



St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter – Friday 17th March 2023

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*Happy are those who hear the word of God
and keep it' Luke 11:28*

Dear Parent/Carer,

Happy Saint Patrick's Day to all our families and what a special way to celebrate this in the sunshine and all wearing green!!

Please see below a summary of the Lenten activities, Our Lenten planner has been issued and can be found on our website, in the notice board and in the school entrance.

This week we had....	
Thursday 16.3.23	Friday 17.3.23
Lenten Mass at St. Mary's followed by Lenten Breakfast in the school hall	Wear Green for St. Patrick's Day - £1.00 to St. Vincent De Paul Charity
Next week we have	
Thursday 23.3.23	Friday 24.3.23
Lenten Mass 8.15 at St. Mary's followed by Lenten Breakfast in the school hall	BIG LENT WALK A Week of Walks....Every day we will walk a lap of the track.. What can you raise per day? 20 p per day would raise £1.00 for CAFOD...will anyone else sponsor you? All monies raised to CAFOD

Big Lent Walk

Simply collect as much money as you can, it could be an amount per lap or amount for completing the BIG Lent Walk at the end of the week. Send any monies to see how much we can raise for CAFOD!

****COMPETITION TIME...** Each child will be given the opportunity to estimate the total mileage we have walked as a school before the end of the week, with the person who is closest, or is exactly correct, winning a prize!! Parents/Carers can get involved to, simply send your estimates in via Seesaw to your child's teacher, for a chance to win a separate prize; again closest to the actual total or exactly correct will win the prize.

Attendance

We are working hard to monitor Attendance and punctuality in school. Our School day starts at 08.55 am prompt with pupils registering and immediately going into focused learning time.

As a school we want to continue to support pupils to arrive punctually ready for learning and to sustain regular attendance.

As a school we have a high expectation and a target of 95%.

The Department for Education and the Attendance team deem any pupils with attendance **90% or lower as a Persistent Absentee** and this impacts significantly on their achievement and progress.

We fully recognise pupils will be poorly and not always able to attend school. We wish to support families where appropriate and over the next few weeks we will share attendance percentages and reach out to families.

Prior to Easter ALL families will receive a letter detailing attendance and punctuality.

We ask for your continued support.

There are many figures published by the DfE (Department for Education) relating to attendance figures. Here are some of them:

- Arriving late by just 5 minutes late each day totals 3 days per year!! 15 minutes late every day is the equivalent of missing 2 weeks!!!
- If a school can improve their attendance by 1%, they will see a 5-6% improvement in attainment.
- You may think that managing 90% attendance is a good thing!! However, if your child does only attend school 90% of the time, he/she will be classed as Persistently Absent – and 90% attendance actually means missing one half of a school day every week!! ...Or all of February in one school year!!
- If you take 10 days out of school for a family holiday – this automatically lowers your child's attendance to 94.7% for the year.
- If, for whatever reason, your child missed an average of only one day a week for their whole time in school...this would actually add up to missing the equivalent of two years' schooling. That would be like not starting school until you were 7 or leaving school at 14!!

Wearing Green Day- St Patrick's Day – 17.3.23

A huge thank you to everyone for your contributions which enabled us to raise a fantastic total of £85.00 for CAFOD.

Viking Day – Class 4

On Wednesday Class 4 had a visit from a Viking!!! They experience lots of different aspects of Viking life, a Viking raid, battles and even created a fire in our school grounds!



Data Collections forms – Updates

We are updating the permissions forms we hold in school, your child will bring home an important letter today. Please ensure you return this form back to school at your earliest convenience.

Maths Support Lessons – Class 4

We are delighted to be able to offer a special opportunity to ALL parents/ carers of pupils in Class 4 initially. Runshaw College will deliver session for families on how to support your child with Maths. There will be opportunities to see the methods our pupils are taught along with ideas and practical resources you can use to support pupils at home. This is an invaluable opportunity especially as we approach SATs.

Pupils in Class 4 will bring home a letter with all relevant details and information. We really hope you will be able to join us!

We will look to offer these fantastic sessions to other classes in the new future and, as ever, will keep you updated.

FOSM

Easter EGG-Stravaganza - 3.4.23 – Can you hunt and solve the clues to win an Easter Egg.

Your child will bring a letter home today for the Easter Egg-stravaganza – Non uniform and Easter Egg hunt – solve the clues and win a prize!!

Return you slip to the office as soon as you are able to secure a place!

Celebrations Awards

	Achievement Award Winner	'EAT' Award Winner Explore, Active, Think creatively	Welfare Award Winner
Class 1	Matilda Tidmarsh	Ava Capper	Reggie Hennerley
Class 2	Louisa Nelson	Nio Qereqeretabua	Maisie Wilson
Class 3	Meeya Patel	Edie Robinson	Thomas Yates
Class 4	Dante Lewis	Callum Tennant	Jonah Maduka

At St. Mary's School we

“Live our lives as Jesus taught us,
Work hard together to achieve our best,
Respect each other and the world around us,
Have fun and enjoy learning!”

