks ahead, we have the class one fundraising day in aid of CAFOD on the 10th February. Class 4 are visiting the Galleries of Justice in Nottingham on Wednesday 11th February and we have our collapsed curriculum day for art and DT on Thursday 12th February. All parents and carers are welcome to come into school on this day at 2.45pm to look at children's work in the hall. Our Minnie Vinnie's will be organising a cake sale as well on this day to raise funds for the Ronald McDonald House charity.

On Friday 13th February, we are hoping to attend a darts festival at Glossopdale school, more information on this to follow. Also on Friday 13th February, we are having our PTA disco which takes place during the Friday afternoon in school time. Please see the poster below for more information. We have sent home a 'design a heart' sheet for children to colour in. These will be used to decorate the hall on disco day. We can't wait!

Have a lovely weekend everyone and stay safe.

Mrs Chapman.

A prayer for thought -

May you see the 'just because' messages from God in your day; a timely word, a kindness, a warm smile, a favour, or anything that brings joy into your life.

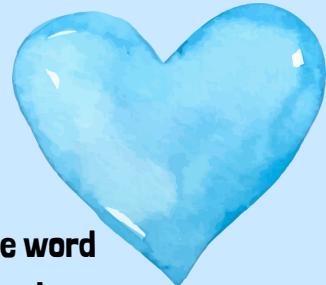


The Diocesan guide to the Jubilee and more information about the Jubilee can be found here - <https://www.stmarysnewmills.srscmat.co.uk/catholic-life/r-e/>



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/3U0stdI>

THIS WEEK'S CELEBRATION OF THE WORD



Mary's Missionaries delivered the whole school celebration of the word based on scripture. Pupils were asked to list their favourite stories from the bible. Their mission was to share a bible story with adults at home. The Catholic Social Teaching strand was, Rights and Responsibilities and the school virtue was Faith.

Week 3 in Ordinary Time

Word of the Week

Scripture

Year A

Sunday: First Reading: *Isaiah 8:23–9:3*
Gospel Reading: *Matthew 4:12-23*

Monday: Hebrew Bible: *Proverbs 4: 20-23*
New Testament: *Matthew 7:24-27*

Theme: Scripture is the Word of God. It is a collection of sacred writings that tell the story of God's love for humanity. As we read scripture, we learn about God's plan for our lives, and we are inspired to live a life of faith. Scripture can also be a source of comfort and guidance in difficult times and it speaks to us throughout our lives.

Mission: Find a passage from the Gospels that you've not read before - reflect on what it might mean to you.

JANUARY 2026 - YEAR A - 3RD WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME



Scripture

Virtue Link: Temperance
CST Link: Peace
Mission: Find a passage from the Gospels that you've not read before - reflect on what it might mean to you.

We believe that Scripture is a way for God to communicate his word and message to us. In liturgical settings we conclude a reading of scripture with the words; 'The Word of the Lord' to remind ourselves that God is speaking to us in this way.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
25TH	26TH	27TH	28TH	29TH	30TH	31ST

3
ORDINARY TIME
Word of God Sunday

Monday of Week 3

ST THOMAS AQUINAS OP
Priest, Doctor



St Angela Merici
Virgin

Wednesday of Week 3

Thursday of Week 3

St John Bosco
Priest
Founder of the Salesians of Don Bosco



Saturday of Week 3

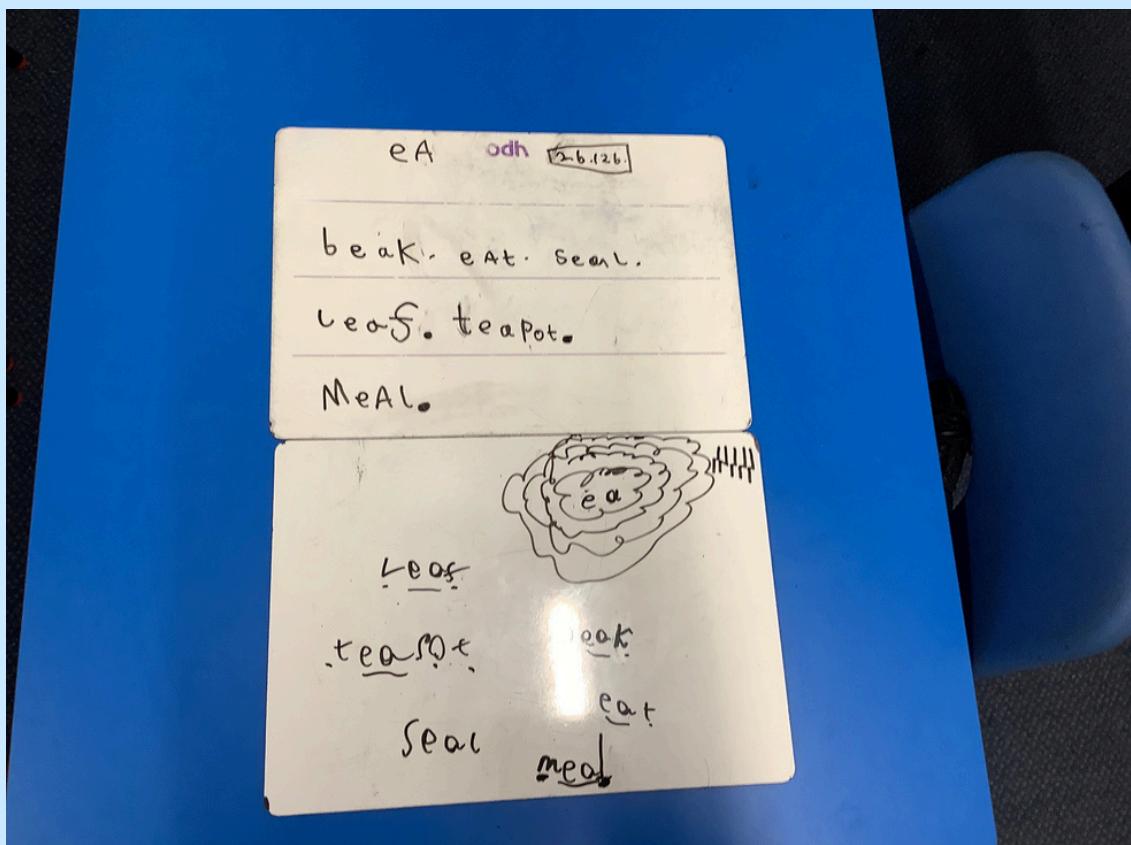
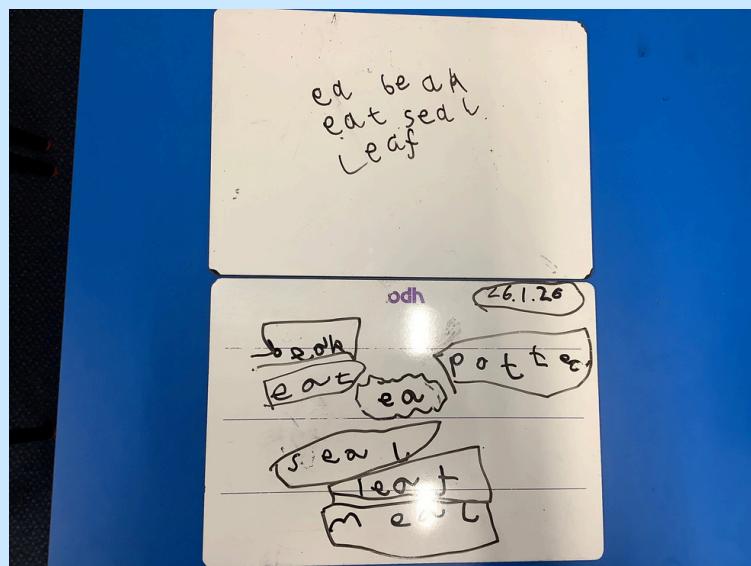
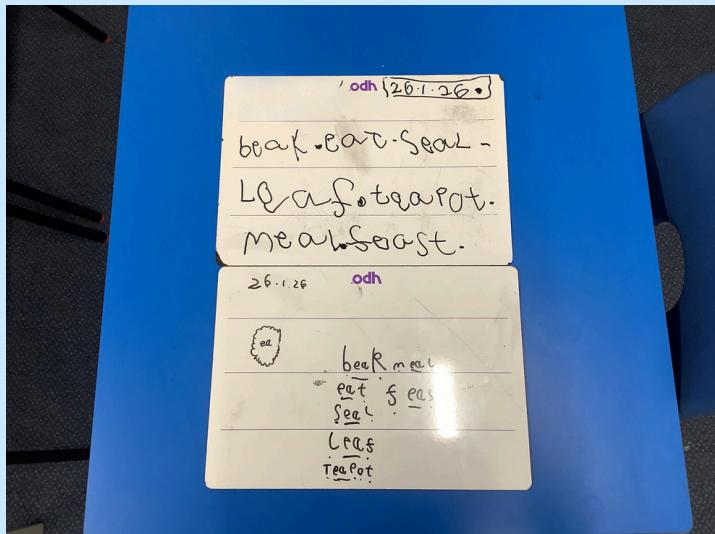
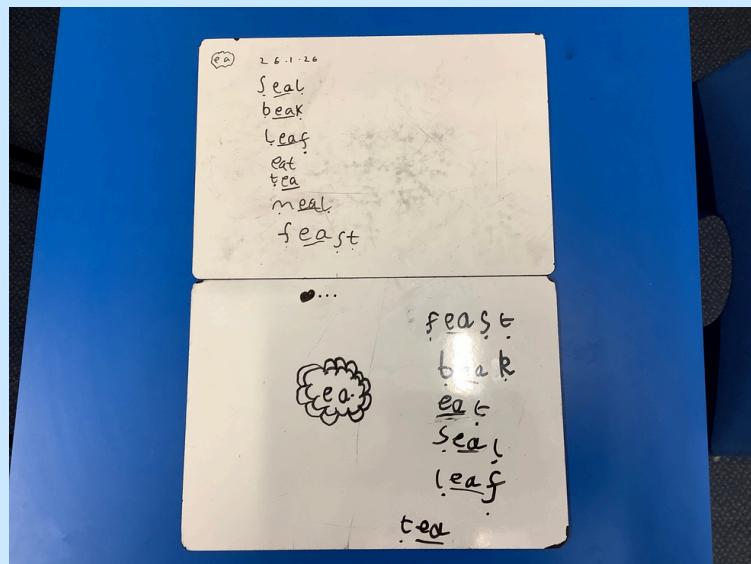
Memorial
Blessed Virgin Mary

OUR SCHOOL WEEK – SPORTSHALL ATHLETICS





OUR SCHOOL WEEK – PHONICS



OUR SCHOOL WEEK – A TRIP TO THE SHOPS



We bought ingredients to
bake a cake.





PTA EVENT

VALENTINE'S DISCO & CASUAL CLOTHES DAY!

FRIDAY

13

FEBRUARY

KS1

1:30 - 2:15

KS2

2:15 - 3:15

£2 per child inc. crisps & drink

<https://pay.sumup.com/b2c/QVT9GSDA> or cash on the day



PARISH NEWS

CHILDREN'S LITURGY DATES 2026

FEBRUARY 1ST

FEBRUARY 8TH

MARCH 1ST

MARCH 8TH

MARCH 15TH

MARCH 22ND

APRIL 19TH

APRIL 26TH

MAY 3RD

MAY 10TH

MAY 17TH

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 - THURSDAY AND FRIDAY

CLASS TWO- TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY

CLASS THREE- MONDAY AND THURSDAY

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.



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.

Tuesday 10 th February	Class one's nominated charity this year is CAFOD. On Tuesday, 10th February, they will be having a fundraising day. We are asking class one children to wear something blue and bring an empty plastic bottle, as well as bring £1.00 for CAFOD. Thank you for your support as always.
Wednesday 11 th February	Class 4 trip to the National Justice Museum, Nottingham
Thursday 12 th February	Collapsed curriculum day for art and DT. A full day dedicated to art and DT. Parents and carers are welcome to come into school at 2.45pm to have a look at the children's work.
Monday 16 th February to Friday 20 th February	Half term holidays
Monday 23 rd February	Inset day – school closed to pupils
Thursday 12 th March	The Briars residential trip 2026 parents and carers meeting 3:20 PM – 4:00 PMWe would like to invite all Year 5 parents and carers to a meeting on Thursday 12th March from 3.20pm to around 4.00pm, where we will share more information and kit lists etc. If you are not able to attend, please let us know and we'll send the information home with your child.
Monday 30 th March to Friday April 10th	Easter holidays
Monday 4 th May	Bank holiday
Wednesday 6 th May to Friday 8 th May	Year 5 residential trip to The Briars
Monday 25 th May to Friday 29 th May	Half term holidays
Wednesday 17 th June to Friday 19 th June	Bikeability training for year 5 pupils

We are delighted to announce that Paintbox High Peak will be starting a new after school club with us on Fridays beginning on Friday 27th February. This follows the questionnaire we sent out to everyone about wraparound provision.

Places are limited so please see the information below to book your child a place on this club.

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Dear Parents/Carers,

We are very pleased to offer the opportunity to join our weekly art club at St Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy, New Mills, led by Paintbox High Peak. The club will start after February half term and run after school on Friday's 3.15-4.20pm.

Sessions will run this coming term on Friday 27th February - Friday 27th March.

This club is open to all year groups and is designed to be creative, inclusive and fun! This term we are taking inspiration from Henri Matisse. Children will explore art inspired by Henri Matisse focusing on bold colours, simple shapes, collage and cut outs, creative expression and confidence. Matisse's work encourages creativity without pressure, has no right or wrong outcome, builds confidence and independence and is highly visual and engaging.

Over the 5 weeks children will, create abstract art using colour and shape, paint their own papers, make nature inspired collages, explore movement through dancing figures and create a final independent masterpiece!

Places are limited to 20 children and will be offered on a first come first served basis. The cost is £7.00 per session, the club is booked as a full-term course. The total cost of this term is £35.00

Payment details: Paintbox Account Number: 50154155 Sortcode:04-00-03

Reference: SMNM followed by your child's name E.G SMNPaintbox

Please email the below address to book your place.

If you have any questions, please get in touch!

Many Thanks

Rachel

Paintbox

paintboxhighpeak@gmail.com

Facebook - Paintbox High Peak

07854334947



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!

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about DIGITAL DEVICES & WELLBEING

Children aged 7 to 14 now spend roughly 3 to 5 hours a day on phones, tablets, consoles, and computers. That much screen time has parents and educators worried – not just about the hours logged, but about online safety and the knock-on effects on mental health. This guide brings together practical, expert-backed strategies so adults can nurture healthier digital habits and help young people thrive both on and offline.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

SLEEP DISRUPTION

Excessive screen time, especially before bed, can interfere with melatonin production and delay sleep onset. Children may struggle to concentrate or regulate emotions due to poor sleep hygiene linked to late-night device use.

ONLINE PEER PRESSURE

Social media platforms expose children to unrealistic standards and peer validation loops. Likes, comments, and follower counts can influence self-worth and lead to anxiety or risky behaviour to gain approval.

CYBERBULLYING EXPOSURE

Children may encounter bullying through messaging apps, games, or social media. This can be persistent and anonymous, making it harder to detect. Victims often feel isolated and reluctant to report incidents.

REDUCED PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

Time spent on screens often replaces outdoor play and physical activity. This sedentary lifestyle can contribute to obesity, poor posture, and reduced cardiovascular health.

EMOTIONAL DYSREGULATION

Fast-paced digital content can overstimulate young brains. Children may become irritable, impatient, or struggle with boredom and emotional control when not engaged with screens.

PRIVACY AND SAFETY RISKS

Children may unknowingly share personal information or interact with strangers online. Without guidance, they may not understand the long-term consequences of digital footprints or unsafe online behaviour.

Advice for Parents & Educators

SET CLEAR BOUNDARIES

Establish screen-time limits and device-free zones, e.g. classrooms and dinner tables. Use parental controls and co-create a digital use agreement with children to encourage accountability. Trying a visual schedule or timer app can help children understand and stick to limits.



ENCOURAGE OPEN DIALOGUE

Create a safe space for children to talk about their online experiences. Ask open-ended questions like, "What did you enjoy online today?" to build trust and awareness. Try setting aside 10 minutes each day for a digital check-in where children can share what they've seen or done online.



MODEL HEALTHY HABITS

Children mirror adult behaviour. Demonstrate balanced device use, take regular screen breaks, and prioritise face-to-face interactions to reinforce positive behaviours. Making a habit of putting your phone away during meals and conversations can show that real-life interactions come first.



PROMOTE DIGITAL LITERACY

Teach children how to evaluate online content, recognise misinformation, and understand privacy settings. Empower them to think critically and act responsibly in digital spaces. You could use real-life examples from the news or social media to help children practise spotting fake information.



Meet Our Expert

Adam Gillett is Associate Vice Principal for Personal Development at Penistone Grammar School and works on secondernt one day a week for Minds Ahead, which works with schools on improving their mental health provision.



#WakeUp
Wednesday®

The
National
College®

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.

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.

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.



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.

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.

Our dinnertime discussion this week was –
'which would be worse, a world without love or a world full of hate (or are they the same thing)?'

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE WAS 86.9% THIS WEEK!



Winter infections in children – guidance for parents/guardians

This leaflet gives advice on illnesses that are currently affecting nursery and school children across the East Midlands

What are the symptoms?

There are two groups of symptoms:

- Diarrhoea and vomiting – usually lasting 1-2 days
- Fever, tiredness, runny nose, cough and sore throat – lasting 3-4 days

What should I do if my child is unwell?

- If your child has diarrhoea and/or vomiting symptoms, they should not attend nursery/school until they have been symptom free for 48 hours
- If your child has a high temperature and is unwell, it is very important they stay at home and don't attend school until they have recovered. Children with mild symptoms like runny nose, sore throat, or mild cough, who are otherwise well, can continue to attend school.

Ensure they drink plenty of fluids – taking sips rather than gulps, to avoid vomiting

If they have a fever – give child paracetamol and/or ibuprofen, according to manufacturer's instructions. Your local pharmacist can also advise you about the best treatment for your child

If your child is unusually sleepy, can't take fluids or has other symptoms, such as an unusual rash, headache or neck stiffness – **seek medical advice immediately**

Infection control advice

Handwashing is one of the most important ways to prevent the spread of both of these infections. This applies to the child who is ill and the person caring for them. Hands should be washed using soap and rinsed under running water:

- Before and after caring for the child
- After using the toilet
- Before eating, preparing or handling food
- After cleaning up spills (vomit, diarrhoea or urine)

Also – keep a separate towel for each family member who has symptoms, and change them regularly

Dry hands thoroughly

Other control measures:

- Cover nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing, using a tissue if possible – dispose of used tissues immediately and wash hands
- Wash soiled clothing, bed linen and towels at 60oC, using detergent – if possible, wear disposable gloves to handle contaminated items
- Surfaces and touch points (taps, toilet flush handle, door handles) should be cleaned then disinfected with bleach-based cleaner
- Check that your child is up to date with their [NHS vaccinations schedule](#)

For further information, visit [NHS.uk](#) and search for 'respiratory infections' and 'diarrhoea and vomiting'

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 others 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!



Please see the following link or scan the QR code here if you would like to at any point arrange a meeting with myself regarding any SEND matters.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=0FycIXnjhUaRUhyDCcoxafbPDpgm579Ln-OUTxOe7hZUMU41SOJKQUSZNU9XNFZSRUXTUDZVMOE2UC4u>



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-people-health/children-and-young-peoples-health.aspx

For more information about Elective Home Education, please see here –

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

Information about the neurodiversity hub, which is based in Buxton, can be found here – www.zink.org.uk

The Derbyshire Local Offer is in place to support children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), as well as their parents and carers. It provides clear information about available services and provision, including how to apply for an assessment, early years support, education and learning, care services, preparing for adulthood, health and wellbeing, financial support and travel and transport. The Derbyshire Local Offer contains useful resources for families. The Local Offer includes a directory of local SEND services, support groups, and activities, empowering families to make informed decisions and enhance the quality of life for children and young people with SEND in Derbyshire.

CHANNEL: [HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/@DERBYSHIRESENDLOCALOFFER](https://www.youtube.com/@derbyshireSENDlocaloffer)
VIDEO: [HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/WATCH?V=EGI9PYGQJHM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EGI9PYGQJHM)



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.



COMMUNITY NEWS



KIDS ART WORKSHOP

RECOMMENDED AGE 5-13

CHINESE NEW YEAR!

FEBRUARY 16, 17, 18

9-3PM

THORNSETT BANDROOM

£30 PER CHILD PER DAY

Facebook- paintbox highpeak
paintboxhighpeak@gmail.com



February Holiday Camps



ST ANDREWS

MULTI SPORT

Our Glossop Holiday Camp is for ages 4-14 and runs Monday-Friday, 16-20 February, 9:00am-3:30pm, at St Andrew's Primary School, Hadfield, Glossop, offering fun, active sessions for all abilities.

ST ANNES

MULTI-SPORT

Buxton Multi-Sport Holiday Camp runs Monday-Friday, 16-20 February, 9:00am-3:30pm at St Anne's Primary School, Buxton for children aged 4-14.



GLOSSOP JNRS

FOOTBALL ONLY

DATES- 18TH-20TH FEB
TIMES 10-3PM
DAYS WED-FRI
VENUE- SPORTS GROUND, CEMETERY ROAD, GLOSSOP, SK13 7QG

Our Glossop Football Holiday Camp offers fun, engaging sessions that build skills, confidence, and a love of the game for children of all abilities.



Our fun, active, and engaging camps are perfect for children of all ages and abilities. With a mix of sports, games, and outdoor activities, your child will stay active, make new friends, and have an unforgettable week!



PAS SCAN

PRICE
MULTISPORT - £20 PER DAY
£12.50 HALF DAY
FOOTBALL CAMP £15 PER DAY
£10 HALF DAY

Celebrating 45 years of
The Famous New Mills Art Theatre Pantomime



ArtTheatre
Friends

Presents

FROSTED

The
Pantomime

By Warren McWilliams

An amateur production by
arrangement with Stagescripts Ltd

**BOOK YOUR
TICKETS NOW!**



ticketsource.co.uk/arttheatrepantomime
DISCOUNTS FOR GROUP BOOKINGS AVAILABLE

FRI 30 JAN – SAT 7 FEB 2026

FROZEN FUN FOR EVERYONE!

FEBRUARY HALF TERM

MONDAY 16th - SUNDAY 22ND FEBRUARY

MONDAY 16

Lane Swim	07:00-09:15
Accessible Swim	09:15-10:00
Widths Only	10:00-10:45
Crash Course	11:00-11:30
Lane Swim	11:35-13:05
Family Swim	13:15-14:45
Public Swim	14:45-15:30
Learn to Swim	15:30-19:45
Lane Swim	19:50-20:35
Stroke Technique	20:35-22:05

THURSDAY 19

Lane Swim	06:45-09:00
Widths Only	09:15-10:00
Public Swim	10:00-10:45
Crash Course	11:00-11:30
Lane Swim	11:30-13:00
Swim Fit	13:00-13:45
Family Swim	13:45-14:30
Public Swim	14:30-15:15
Learn to Swim	15:30-18:30
Public Swim	18:30-19:15
Lane Swim	19:15-21:30

TUESDAY 17

Lane Swim	06:45-09:00
Widths Only	09:15-10:00
Aqua Fit	10:00-11:00
Crash Course	11:00-11:30
Lane Swim	11:35-13:05
Inflatable NEW	13:30-14:15
Public Swim	14:30-15:15
Learn to Swim	15:30-18:45
Public Swim	18:45-19:30
Lane Swim	19:30-20:15
Glossop Tri Club	20:15-21:15

FRIDAY 20

Lane Swim	07:00-09:15
Widths Only	09:15-10:00
Swim Fit	10:00-11:00
Crash Course	11:00-11:30
Learn to Swim	12:00-12:30
Lane Swim	12:30-13:15
Public Swim	13:15-14:00
Family Swim	14:00-14:45
Public Swim	14:45-15:30
Learn to Swim	15:30-19:15
Lane Swim	19:15-20:45
SATURDAY	STANDARD
SUNDAY	TIMETABLE

WEDNESDAY 18

Lane Swim	07:00-09:15
Widths Only	09:15-10:00
Family Swim	10:00-10:45
Crash Course	11:00-11:30
Lane Swim Staff	11:35-13:05
Training Learn to	13:15-15:15
Swim Marple	15:30-19:00
Club	19:00-21:30



SCAN QR CODE TO VISIT OUR WEBSITE

ADMISSION POLICY RATIO 1 ADULT:2 UNDER 8'S

ALL SESSIONS ARE BOOKABLE IN ADVANCE. WE ADVISE TO BOOK AHEAD TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT DUE TO ALL SESSIONS HAVING A MAX CAPACITY.
TIMETABLE CAN BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

PLEASE REFER TO OUR WEBSITE/APP FOR UP TO DATE TIMETABLE

*CRASH COURSE MUST BE BOOKED IN ADVANCE AND WILL HAVE EXCLUSIVE USE OF POOL

INTRODUCTION TO SWIMMING LESSONS

AN INTENSIVE BOOSTER COURSE SUITABLE FOR
BEGINNERS
AGES 6-10 YEARS OLD

COURSE DATES: MONDAY 16TH - FRIDAY 20TH FEBRUARY
COURSE TIME: 11:00-11:30



BOOK ONLINE VIA THE QR CODE

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.

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.



Your child has arrived in good time to meet friends and get ready for morning work in class.

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 Aldi
Gift Card

OR £1,000 CASH PRIZE



- Tickets cost just £1 a week
- Chances to win up to £25,000
- Play weekly, or just play the Super Draw!
- Support our fundraising in 2026

BUY TICKETS



**YOUR
SCHOOL
LOTTERY**



Gamble Aware

See website for Terms & conditions. Enter by 31/01/26.