



St. Mary's Newsletter

End of July 2018



At St. Mary's we aim to provide an environment for all members of our school community where positive attitudes to learning and creativity are promoted and valued within the context of Christian belief and practice.

Core Christian Values: Compassion, Friendship, Koinonia and Trust.

Year 6 SATs

Congratulations to the staff and our Year 6 children on their impressive KS2 SAT results. We are extremely proud of the hard work, dedication and resilience that they have shown this year. The percentages of children meeting the expected standards are as follows:

Reading 76% (national average is 75%)

Writing 82% (national 78%)

Grammar, Punctuation & Spelling 76%
(national 78%)

Maths 76% (national 76%)

Combined Reading, Writing & Maths 76%
(national 64%)

The Year 6 children should be rightly proud of the progress that they have made throughout the school to achieve the results that each individual has. We wish the children every success in the future—you will all be missed—and thank parents for all their support over the years at St. Mary's.

Staffing

The final few weeks have been an emotional time in saying farewell to Mrs Pat Goudge who retires today. We held a leaving assembly in her honour last week and presented her with several gifts from the children and staff. Mrs Goudge's professionalism and determined approach will be sorely missed by all of us here at St. Mary's, however we wish her much happiness in her retirement.

We are pleased to announce that Mrs Steph Bedford will be working additional days in

Class One from September. Mrs Bedford is a qualified teacher who has experience of teaching across the primary age range and particularly working with both the Early Years Foundation Stage and in Key Stage 1. She has been working in school as a volunteer and Teaching Assistant for several years and she has proved a real asset to the Class One team already.

Unfortunately, we also say farewell to Paul Bird who has run our school football team and girls football team for the last 12 years. In particular, winning the league in 2015-16 and qualifying for the schools' Champions League was a fantastic achievement. Paul was reluctant to give this role up as he has thoroughly enjoyed coaching our children over the years, however his work commitments have made this unfeasible.

Year 6 leavers' present

Thank you to the very generous donations from our Year 6 families, who have very kindly bought the school a new arbour for the field. We look forward to its arrival in September.

School Building Works

The school building works remain on track and due to finish in the final week of the holiday. We hope that the works continue to run smoothly over the summer holiday and school will be open for the start of term for pupils on Wednesday 5th September. Further updates will be added to the website over the summer.

Pupil Attendance

Our pupil attendance figure for the school year is a very impressive 96.7%. Thank you to all our children and parents for achieving this improvement from last year's 95.7%, for which we should be rightly proud. Every day spent in school increases the chances of improved outcomes for children. There were 51 children who had full attendance this term and 11 children who achieved our Attendance Star Award for full attendance for the whole school year—a very impressive feat!

Mrs Cooper's Award

Huge congratulations to Tom Gregory for being awarded the Mrs Cooper's Award for this half-term. Tom's friendship, kindness and support of others continue to stand out amongst his many admirable personal qualities. Well done Tom.

Summer Reading Challenge

We are encouraging our children to take part in this year's 'Summer Reading Challenge' organised by York Library Service. You may use any local library to participate and there are competitions and prizes for the children to enjoy and to encourage them to continue their reading over the summer break.

Thank you

A final thank you to all our St Mary's family for your support and care for our children and the school. We always appreciate the immense role that you all play in the development and success of our children and our school—thank you.

Dates for your diary:

Friday 20th July: Last day of term

Monday 3rd & Tuesday 4th September: Staff Training Days

Wednesday 5th September: Term starts

A prayer for the end of term

*At the end of this school year we
give thanks to God:*

*For all the teaching and learning
that have taken place in our school,
both in and out of the classroom,
For the talents and gifts that have
been shared and the challenges that
have been faced,*

*For the burdens that have been
lifted and the hurts that have been
healed,*

*For the respect and care that have
been given.*

*We give thanks for the friendships
that have just begun and for those
that have grown.*

*For the faith that has been lived in
our daily struggles,*

*For the hope that has lifted our
hearts on the dark days*

*And for the love that has kept us
going.*

*We give thanks for the community
that we are.*

*Bless our families as we take our
holidays, may our time together
leave us with memories to cherish.*

*Pour out your love on us that we
may return renewed and refreshed
to continue our journey together.*

*We make this prayer through Christ
our Lord.*

Amen