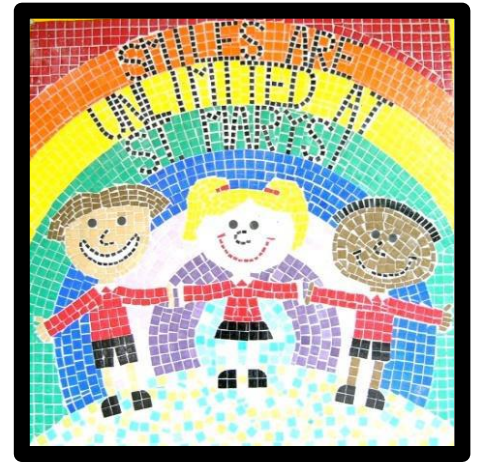


Summer Term Newsletter

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

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Welcome to the Summer Term newsletter. We hope it finds you all well having had a wonderful bank holiday.

The return to school after Easter has been extremely positive. It is wonderful to see the exceptional behavior of the children on the playground at playtime and lunchtime and the kind and caring nature that has been evident across all age groups.

Staffing News

It is with great sadness that I write to inform you that Miss Cuerden, our Year 3 Teacher and SENCO, will be leaving us at the end of this academic year. She has secured a teaching position nearer to her family in Preston. We wish Miss Cuerden lots of luck in her new job, she will be missed at St Mary's. We will now start the recruitment process for a new SENCO teacher.

We are delighted to welcome back Mrs Kent, our Year 1 Teacher. Mrs Kent has returned to school following maternity leave. Mrs Simone Nixon also joins our staff team until the end of July working with Mrs Kent in Year 1.

We are also pleased to announce that we have appointed a new classroom teacher for September 2023. Mrs Jasmine Crone will join our staff team. Jasmine has recently been working in London and is relocating to the area in the summer. She is highly qualified and

Dates for the Diary

Tuesday 9th – Friday 12th May
Year 6 SATS

Monday 15th – Friday 26th May
Year 2 SATS

Monday 15th – Wednesday 17th May
Year 6 Residential

Thursday 25th May
Class photos

Monday 12th – Friday 16th June
Year 1 Phonics

Tuesday 20th June
Year 6 Crucial Crew visit
Year 4 performing with the Halle Orchestra at the Bridgewater Hall

Friday 23rd June
Year 6 Leavers' Service at Manchester Cathedral

1st July
Summer Fair

comes with a wealth of experience. We are looking forward to welcoming Mrs Crone to our team and her visiting school to get to know our children and families before the end of the term. Year groups will be finalized once we have recruited our new SENCO.

Coronation of King Charles III

School will be celebrating this historic event on Friday 5th May. Children can come to school wearing red, white and/or blue clothes. This is a PTFA fundraiser so please donate £1 for the non-uniform. A coronation lunch will be served, this must be booked in advance and lots of activities will take place for the children throughout the day. We are looking forward to celebrating such a significant historical event throughout school.

Safeguarding



Appointments

If your child has to leave the school during the day to attend an appointment, please confirm this in writing beforehand. Come to the Office entrance to collect your child and ensure they are signed out. Please also bring a copy of the appointment card.

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



Arrival at School and Registration

The gates open at 8.45am to enable children to come in to class ready for when school starts at 8.50am. It is important that children are in class ready to learn at 8.50am.



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. We have recently had a review of our first aid form to ensure that you have full detail of your child's injury as well as



Holidays

Our attendance policy is in line with all schools that are involved in the Dovestone Learning Partnership.

The school will not authorise holidays during term time unless there are extremely exceptional circumstances. This is a result of the Department of Education amending the Education Regulations 2006 governing requests for holidays in term time. Any unauthorised leave may incur a Penalty Notice. Attendance panel meetings with the Local Authority Attendance Officer are also arranged for children reaching stage 3 of our policy to ensure that school and home are working in full partnership to give each child the best chance of attendance at school.

A list of term dates for this year and next years' holidays is attached. Please refer to this when booking holidays and avoid taking children out of school during term time.

It is also worthy to note that punctuality does impact on your child's learning.

Classes often have a short learning task that addresses a misconception or reinforces previous learning first thing so it is important that all children arrive at school on time.

Please see below for the punctuality data and the impact it may have.

Minutes Late	Days of Learning Lost
5 minutes	3.4 days (98.4% attendance)
10 minutes	6.9 days (97.6% attendance)
15 minutes	10.3 days/2 weeks (94.7% attendance)
20 minutes	13.8 days (92.9% attendance)
30 minutes	20.7 days/ 4 weeks (89.2% attendance)



Weather

We are hoping the weather will continue to remain dry, however please ensure your child comes to School wearing a waterproof coat with a hood, in case of rain. If the weather does turn hot, please ensure your child has applied suncream and wears a sunhat or cap. Thank you!



Walking to School

As the Spring gets into full swing and Summer approaches it would be mindful for families to start to consider walking to school in the finer weather. There are many health benefits that can be associated with this not just related to encouraging the children to use their legs and get walking. It helps keep you and your family stay healthy in mind as well as body, helping to boost your mood and self-esteem and is often reported that those children who walk or cycle to school are more alert and ready to learn than those who arrive by car. It is also a way to make pupils and parents more aware of the environmental benefits of walking to school. The advantages of such action could be seen in the congestion around school, the improvement of the social aspect of coming to school as families get to chat on the way and as a way of promoting greater awareness of how small steps taken locally could have an impact on the global environment.

I understand for some parents it is practically impossible to leave the car at home but setting off 5 or 10 minutes earlier and parking further away from school in order to engineer some walking time could be practically possible. Please consider the issues and even if it's just once a week or once a fortnight, attempt to increase the time that you walk to school. Many thanks for your continued support.



Health and Safety Before and After School

For the safety of children and adults, football and other ball games are not permitted before school begins. The Trim Trail is also out of bounds before and after school. Children should not ride bicycles or scooters on the school playground.

Although this is a restriction during the 10 minutes of the gate opening to the children entering school for registration and during the time as the school community leaves in the afternoon, please be reassured that your child has plenty of opportunity for physical activity and play throughout the school

day at playtimes and lunchtime and specific directed curriculum time. This restriction is simply put in force to safeguard your children before and after school when there are many people present on the playground.



Maintaining a Responsible Online Presence

E-Safety is a crucial part of safeguarding children at St Mary's. However, we can only be successful in guaranteeing the safety of our children if we work with you to ensure the safety message is consistent and that children and adults understand how to behave safely and appropriately online.

The positive reputation of the School is important to everyone associated with St Mary's. Whilst we are all entitled to our own views and opinions, it is important to consider how these may be interpreted when shared online and the possible impact and consequences of these actions.

Potentially there are real dangers in sharing information, and describing incidents, people, or situations on social networking sites. The element of control is taken away from the individual once comments are published. As part of the open door policy of St Mary's, we urge parent/carers to contact the school in the first instance should you have any concerns of any kind.

We thank you for your support in these matters.



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.

School News/Events



External Assessments

Year 6 SATS will take place Tuesday 9th May – Friday 12th May. Year 2 SATS will take place the two weeks commencing 15th May and Year 1 will have their phonics test week commencing 12th June. The Year 4 multiplication tables test will take place in the two weeks commencing the 12th June.

We are very proud of all our children and ask nothing other than that they give their very best. Please ensure that your child attends school every day during the week of the tests. Relaxation, fresh air, sleep, regular meals and plenty of water to drink are our recommendations.

NATIONAL OFFER DAY
Primary school places

Reception Intake September 2023



Following the National Offer Day for Reception 2023 places, we will contact all parents to confirm details of the intake procedure this year.

Dance Club



CHAMPIONS

Huge congratulations to our dance club who recently won the Regional's competition. We are very proud of you!

Class Photos



Traditional class photos for Years 1 - 5 will be taken on Thursday 25th May. Reception and Year 6 will have their contemporary class photo taken on this date.



Whole School Sports Day

Our whole school Sports Day is to be held on Thursday 22nd June in the afternoon. Children need to come to school on this day in outdoor PE wear and suitable trainers. In the event of a hot day, please ensure your child has a sun hat and has had sun cream applied in the morning (and/or a roll-on sun cream in School which they can apply themselves). They should also wear a t-shirt which represents their team point colour:

Indian's Head – red;

Dovestone – blue; Alphin Pike – green;

Pots and Pans – yellow;

PTFA Events



Recent PTFA events

A big thank you to our wonderful PTFA for putting on wonderful events to raise money for the school. The pancake toss raised a whopping £485.00 and the very popular chocolate bingo raised £365.00. We are waiting to find out how much the mother's day sale made. Thank you for

supporting our PTFA.

Future Events

Bags2School – clothing donation morning – Wednesday 17th May

Father's day sale – 16th June

St Mary's Family Festival – Saturday 1st July (more information to follow on this in the next week)

St Mary's Circus – Sunday 16th July – tickets on sale now at ticketsource.co.uk

St Mary's Dinner Dance – Friday 6th October – get your tables reserved... taking deposits now!

Further information of the above events will be sent out. Information regarding booking tickets for the circus has been sent to all families.

For further information in relation to any of the above PTFA events please speak to Sam Berry or alternatively send an email in to school and it will be passed on to Sam.

A big thank you to all the members of our PTFA who work tirelessly throughout the year putting on fantastic school and community events to raise vital funds for our school. Every penny that is raised enables each child at school to have a fully enriched education. Funds are spent on trips, workshops, books, and equipment for the children to use which, without all the fundraising, school would be unable to purchase.

Family Questionnaire 2023

Many thanks to all our parents who work with the school to ensure that we are always striving for the very best education for your child. It is that time of year again where we send out our family questionnaire. We ask that you complete this for each individual child you have in the school as their experiences can be very different.

Please click on the following link to complete the survey.

<https://forms.gle/bdiwEh1arfQYZ7YWA>

Contacting Teaching Staff



Contact is made through the office

If you have a concern you wish to discuss with your child's teacher, please make an appointment via the school office.

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 and in line with recent feedback from parents, an email acknowledging this will be sent.

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.

Uniform Regulations

During the summer term, there is some flexibility regarding school uniform and sports kit. We perfectly understand how difficult it may have been to purchase new clothes and in particular shoes. If flexibility is required, please inform the class teacher so that they are aware.



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
- red embroidered school fleece
- plain white/red or embroidered school polo shirt or plain white shirt/blouse (long/short-sleeved)
- 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/blue 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)

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.
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. Please refrain from having these cut into your child's hair.

PE Kit

Children should continue to come to school wearing their PE kit on their PE days.

- black pumps for indoor PE
- plain dark shorts
- plain white round-necked T-shirt
- trainers for outdoor PE
- 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.



Closing thoughts.....

May brings the annual school assessments. We are tested on many occasions throughout our lives whether this is school exams, driving tests or job interviews or even events that make us question and test our faith in God. It is therefore important that we develop resilience within ourselves and our children to ensure they have the determination to succeed in all that they do. The children and staff have worked tirelessly on ensuring they are prepared for the testing that is to take place. We aim for all children to achieve their potential and only ask that they find the stillness of mind to focus completely on their goals and aim to be the very best that they can be. We wish all the children every success in their assessments next week and hope that they shine like the stars that they are and attain the results they deserve.

Thank you for your continued support. On behalf of all at St Mary's may I wish you a glorious month of May and God's Richest blessings for the Summer term.

Mrs. S.M. Hall
Headteacher
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

Monday 8th May 2023 – Bank Holiday Monday

ACADEMIC YEAR 2023 - 2024 – SCHOOL HOLIDAY PATTERN

OPENING DATES	CLOSING DATES	NUMBER OF SCHOOL DAYS
AUTUMN TERM		
Monday 4 th September	Thursday 19 th October	34
OCTOBER HALF TERM Friday 20th October – Friday 27th October		
Monday 30 th October	Friday 22 nd December	40
Monday 25th December – Friday 5th January		

SPRING TERM		
Monday 8 th January	Friday 16 th February	30
FEBRUARY HALF TERM Monday 19th February – Friday 23rd February		
Monday 26 th February	Thursday 28 th March	24
EASTER HOLIDAYS Friday 29th March – Friday 12th April		

SUMMER TERM		
Monday 15 th April	Friday 24 th May	29
MAY HALF TERM Monday 27th May – Friday 7th June		
Monday 10 th June	Wednesday 24 th July	33
SUMMER HOLIDAY Thursday 25th July - tbc		
	Total School Days	190

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

Friday 20th October 2023 – INSET day – school closed

Monday 6th May 2023 - Bank Holiday Monday

Staff INSET days

Friday 1st September 2023

Friday 20th October 2023

Thursday 25th July 2024

6 twilight sessions tbc