

St Mary's C.E. (A) Primary School

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Welcome back!

Welcome to a fabulous new school year. What a wonderful sunny summer it turned out to be which I hope has left everyone feeling refreshed and ready to learn. We offer a particularly warm welcome to the families of Reception children and those who have joined other classes. We hope that you will be very happy at St Mary's.

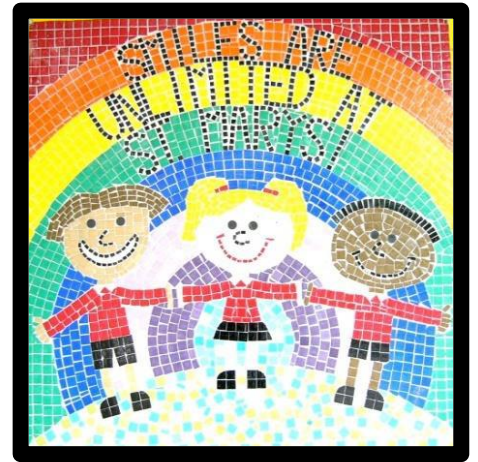
We are extremely proud once again of the positive attitude towards learning and the children's friendly caring nature towards each other. It is wonderful to see the children mixing so well and treating each other with kindness and respect. I have seen many children 'wearing' their St Mary's SCARF and following our principles to the letter.

If you have any questions of any kind, please do not hesitate to ask a member of staff or contact the School Office, Mrs Taylor or Mrs Ali will be more than happy to assist you.

Staffing News

We welcome Miss Morgan Evans and Mrs Emma O'Brien to St Mary's. Miss Evans has been appointed as our new Year 2 teacher and Mrs O'Brien has been appointed to job share with Mrs Wray in Year 4. We hope you will be very happy here.

Miss Cuerden takes over her new role of SENCO and Inclusion Manager with Mrs Hall supporting. Please don't hesitate to get in touch via the school office should you have any questions or concerns. We are currently rewriting out SEND support plans into a new format and will be reviewing these half termly. Watch this space for changes to come in the provision of SEND.



Upcoming Events

Sunday 11th September

Reception and Year 6 Teddy Bear's Picnic at school – 1pm

Wednesday 14th September

Reception Parents Phonics Meeting 4.30pm

Friday 23rd September

Reception and Year 6 Buddies' Presentation 9.15 am

Year Group Transition meetings – come and find out about your child's new year group expectations and meet their teacher

Wednesday 7th September

Year 1 and 2
4.30-5.30pm

Thursday 8th September

Year 3,4,5 and 6
4.30-5.30pm

Please let the office know if you are attending.

Teddy Bear's Picnic

On Sunday 11th September, we welcome our new Reception children and Year 6 and their buddies to a PTFA picnic. This event will take place in the school grounds and start at 1pm. Please bring along your own picnic and spend time getting to know our wonderful PTFA and the work that they do. It is a wonderful event to get to feel familiar with everyone at school. We do hope you can join us.

JIGSAW

As we begin the new academic year, we continue our focus on mental and physical wellbeing. The PTFA have kindly donated the funds to invest in our PSHE (Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education) programme JGSAW. Jigsaw is a whole-school approach and embodies a positive philosophy and creative teaching and learning activities to nurture children's development as compassionate and well-rounded human beings as well as building their capacity to learn.

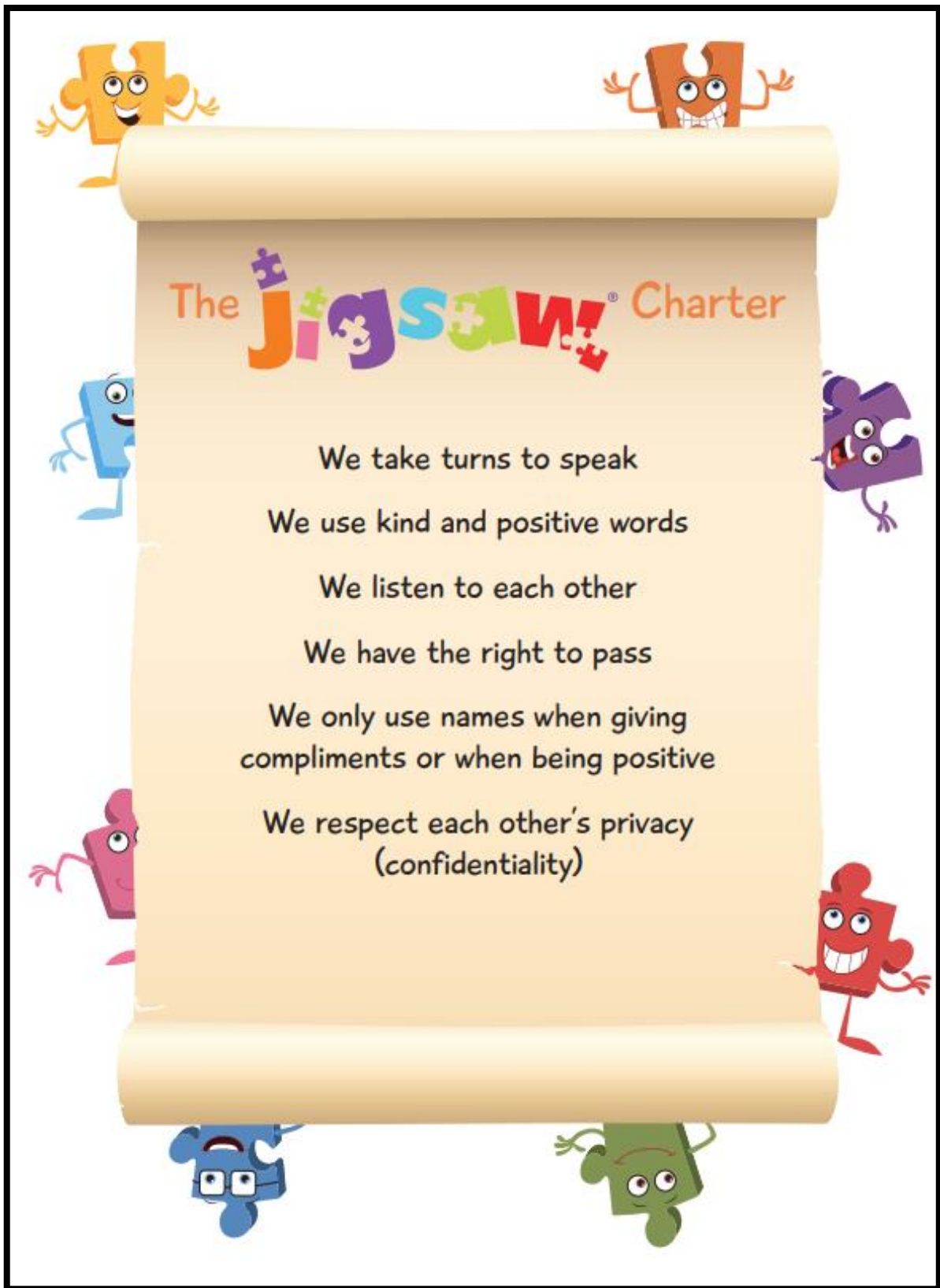
Jigsaw brings together PSHE Education, compulsory Relationships and Health Education, emotional literacy, mindfulness, social skills and spiritual development. It is designed as a whole school approach, with all year groups working on the same theme (Puzzle) at the same time at their own level. There are six Puzzles (half-term units of work) and each year group is taught one lesson per week. All lessons are delivered in an age- and stage-appropriate way so that they meet children's needs.

The current theme the children are focusing on this half term is Being Me in My World. This theme covers a wider range of topics, including a sense of belonging and being part of a school community, a wider community and a global community; it also looks at children's rights and responsibilities, working and socializing with other, and pupil voice.

There are numerous additional aspects of the Jigsaw Programme to enhance the learning experience, including the Jigsaw Friends (jigsaw-shaped soft toys used as teaching aids), Jigsaw Chimes and Jigsaw Jerrie Cats (used to help and encourage calming and mindfulness practice).

Every Jigsaw lesson includes mindfulness practice. Mindfulness is being able to observe your own thoughts and feelings as they happen, in the present moment, applying no judgement. Jigsaw teaches children to understand their thoughts and feelings through the Calm Me time exercises (using the Jigsaw Chime) and Pause Points (using Jigsaw Jerrie Cat). This helps to develop their awareness, and their capacity to be mindful human beings. Learning is thus enhanced as emotions and behavior are self-regulated.

Each class will be developing their own Jigsaw Charter which will enable them to respect and care for each other. An example of such is included below



The Jigsaw! Charter

We take turns to speak

We use kind and positive words

We listen to each other

We have the right to pass

We only use names when giving compliments or when being positive

We respect each other's privacy
(confidentiality)

Communication – Look out for the email for your invite to our new PARENT COMMUNICATION APP.

Our new communication app can be downloaded on any smartphone and tablet and gives you access to important information in just a few seconds. Several people can have access to the app which will enable all registered users to receive updated information about the child's school and the events that are taking place, keeping you up-to-date at all times.

Please see the separate guidance regarding this.

As an Eco-School, we urge all of you to notify school of any changes of email address or telephone number so school can keep in touch. Class Newsletters are typically sent out on a half-termly basis and contain details about the staffing, routines and learning within year groups. These will be posted in the parent app.

The School Newsletter is published each half term. This will be sent via our new Parent Communication App. Please don't hesitate to ask for help if you need assistance in logging on to your account.

Celebration Worship

Each Friday, we celebrate the learning and achievements of children in School by holding a Celebration Worship at 9.15 am. Parents, families and friends are most welcome but please ensure that you do sign in so that we are aware of who has attended.

Each week, a child from each class is chosen to receive the Head Teacher's Special Award, the Teacher's Learning Award and the SCARF Behaviour Award. Birthday Certificates are also presented. The first Celebration Worship will take place on Friday 9th September at 9.15 am.

Safeguarding

Before and After School

For the safety of children and adults, we kindly ask your children to refrain from playing football and other ball games before school begins. The Trim Trail is also out of bounds before and after school. In order to keep everyone safe whilst the playground is busy,



Attendance and Punctuality

Holidays

School will not authorise holidays during term time unless there are extreme exceptional circumstances. This is a result of the Department of Education amending the Education Regulations 2006 governing requests for holidays in term time. A list of term dates for next year and holidays is attached. Please refer to this when booking holidays and avoid taking children out of School during term time.

First Aid

If you receive a form stating that your child has been given First Aid during the day, please sign and return it to School for our records.

If your child has a bumped head, you will receive a telephone call to notify you of this.

children should not ride bicycles or scooters on the school playground.

Dogs

Dogs are not allowed on the grounds of St Mary's C.E. (A) Primary School (unless used as an aid to visual impairment or disability).

Parking

We are enormously grateful to our families for using the Visitors' Car Park. Please do not park on the Staff Car Park either before or after school as access is required for staff cars and also for deliveries. It is also putting your children at risk if you park or stop on the zigzag lines outside School. Please refrain from doing so. Be mindful when walking your children across the staff car park as cars are coming and going all the time.

Appointments

If your child has to leave the school during the day to attend an appointment, please confirm this beforehand. Our new Parent Communication App allows parents to easily notify the school of any medical appointments. This can be found in the content section of the app under medical appointment notification. On the day of the appointment please come to the Office entrance to collect your child and ensure they are signed out by a member of the office staff. You can upload a photograph of the appointment card onto the app.

Arrival at School and Registration

Please note that school starts at 8.55am. A staff member unlocks the gate at 8.45am and will be on duty outside until 9.00am. All children will line up in their lines on the small playground when the bell is rang at 8.50am. The class teachers will collect the children from the playground and lead them inside.

Please enable the children to line up in their lines independently and leave the playground when the bell rings.

The teachers are very busy first thing in the morning meeting and greeting the children and have full responsibility for the whole of their class so therefore if you have any messages for the staff, please do this via the school office.

Lunchtimes

Dinner Money

Dinner money is £2.55. Please ensure your payments via ParentPay are up to date. If you have any queries or need support accessing ParentPay, please do not hesitate to contact the School Office staff who will gladly guide you through the process. Please remember that a three day per week school dinner option is also available at a cost of £7.65 per week.

If your child would like to try school dinners at any point, please don't hesitate to contact the office for details. We have attached the menu at the end of this newsletter for your information. We do also cater for any children with particular allergies or dietary needs. Please contact the office to discuss this with Mrs Taylor in the first instance who will then liaise with the Kitchen Supervisor, Mrs. Alison Hopkinson.

Christmas Lunch

Christmas Lunch will be on Wednesday 7th December 2022. If your child has packed lunch but would like a Christmas meal on the day in question, please look out for the consent form on our new Parent Communication App. The closing date for consenting to this is Friday 21st October 2022 and requests will not be accepted after this date.

Healthy School

We pride ourselves on being a healthy school, encouraging children to make a range of positive choices to support a healthy lifestyle. Infant children have fruit provided at snack time and Key Stage 2 children can bring in one piece of fruit or a selection of raw vegetables for break. Please do not send in crisps or other snacks. If your child has a packed lunch, please try to limit sugary foods to one item. Kindly note nuts are not allowed in school; this includes any nut based chocolate spreads. We have children with severe allergies and it is essential that all parents please note this.

School water bottles should be used each day in school. These can be washed in school or at home and should be refilled on a daily basis. Please do not fill bottles with juice. Children are encouraged to drink water at regular intervals, this being a proven way of improving concentration and raising energy levels. We have currently had an issue with our water bottle supplier over the summer. Reception and Year 1 will receive new water bottles, however, there will be a delay for all other year groups.

Thank you all, for supporting us in safeguarding our children.

Contacting Teaching Staff

Contact is made through the office

info@greenfieldstmary.oldham.sch.uk

If you have a concern you wish to discuss with your child's teacher or the Headteacher, please make an appointment via the school office. When the bell rings at 8.50am, it is the teacher's responsibility to supervise their class, however this cannot be done effectively if a teacher is engaged in conversation.

Should you wish to communicate by email, please send your email to the following address:-

info@greenfieldstmary.oldham.sch.uk

with FAO of the member of staff in the Subject Line.

Mrs Taylor will then notify the relevant staff member.

Please do not use their personal email. Many thanks.

Questions, queries, concerns....

In the first instance, please speak to your child's class teacher, by making an appointment through the office.

If you have a concern that has not been solved after talking to your child's class teacher, please make an appointment to see your child's Key Stage Leader in the first instance.

- Mr. R. Selby is Deputy Head Teacher and Key Stage 2 Leader – Year 3,4,5,6.
- Mrs. K Blackburn is Key Stage 1 Leader. – Year R,1,2.

Any concerns raised with these members of staff are brought to my attention.



Medicines

Medicine may be administered by school staff only in the event of an allergic reaction and/or life threatening situation or within the guidance of a full medical care plan.

A child may keep a labelled inhaler in School, to self-administer. Please check regularly that your child has a full inhaler that is well within its expiry date.

We are unable to administer antibiotics, Calpol or other temporary medication.

If your child needs medicine during the school day, you are welcome to come into school to administer this. You may also nominate another adult to do this in your place.

Please do not send throat lozenges with your child.

If your child has a sickness bug, the school policy is that they remain off school for 48 hours following the last bout of sickness. Please enquire at the office for any other advice related to illnesses or infections.

Uniform Regulations



Clothing and Footwear

All items should be labelled clearly with your child's name.

- waterproof coat with a hood (every day)
- red embroidered school sweatshirt or red embroidered/plain cardigan, plain red cardigans and jumpers can also be worn – they do not have to have the school logo on
- red embroidered school fleece
- plain white/red or embroidered school polo shirt or plain white shirt/blouse (long/short sleeved), plain polo shirts can also be worn – they do not have to have the school logo on
- dark grey/black trousers (dark grey/black jogging pants may be worn in Reception) or dark grey/black shorts
- plain dark grey/black skirt or plain dark grey/black pinafore dress
- red gingham dress
- plain black shoes, red/black sandals - no trainers, football boots, ankle boots, mid-calf length boots or knee-high boots
- plain socks or tights in accordance with the uniform colour scheme (black, grey, red, white)
- hair accessories e.g. bands, bobbles, clips should be in accordance with the uniform colour scheme (black, grey, red and white). Large Jojo bows are **not** permitted

Jewellery

For safety reasons, only the following items of jewellery are permitted:

- a watch
- plain, stud earrings - no hoops or earrings that dangle

Please be aware that children will be asked to remove any other items of jewellery. These will be returned to them at the end of the day to be taken home.

Nail varnish or tattoos are not to be worn.

Hair

Long hair should be tied back at all times during the school day. Hair accessories, as specified above, should be in accordance with the uniform colour scheme. Large jojo bows are not permitted.

Lines, patterns shaved into the hair or hairstyles which are extreme are not permitted.

PE Kit

All items should be labelled clearly with your child's name and kept in a draw-string bag.

- black pumps for indoor PE – these should be brought in a bag and left in school
- plain dark shorts
- plain white round necked T-shirt
- trainers for outdoor PE – no specific colour
- plain dark jogging bottoms and tracksuit top for outdoor sport in cold weather

Please note that no jewellery of any kind may be worn in PE. If your child wears earrings, they should be able to remove them independently. Only newly pierced ears may be covered with plasters.

Community News and Links

Applications for Primary and Secondary School places for September 2023 can be made online now. For children living in Oldham, applications should be made via Oldham Admission. For children living outside the Borough, applications should be made via your Local Authority. The deadline for making a Secondary School application is 31st October 5pm. The deadline for a Primary School application is 15th January 5pm

Saddleworth Olympics

The opening ceremony will take place on Saturday 10th September at 9.00am at Saddleworth School. Good luck everyone, in particular to the Greenfield team! Further information regarding Saddleworth Olympics can be found on their website: www.saddleworthvillageolympics.co.uk

St Mary's PTFA

Following the exceptional success of the efforts of our PTFA last year, this promises to be another incredible year. Please note the following dates:

Sunday 11th September 1pm

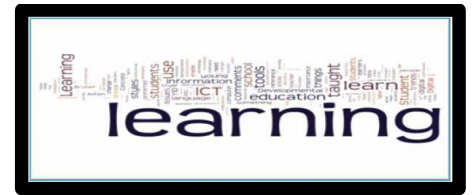
PTFA Reception and Year 6 Buddies Family Picnic

Outdoor Coats

Please ensure that your child comes appropriately dressed to school with a waterproof coat in case of rain. Thank you for supporting us in this matter.

Reception Phonics Meeting

Read Write Inc is our main scheme that we use in school to teach phonics and reading. There will be a meeting for all Reception parents on Wednesday 14th September at 4.30pm in the Reception classroom to find out about this very distinctive approach and how you can support your child's development at home.



Learning Challenge Curriculum

Our skills-based Learning Challenge Curriculum is made up of a range of topics that reflect the content of the National Curriculum. Continuity and progression is borne out of careful planning based on the children's interests. Individual class teachers will provide more details of forthcoming topics in their Newsletters and transition meeting

Come to the transition meeting to find out what your child will be learning about this year.

Year Group Transition meetings – come and find out about your child's new year group expectations and meet their teacher

Wednesday 7th September

Year 1 and 2
4.30-5.30pm

Thursday 8th September

Year 3,4,5 and 6
4.30-5.30pm

Please let the office know if you are attending. These will take place in the children's classroom

Closing thoughts.....

After a lovely summer break, it is fantastic to welcome the children back to school. They all look extremely smart in their school uniform and it has been an absolute pleasure to observe the positive, enthusiastic manner with which they have started this new school year. Learning behaviour throughout the classrooms has been superb whilst the atmosphere on the playground at break and at lunchtime has been tremendous.

It proposes to be another busy term in the life of St Mary's and I would like to encourage as many of you as possible to become involved in school life, either in class, around school or with the PTFA.

God's Richest Blessings for the coming term. I look forward to another happy and successful year working in partnership with you, and if I haven't seen you already, I look forward to doing so soon!

With very best wishes,

Mrs S. M. Hall

Head Teacher

St Mary's C.E. (A) Primary School

ACADEMIC YEAR 2022-23 – SCHOOL HOLIDAY PATTERN

OPENING DATES	CLOSING DATES	NUMBER OF SCHOOL DAYS
AUTUMN TERM		
Monday 5 th September	Thursday 20 th October	34
OCTOBER HALF TERM Friday 21st October – Friday 28th October		
Monday 31 st October	Friday 16 th December	35
Wednesday 19th December – Monday 2nd January		

SPRING TERM		
Tuesday 3 rd January	Friday 10 th February	29
FEBRUARY HALF TERM Monday 13th February – Friday 17th February		
Monday 20 th February	Friday 31 st March	30
EASTER HOLIDAYS Monday 3rd April – Friday 14th April		

SUMMER TERM		
Monday 17 th April	Friday 26 th May	29
MAY HALF TERM Monday 29th May – Friday 9th June		
Monday 12 th June	Wednesday 26 th July	33
SUMMER HOLIDAY Thursday 27th July - tbc		
	Total School Days	190

Please note that the school is also closed on the following dates:

Friday 21st October 2022 – INSET Day

Monday 1st May 2023 - Bank Holiday Monday

St Mary's C.E. (A) Primary School - Autumn Term 1 - Diary Dates

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
5 th September Return to school for all Pupils – 8.50am	6 th	7 th Year 1 and 2 transition information meetings 4.30pm in the classroom	8 th Year 3,4,5 and 6 transition information meetings 4.30pm in the classroom	9 th	10 th	11 th Reception and Year 6 buddies – Picnic – 2pm
12 th Reception Phonics session 4.30pm in Reception	13 th	14 th Reception Phonics session 4.30pm in Reception	15 th	16 th	18 th	18 th
19 th	20 th	21 st	22 nd	23 rd Year 6 and Reception Buddies Reception 9.15am RE and Worship Com 3.30pm	24 th	25 th Harvest Service in St Mary's Church – tbc
26 th	27 th	28 th	29 th	30 th CPS Committee 10.00am	1 st	2 nd
3 rd	4 th Open Day Tour 9.30	5 th	6 th Open Day Tour 9.30	7 th Resources Committee 10.00am Diamonds Committee 3.30	8 th	9 th
10 th DLP Trust Board Meetings	11 th Open Day Tour 9.30	12 th	13 th Parent Teacher Meetings – virtual	14 th Year 1 Class Assembly	15 th	18 th
17 th	18 th Open Day Tour 9.30	19 th Full Governors 7pm	20 th Break up for October half term	21 st NO SCHOOL	22 nd	23 rd