



St Mary's  
Catholic Primary School and Nursery

# Newsletter

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## Target Setting Meeting 2015



Letters will be circulated shortly inviting parents and carers into school to discuss your child's individual targets on either **Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> October** or **Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October**. Please return your slips as soon as possible so appointments can be made. We look forward to seeing you!

## Non Uniform Days



As you will be aware, we will be hosting a whole school coffee morning on **Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September**. All classes will be inviting you to come in and share a drink of juice and a cake with them or join us in Key Stage 1 Hall for a hot drink of tea or coffee and a cake from 9.00am to 10.30am. Please remember to return your child's bunting design by **Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September** to enable all sections to be joined together to decorate the classrooms. Please feel free to copy and return additional sections! We look forward to seeing your wonderful designs!

In order to run this event in each class, we will have a non-uniform day on **Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> September** in return for a donation of cakes. Please make a note on your calendar! If you are unable to stay in school on Friday morning, you may wish to invite a friend or family member to join us instead or ensure your child has some money to buy a drink and a cake.

We have also planned a family Firework event on **Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November**. To enable us to collect prizes for the bottle tombola, we will have a non-uniform day on **Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October**, where the fine will be a bottle. Further information will be circulated about the Fireworks event itself within the next few weeks. Again, we look forward to seeing you on the **4<sup>th</sup> November**.

On **Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September**, St Mary's is hosting a whole school coffee morning to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Care. Please remember to come and join us for a drink and a cake!



## High School Places for September 2016



**The application process opened this year on 1 September to apply for High School Places for September 2016.** To apply, you need to complete your 'home' local authority's application form (i.e. the authority where you live), even if you plan to apply for a place in a school in another local authority. **It is very important to remember to submit your application by the closing date of 31 October 2015.**

If your child has a **Statement of Special Educational Needs (SEN)** or an **Education Health Care Plan (EHCP)** you will receive a separate letter from the Statutory Assessment Manager at Macclesfield Town Hall explaining the secondary transfer process. Therefore, please disregard this information. If you have any queries regarding your child's transfer, please contact the Statutory Assessment and Monitoring team by email to [senteameast@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:senteameast@cheshireeast.gov.uk), or by phone on 01625 378090.

Most Cheshire East residents choose to **apply online at [www.cheshireeast.gov.uk](http://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk)**. Applying online is quick and easy. Feedback has shown that one of the main advantages is that you are able to view your offer online on the published offer date of 1 March 2016, rather than waiting for a letter to be received in the post. You can also follow the admissions team on Twitter **@CE\_admissions** to receive general information throughout the process.

You are able to apply for up to 3 schools ranked on your application form in order of preference. If you are applying for a place at a faith school, you may also need to complete a supplementary information form (SIF). These forms can be downloaded from the Cheshire East website or by contacting the school. Once completed, they should be returned to the school for the attention of the governing body.

If an application is received after the **closing date of 31 October 2015**, it will be considered late and processed after all on-time applications and can therefore be disadvantaged. Only in exceptional circumstances will admissions consider late applications alongside those received on-time. You must therefore provide reasons for consideration at the time of the application.

Full details about the application process are published online at [www.cheshireeast.gov.uk](http://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk). For information about the Council's school transport policy and eligibility for families on low incomes, please visit: [www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schooltransport](http://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schooltransport)

If you do not have access to the Internet, or have an enquiry about the application process or school transport, please contact the admissions team on 0300 123 5012.

## Parent Information

Curriculum maps, outline topic plans, timetables, useful dates and key routine information for each individual class will be issued shortly. Our website is currently being redeveloped. Please bear with us as information is updated over time.



## Severe Food Allergy

In order to support a number of pupils in school who have recognised and severe food allergies, at St Mary's we have the following strategies to minimise the risk of a severe allergic reaction; • Having a "no food sharing" or "no food trading" rule • Encouraging hand washing after food handling and eating • Washing surfaces after food is eaten or used • Using non-food items for classroom projects, academic rewards, and classroom celebrations • Encouraging packaged food items with ingredient labels, as opposed to home-baked goods • Keeping "safe snacks" in the classroom for unplanned events • Parents of pupils with allergens to provide the classroom teacher with safe snacks for the entire class so that the child can eat what everyone else does • A copy of the child's Food Allergy & Anaphylaxis Emergency Care Plan is available for all staff.



With this in mind, it would be very much appreciated if any food items which are brought in for snacks etc are identified and checked with class teachers prior to being left with your child. Thank you in advance for your co-operation.

## Internet Safety



As a Rights Respecting School, we have an exclusive opportunity to sign up for a free internet safety workshop. The interactive workshop allows parents and children to explore how they connect with others online, how people can misuse the information we share, and how to make the most of the internet and use it in a positive way. Working in partnership with BT, The Right Click: Internet Safety Matters Workshops bring together Unicef UK's child rights expertise with BT's technological know-how around internet safety to give children, parents and teachers the support they need to stay safe online.

Please choose your preferred date from those advertised on the Rights Respecting website and completing a booking form.

## Punctuality

Please ensure that your child is collected promptly at 3:15pm (3.10pm YR). There is no requirement for school staff to supervise pupils beyond 3:15pm (3.10pm YR). If your work or other commitments delay you from collecting your child, please make alternative arrangements. Any child not regularly collected on time will be enrolled into SMART Club at a cost to parents /carers for childcare.



## Attendance



In line with government legislation Fixed Penalty Notices will be issued to parents/carers whose child/ren have a number of unauthorised absences. Please complete a Leave from Learning Request Form which is available from the school office or our website should you need to make any absence requests. As you are aware, Fixed Penalty Notices will now be issued for unauthorised, non exceptional absences in term time. The amount payable to the Local Authority will be: £60 per parent, per child, when paid within 28 days. This amount will increase to £120 per parent, per child thereafter. None payment of a Fixed Penalty Notice within a 42 day period will result in prosecution for the period covered by the Fixed Penalty Notice under Section 444 of the Education Act 1996. There is no right of appeal. **Please visit our website for Procedures and Information for issuing Fixed Penalty Notices.**

## Punctuality

Despite the pupils being welcomed into school from 8:50am, we still had a number of pupils last term who were arriving at or after 9:00am and are therefore registered as late. Our expectation is that all pupils will be settled and ready for **learning to begin at 9:00am**. Please help and support your child by arriving on site at or around 8:45am ready for the doors to open at 8:50am. This allows pupils time to unpack, organise themselves and prepare for the first lesson. Pupils who are late not only disturb the office staff, their class and teacher, they also find it very unsettling themselves. Pupils need your support in establishing a positive start to the day. **Please consider the following impact on your child's learning and progress:**



Minutes late per day during the school year	Equals days' worth of learning lost in a year
5 minutes	3.4 days
10 minutes	6.9 days
15 minutes	10.3 days
20 minutes	13.8 days
30 minutes	20.7 days

Thank you for your co-operation.

## Charity Fundraising



Earlier in the year, Joel Higgins in Y6 raised £287 for Cardiomyopathy UK, when he swam 80 lengths of Nantwich pool non-stop, in an hour. As Joel had raised more money than any other swimmer, he was chosen to present the cheque for the overall amount raised by Nantwich Seals, to the Medical Director of the charity. On 27th September, Joel, together with his parents, will be completing the Chester Twilight walk; a 10km course, in aid of The Brain Tumour Charity. This is a charity close to Joel, as the Higgins family lost their grandad to a grade 4 Glioblastoma in 2010.

Good Luck Joel! We hope you raise a significant amount of money on 27<sup>th</sup> September!

## Uniform



Our school uniform is available on line to make buying uniform for our parents and carers more straightforward. Simply type [www.myschoolstyle.com](http://www.myschoolstyle.com) in the address bar of the browser or search for myschoolstyle. Use the 'find my school' button on the home page. Choose the garments and accessories you require. Select the size, colour or quantity and 'add to basket' button. Click 'continue shopping' to add any further items. When you have finished shopping, click onto the 'checkout' button. Your order will be delivered to your home (or work) within a few days.

## Dogs on Site

May I remind all parents and carers that apart from guide dogs, under Health & Safety law, no domestic dogs are permitted on the school site, even if carried. Please ensure they are secured safely beyond the perimeter fence and on a short lead so pedestrians on the narrow footpath are able to pass safely. Thank you in advance for your co-operation.



## School Photographer



Please make a note in your diaries. Our school photographers, Academy, will be in school on **Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October** to take your child's school photograph.

## School Lunches

**Please remember that all KS1 (Classes 1-9) are now entitled to a free school meal every day!**



For KS2 pupils in Classes 10 -21 who are having either a school sandwich or a hot school meal the money should be paid each Monday morning to your child's teacher in a clearly marked envelope which includes your child's name, class or Year Group and the amount enclosed. The cost is £2.10 per day (i.e. £10.50 per week) You can also pay on line. Cheques are to be made payable to **Cheshire East Council**. Pupils must have either hot meals or sandwiches for the whole week and not choose to swap mid-week as food orders have already been placed.

If you think your child may be eligible for **free school meals** please telephone **0300 123 5012**. A decision may be given over the phone. Free school meals are not back dated, and so any meals taken before children are officially added to the register will have to be paid for. An application must be made for each individual child even if you already have an older child in receipt of Free School Meals. Only a handful of staff are aware of which pupils are in receipt of free school meals and there is no reference made either in class or when pupils arrive in the hall for their lunch. **You can register even if you don't wish your child to take the meal as being registered means they are entitled to some additional benefits in school.** If you have any queries regarding school meals please contact the kitchen directly where a member of the catering team will be happy to help you.



## SMART Club

SMART club is available to all St Mary's children, before and after school and during the school holidays. We now have some new places available so please call Mrs Keenan for further information on prices and availability .



We are all looking forward to October half term holiday club which will soon be here! We are planning a spooky half term with apple bobbing, making spooky cakes and a fun half term fancy dress party . Please see the booking form for the full programme of activities and how to book your child's place.

SMART club will also be supporting the Macmillan Coffee morning on 25th September by having our own tea/ coffee and cake sale during SMART club after school from 3.15pm-5.30pm please come along and enjoy a coffee and cake whilst collecting your child.

For all SMART club bookings, enquiries and information please contact a member of the team on **07983304425**

## Medicine Disclaimer



Please remember that if your child needs a prescription medicine administering **four** times a day, a medicine form must be completed and handed into the school office along with the medicine prior to 8:50am. Without the form, the medicines and full instructions, the medicine cannot be dispensed. For prescription medicines requiring three doses per day, this can be dispensed without a dose in school. Thank you.

## Water Bottles

Please ensure your child has a **clear plastic** water bottle with them every day containing clean, fresh water. Please ensure bottles are thoroughly washed each day as bacteria can quickly build in the caps. School water bottles are available on our school uniform order website [www.myschoolstyle.com](http://www.myschoolstyle.com) Thank you.



## Non Smoking Site



Please may I remind parents and carers that St Mary's is a **non-smoking site**. This includes the e-cigarettes also. It would be very much appreciated if smoking took place **well away from the boundary** as not only are used butts being discarded on the floor by our entrance area, it is unpleasant for other pupils and parents walking through the smoke. Thank you.

## Extra-Curricular Activities



Please look out for letters and information from staff and organisations offering a wide variety of clubs available to pupils, either before, after or during the school day. Please find below the programme so far:

	KEYSTAGE 1 HALL	KEYSTAGE 2 HALL	KEYSTAGE 1 PLAYGROUND	MUGA
M O N	<b>CHEERLEADING</b> <b>MISS MAYERS/MISS NOYCE</b> <b>Y3-6</b>	LUNCHTIME- PREMIER SPORT STREET DANCE 3/4 CLUB  PREMIER SPORTS ARCHERY (Y3-6)		
T U E S	<b>BOXING KS1</b> <b>CLUB</b>	LUNCHTIME- CREWE ALEX CLUB 12:30-1.30pm  CHOIR KS2 HALL MR PLANT	LUNCHTIME- CREWE ALEX CLUB 1pm-1.30pm	<b>TENNIS MR CROOK</b> <b>YEAR 5/6</b> <b>WEEKS 3, 4, 5</b>
W E D		<b>CHONGI THAI BOXING</b> <b>MARK RUSSELL</b> <b>KS2 HALL</b>		
T H U R	<b>GYM CLUB</b> <b>MISS NOYCE</b> <b>ALL CHILDREN</b>	<b>INDOOR ATHLETICS</b> <b>MR ROGERS</b> <b>YR 5/6</b>		
F R I	<b>FOOTBALL</b> <b>CREWE ALEX FC</b> <b>KS1 CHILDREN</b>	<b>GYMNASTICS</b> <b>RECEPTION GYM</b> <b>PREMIER SPORTS</b>		

## Risk Assessment

If your child is attending school with a broken limb, please contact the school office prior to the child being on site to arrange a risk assessment with a member of staff. Together you will be able to complete a risk assessment form to ensure your child is safe on site and all aspects of their day can be considered. Thank you in advance for your co-operation.



## Behaviour & Safety



Your child's safety is of paramount importance to us and during the school day we endeavour to ensure all the pupils in our care are safe, well behaved and supervised at all times. We also consider the safety and well being of everyone on site, including before and after the school day. It is vital that we insist upon a **calm, safe, walking site** and that parents and carers supervise and take responsibility for the behaviour and the safety of their children at all times. It is vital that we work together in keeping everyone safe and well behaved on site. Pupils using the trim trail equipment without an adult directly supervising them is not permitted. The trim trail equipment is not for use by St Thomas More pupils at any time. Please ensure this message is shared with your children. Thank you for your co-operation.

## On Line Payments



Please remember, payments can be made on line for school lunches, Early Years Snack, building fund, trips etc. Visit our website [www.stmaryscrewe.co.uk](http://www.stmaryscrewe.co.uk) and look for the e-payments to schools under the parent and carer zone.

## Bicycles on Site

May I remind parents / carers and pupils who bring a bicycle on site **to dismount at the gate and walk the bike to the rack**. In order to keep everyone safe on site, bicycles need only be **pushed from the gate to the rack and not ridden around the paths and walkways at any time**. Thank you in anticipation of your full co-operation.



## Sacramental Programme 2015 2016



Please remember that if your child will be involved in the Sacramental Programme this year, the first meeting will be held tonight in KS1 Hall **from 7.00pm-8.00pm**. This meeting is for parents of Y3 pupils and any other pupils from Y4, Y5 or Y6 who wish to make their First Holy Communion. We look forward to seeing you.

### Parish Catechist Team

## Nursery News

Nursery staff would like to say a heartfelt thank you for all the gifts, cards and good wishes we received at the end of term as 36 of our children moved on to Reception and we hope that they have settled in well and are enjoying their new classes.

We were delighted to find that a super new “Mud Kitchen” has been made for us during the summer holidays! A big thank you to Steve Coleman for designing and making it for us. Our 14 children returning to us for the next academic year have loved making mud pies and cakes etc!

All of our 30 new children have had a home visit and 2 visits to nursery, so we are now ready and looking forward to our first full week beginning on Monday. So far, so good! Book bags are also available at nursery, at a cost of £4, please see nursery staff if you would like to buy one. **Mrs Kerry and the nursery team**



## Term Dates 2015 2016 – Reminder of changes

	School Closes	School re-opens
Summer 2015		Thursday 3rd September
Autumn Half Term	Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October	Tuesday 3rd November
Christmas	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2016
Spring Half Term	Friday 12th February	Monday 22nd February
Easter 2016	Thursday 24th March	<b>Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> April</b>
May Day	Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> April	Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May
Summer Half Term	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> May	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> June
Summer 2016	<b>Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> July</b>	

Good Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2016 Easter Monday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2016 May Day 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2016  
**3 remaining INSET DAYS: 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2015, 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> July 2016**

# Looking Ahead 2015 2016

<b>September</b>	21st	First Holy Communion meeting 7-8pm KS1 Hall
	24th	Non Uniform Day: Cakes for Macmillan Event
	25th	Macmillan Coffee Morning - whole school
	30th	Y6 Residential
<b>October</b>	2nd	Y6 Return from Residential
	6th	NSPCC Childline Workshops Y5 Y6 begin
	12th	First Forgiveness meeting for parents 7-8pm KS1 Hall (parents only)
	19th	School Photographs
	21st	Parent Consultation Meeting
	22nd	Parent Consultation Meeting
	23rd	Non- Uniform Day : Bottle for Firework Event School Closes for Half term break
<b>November</b>	2nd	Staff Training day (INSET) school closed for pupils
	3rd	Pupils back in school
	4th	Whole School Firework event
	9th	First Holy Communion meeting 7-8pm KS1 Hall (parents only)
	10th	Open Day for new parents (September 2016)
<b>December</b>	10th	9.30 and 1.30 Y1 Advent celebration KS2 Hall
	11th	9.30 and 1.30 Advent celebration KS2 Hall
	14th	KS1 Christmas Lunch
	15th	KS2 Christmas Lunch
	16th	YR to Pantomime KS1 Party Day
	17th	Y1 Y2 to Pantomime KS2 Party Day
	18th	School closes for Christmas break
	<b>January</b>	4th
15th		Closing date for Primary School places for September 2016
27th		Y4 Residential
29th		Y4 return from Residential
<b>February</b>	10th	Parent Consultation Meeting
	11th	Parent Consultation Meeting
	12th	School closes for Half Term
	22nd	School re-opens
<b>March</b>	3rd	World Book Day
	24th	School closes for Easter break
<b>April</b>	12th	School re-opens
<b>May</b>	2nd	Bank Holiday
	9th	SATs Week
<b>June</b>	6th	One World Week
	8th	New Reception Parents Meeting KS1 Hall 6pm
	20th	Town Sports Cumberland Track (provisional)
	22nd	Town Sports Barony Park (provisional)
	27th	YR Sports (am)
	28th	Y1 Sports (am) Y2 Sports (pm)
	29th	Y3 Sports (am) Y4 Sports (pm)
30th	Y5 Sports (am) Y6 Sports (pm)	
<b>July</b>	4th	New Reception Pupils Visits
	5th	New Reception Pupils Visits
	6th	Y6 Ties & Tiaras Event
	8th	Reports to Parents
	12th	Open Afternoon
	13th	Meet New Teacher
	14th	Y6 Leavers Mass KS2 Hall 9.30am
19th	School closes for Summer break	