

Autumn Term Newsletter 1

St Mary's C of E Primary School

Growing Our Community Together.

'Welcome, Nurture, Grow, Flourish.'

Dear St Mary's Community,

Welcome back to the new school year and the Autumn Term! We are very proud of the children for settling into their new classes and routines. We have achieved so much together already. The children have been busy getting to grips with new learning and catching up with their friends. We welcome our new reception families & those who have joined us across the school. We all look forward to the year ahead and thank you for your commitment to helping your children to grow.

Mrs Lawlor and the Team at St Mary's.

Our vision

- Provide a welcoming, safe and inclusive community underpinned by our Christian ethos.
- Build a sense of belonging by growing strong, nurturing relationships shaped by Christian values.
- Foster and grow a life-long curiosity and love of learning by providing a high-quality curriculum that is ambitious, broad, balanced and accessible to all.
- Enable children and adults to flourish mentally, academically, physically, spiritually and socially so they fulfil their potential.

We have chosen the parable of **The Mustard Seed** to underpin and strengthen our vision.

Jesus said, "What can we say God's kingdom is like? What story can we use to explain it? It is like a mustard seed, which is the smallest of all seeds on earth. But when you plant the seed, it grows. It becomes the largest of all garden plants. Its branches are so big that birds can rest in its shade."
Mark 4:30-32

The story of the mustard seed is one of the most profound and memorable teachings of Jesus Christ. It uses the imagery of a tiny mustard seed growing into a large plant to illustrate the nature and growth of God's kingdom, his just and gentle rule over the whole of creation. This simple yet insightful story provides a link with the historic roots of our school which was founded for the children and adults of labouring and agricultural families in what was then a rural, farming community.



LOVE

Our Values



COURAGE



COMMUNITY

School Rules:



Ready



Respectful



Safe

St Mary's Rules

All children in our school interact with many different adults during their day. Adults in our school think it is very important that all the adults have the same expectations and that we are consistent in our approach. For this reason we have developed 3 rules that all adults will remind children of:

Ready, Respectful, Safe

That's How We Do It Here!

1. **'Ready' - Ready is the right time, right place and the right attitude.** Readiness for all things including being ready for learning, ready to listen, ready to go to lunch etc.
2. **'Respectful' - Respectful is caring for ourselves, other people and our environment.** When people are respectful, they are showing respect to their peers, to adults, to their environment, to themselves.
3. **'Safe' - Safe is taking actions that look after myself and others.** Being safe at school leads to everyone feeling safe in the learning environment, safe with the people around them and safe in the activities in which they are taking part in.

What happens when we follow rules?

When everyone works together in a community;

- We feel happy, safe and valued.
- We can all reach our shared goals.
- We can all be the best version of ourselves that we can be.
- We can all fulfil our potential.

School Day timings:

- The school day begins at 8:45am and the playground gate will be opened at 8:30am.
- The school day finishes at 3.20pm and the playground gate will be opened at 3.15pm
- The school building opens at 8:40am for Years 3,4,5 & 6 and 8:45am for Years R,1 & 2.
- **Adults must stay** with children until they enter the school building.

Playground Equipment:

- Please do not allow your children to play on the playground equipment before or after school, thank you.

Safe drop off and collection:

- Animals must not be brought onto the school site or secured to the fencing along the boundary of the school premises.
- All children in Years R, 1 & 2 must be dropped off & collected by a known adult (18 years plus)
- At St Mary's C of E Primary School our policy is that only children in KS2 may be collected by an older teenage sibling aged 13 or older.
- Children will not to be released if the teacher feels that the parent is not in a fit state to ensure their child's safety. This will be immediately reported to the Designated Safeguarding Lead in school.
- Our policy is to allow children in Year 6 to travel to and from school independently provided parental consent has been given in writing and agreed by the headteacher.
- Children in Year 5 may be given permission to travel to and from school independently in the summer term provided that both the school and parents are satisfied that the child is able to travel safely.

Medicine in School:

- All medicine requires to be signed in by parents via our school office. Please do not pass these on via the class teachers or place in your child's school bag to hand in.

Absences:

All absences require to be reported to our school office. Please do not pass on messages via class teachers.

Term Time Holidays:

We cannot authorise term time absence for birthdays, family holidays or events. These types of absences will automatically be assigned as unauthorised absences.

Uniform:

- Our children are permitted to only wear a pair of 'stud earrings' to school. No other jewellery is permitted; this includes hoop earrings.
- No smart watches should be worn to school.
- Children wear their PE kit and trainers into school on their PE days. Trainers must be black or white – no bright logos or colours.
- [Please follow this link to our website for more information.](#)

Stationary:

- Children are not permitted to bring in pencil cases or stationery to school.

Behaviour incidents that have involved your child:

If you are concerned that your child has been involved in a behaviour incident, Please arrange a time to speak to your child's class teacher in the first instance. The teacher will determine whether this requires to be escalated to a more senior member of staff using our Behaviour Policy processes.

Communication with Parents:

We use the Weduc App to communicate messages to our parent community. All parents will receive a link via their registered email address when their child joins the school. If you are unsure how to access Weduc, please speak with our school office team.

Meetings with school staff:

Parents have the opportunity to meet with class teachers formally twice a year at parents' evenings. From time to time, you may require to arrange a meeting with the class teacher regarding your child's learning. Our staff and Senior Leaders are very busy focusing on teaching and learning during the school day and cannot meet with parents without prior notice. Please speak with the school office if you would like to request a meeting with your child's class teacher.

Special Educational Needs:

If you are concerned about your child's attainment or progress; and think they may have a special need, please speak to your child's class teacher in the first instance. They may then refer you to the school SENCOs once a preliminary conversation has taken place. It is important not to bypass your child's class teacher in the first instance as they are best placed to discuss how your child is progressing in their day-to-day learning.

Positive Communication:

At St Mary's Primary School, we value our strong relationship with parents and carers. Together this helps us achieve the very best for the children in a mutually supportive partnership between parents, class teachers and the school community.

Parents, carers and visitors are reminded:

- To respect the welcoming and nurturing Christian ethos and values of the school.
- That both teachers and parents need to work together for the benefit of their children.
- Approaching school staff for help to resolve an issue should be done in an appropriate manner.
- All members of the school community are treated with respect using appropriate language and behaviour.
- To correct their child's actions, especially where it could lead to conflict, aggressive or unsafe behaviour – both on and off the school premises.
- In the event that any pupil or parent/carer of a child at St Mary's Primary School is found to be posting libellous or defamatory comments on any social networking sites or chats, they will be reported to the appropriate "report abuse" section of the network site.

[Please read our Home School Communication Policy.](#)

Autumn Term Dates:

Tuesday 23rd September – 3:30pm PTA Meeting for all parents

Thursday 25th September – 4:30-6:30pm Phonics & Maths Worship in Reception Classroom

Week beginning 29th September – Harvest Food Collection all week

Week beginning 6th October Book Fair in school all week!

Monday 6th October – School Photos (Individual & siblings)

Week commencing 13th October – Black History Focus Week

Week commencing 13th October – NSPCC Talk Pants Week

Friday 17th October – Wear Red Day. Show Racism the Red Card!

Monday 20th October 9-10am– Autism Parent Workshop in our Community Hub Room

Monday 20th October 3:30 – 6pm Parents' Evening

Wednesday 22nd October 3:30-6pm Parents' Evening

Monday 27th – Friday 31st October HALF TERM BREAK

Monday 3rd November – Children back to school

Wednesday 5th November – Immunisations Morning (details will follow via Weduc)

Please note more dates will be added in due course.



At 4pm on the second Sunday of each month, in the school hall, St Mary's Church welcome you to a relaxed and welcoming event for all ages.

Whether you've been to church before or not. It's designed to be easy to join in with, family-friendly, and a chance to explore big questions about life, hope, and purpose through Bible stories, drama, music, and activities that centre around the message of Jesus.

There will be something for everyone – children, parents, grandparents, and friends – and it's a great way to meet others in the school and local community and we'll finish with free refreshments and time to chat.

School Term and
Holiday Dates. 

Click here for school term
dates:

2025-2026