



St. Mary's Newsletter

End of July 2019

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



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.

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 81% (national average is 73%)

Writing 88% (national 78%)

Maths 69% (national 79%)

Combined Reading, Writing & Maths 69% (national 65%)

With our small cohort size, each child represents 6.3%, so our figures can fluctuate year by year as a result. Two more children achieving the expected standard in Maths would therefore have taken our percentage to 82%.

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. The results do not define our children and are a stepping stone on to the next stage of their academic journey. In addition to these results, they have achieved and developed so much as individuals too, and we are all very proud of each and everyone of them for this. We wish the children every success in the future—you will all be missed—and thank you to parents for all your support over the years at St. Mary's.

Staffing

The final few weeks have been an emotional time in saying farewell to Mrs Nina Read who moves to a new post in September. We held a special leaving assembly for her this week and presented her with several gifts from the children and staff. Mrs Read's positivity, enthusiasm, dedication, hard work and creativity will be sorely missed by all of us here at St. Mary's, however we wish her much happiness in her retirement. Next year I will be teaching Class 2 on a Friday and am looking forward to it very much!

We also say farewell to Mrs Mandy Newby who has worked one day a week in Class 4 for the last three years. Her sense of humour, flexibility and creativity will be missed. Mrs Kate Waugh, who is a qualified teacher, will be leading Class 4 on Wednesday mornings, with Total Sport leading in the afternoon.

Year 6 leavers' present

Thank you to the very generous donations from our Year 6 families, who have very kindly bought the children across the school new playtime equipment for use during break-times and lunch-times.

School Building Works

The school building works remain on track and due to finish in at the end of September. 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 4th September. If there are any further updates on this, they will be added to the website over the summer.

School Phone Number

A reminder that our school phone number has been updated to 01904 552540. If for any reason this number is out of use, then the school mobile will be used, the number for which is 07866 834296. The school mobile is not in use at any other time.

Parent Governor

We have appointed Mr Dave Riley as our new Parent Governor. We warmly welcome him on to the governing body and we look forward to him supporting the strategic and financial leadership of the school.

Pupil Attendance

Our pupil attendance figure for the school year is a very impressive 96.4%. This is above our school target of 96%, so thank you to all our children and parents for achieving this figure, for which we should be rightly proud. Every day spent in school increases

chances of improved outcomes for children. There were 47 children who had full attendance this term and 10 children who achieved our Attendance Star Award for full attendance for the whole school year—a very impressive feat indeed!

Mrs Cooper's Award

Huge congratulations to Tilly from Class 4 for being awarded the Mrs Cooper's Award for this half-term. Tilly shows genuine kindness to all others in school and she is always delighted by their successes and achievements. Tilly embodies the Christian values that are promoted in school. Very well done Tilly!

Safeguarding

If you are interested in any advice or tips to ensure your child is safe when gaming, please look at the information on the Thinkuknow website using the following link:

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/gaming/>

We also wanted to raise awareness of the social media video app Tik Tok which is used for creating and sharing short lip-sync, comedy, and talent videos. Please be aware that this is an open forum app which enables any users to view videos posted on there.

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.

Big Sing Challenge

Thank you to all the children for having great fun and showcasing their musical talents during our Big Sing Challenge Competition. All classes were truly amazing in their performances of their Lion King songs. This year's trophy however was presented to Class 3 for the quality of their singing, their dynamics and variety within their performance.

Kitchen Inspection

Following our recent kitchen inspection we have achieved a 98% score, identifying the cleanliness and quality of service as current strengths. Thank you to Mrs Kath Speed and Mrs Sandra Hayes for maintaining these high standards.

Thank you

Finally, thank you to all of 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 19th July: Last day of term

Monday 2nd & Tuesday 3rd September: Staff Training Days

Wednesday 4th 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

We hope that you all have a safe, fun and relaxing summer break.