



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL



This week we have celebrated as a school family the great Feast of the Ascension of the Lord. In 'The Ascension' we celebrate the moment when the risen Jesus ascended back to His Father in heaven. The children heard in the Gospel how, before He departed, Jesus made His friends a wonderful promise "I am with you always; yes, to the end of time." We celebrated a beautiful Mass with Fr Bill and he asked the question: "Why did Jesus have to go?" The children came up with the most incredible answers. This led us into a peaceful time of prayer and a worship in which the children displayed great reverence and respect. Well done everyone! You might like to explore [the following liturgy](#) which is a wonderful way for children to experience the Holy Gospel. Through this liturgy, they are able to encounter the true presence

of the Risen Jesus. Congratulations to the children who made their First Holy Communion at Holy Spirit last Saturday. It was a wonderful celebration and the sun was shining to enhance the day further. Good luck to all the children who are making their Holy Communion tomorrow at the church of the Annunciation, New Mills with Father Emmanuel at 12:00pm. We hope you have a wonderful celebration too as you receive Jesus in the Eucharist for the very first time. We look forward to celebrating with our First Communicants as a school family in our 'Going Forth' Mass on the 30th June at 10:00am in church.

WEDNESDAY WORD

[Here is the link](#) to this week's Wednesday Word.



ROSARY CLUB

Each school day from 12:50 until 1:00pm for the remainder of May, children from Year 2 through to Year 6 are invited to pray a decade of the rosary with Mr Nish in the 'Holy Hub'. Rosary beads are optional. Each day we will pray a decade of the rosary focusing each week on a particular mystery: luminous, joyful, sorrowful and glorious. Further details of how to pray the rosary are available [here](#).

PARENT GOVERNOR ELECTION

Mrs Helen Mulryan (Chair of Governors) has been appointed as a Foundation Governor at St Mary's by the Diocese of Nottingham and Mr Ian Mylrea's term of office as a parent governor is about to end, so we are therefore looking to appoint two parent governors to join our dedicated Local Governing Board. Please see the email and letter sent from Mrs Major on Tuesday for further details about this important voluntary role and how to apply. Mrs Mulryan and Mrs Chrippes (Chair and Vice Chair) are more than happy to informally discuss the role with any prospective candidates. They can be contacted via the school office. The closing date for nominations is **Tuesday 13th June 2023**.



FAREWELL MRS COUPES

It's with great sadness that I am tasked with announcing that Mrs Cath Coupes will be leaving the St Mary's staff team at May half term. Mrs Coupes has worked at St Mary's for five years and in particular with the current Y6 class. Mrs Coupes has been thinking of returning to nursing for some time and as Y6 move on to secondary education soon, Mrs Coupes thinks it is the right time to return (the refresher course starts at the end of May). It is definitely the NHS' gain and our deep loss. Mrs Coupes has been an outstanding Learning Support Assistant and will be greatly missed by all. There will be an opportunity as a school family to say a fitting farewell before we break for the half term holiday in our celebration assembly.



MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK



This week is Mental Health Awareness Week. Mental Health Awareness Week is an opportunity for each class to continue conversations about mental health in the classroom and beyond. Each class has carried out activities to further understand what mental health is and the difference between every day small feelings and big feelings. We have been focussing on resilience, how to be a good listener and communicator and how to be brave to support this year's theme of alleviating anxiety. [Please](#)

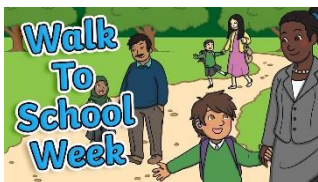
[visit our website](#) for information about how we support the mental health of our children through our curriculum, pastoral support in school and outside agencies. If you would like to speak to Mrs Bradbury, who is our Mental Health Leader regarding a pastoral matter, please email the office and Mrs Bradbury will contact you. [Click here for outside agencies and local offer support available.](#)

EUROVISION EXTRAVAGANZA!

Our newly formed and growing school choir joined schools from across Stockport on Tuesday evening for Stockport's very own Eurovision. The children performed a variety of songs from Europe and beyond and did so with great enthusiasm and passion. Their sense of rhythm, diction, breathing, pitch and tone was excellent and Mrs Tennant and I (along with the audience) were very impressed with their performance. Thank you Mrs Tennant for your incredible work in getting the choir off the ground and we look forward to further performances in the future.



WALK TO SCHOOL WEEK



Next week we are celebrating 'National Walk to School Week'. This five-day walking challenge is a celebration of the walk to school and the perfect activity to run as part of National Walking Month this May. In school, through the use of each class' daily travel tracker, pupils will be encouraged to walk, wheel, cycle, park and stride and scoot to school every day of the week as well as completing laps of our school daily mile track with their

class. Through this challenge, children will be well on their way to reaching their recommended 60 minutes minimum of physical activity per day before even reaching the school gates.

Walking to school can help children to feel more independent, confident and in control of themselves too. They'll learn the route from home to school, which can boost their navigation skills, and they'll learn more about road safety. Once children are old enough to walk to school by themselves, they'll already have the confidence and the knowledge that they need to get there safely.

Another great benefit of Walk to School Week is that it reduces the morning traffic. Instead of driving to school in the car and contributing to congestion, carbon emissions, and pollution, you can bypass this completely by walking. Over time, we will all have cleaner air if there are fewer cars on the road. You can do your part by getting involved with Walk to School Week and leaving your car at home or parking at a nearby location and walking part of the way. This way you can help to reduce carbon emissions and enjoy all the benefits of walking at the same time.

Walk to School Week also provides a great opportunity to build strong bonds in the community and enjoy increased social interaction. Walk in groups with friends and take a look at your surroundings and what you can see on your route to school.

We track how children get to school. The 'Travel Tracker' class active leader is Miss Poole.

ATTENDANCE

At St Mary's we feel that, if learners are to get the greatest benefit from their education in school, it is important that they have good attendance and arrive punctually. The attendance over this week is below. Congratulations to **Y2** who have both achieved **99%**. Our school target is **97%**. **This week as a whole school we have achieved our target again.** Amazing attendance everybody!

Weekly Attendance	
Rec	98.28%
Y1	98.33%
Y2	99.17%
Y3	97.58%
Y4	98.83%
Y5	94.17%
Y6	95.83%
Overall	97.46%

THE MONTH (OR SO) AHEAD...KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Date	Event
	<i>Please note the dates and times detailed below are provisional and may be changed if necessary.</i>
20 May	First Holy Communion – St Mary's Catholic Church, New Mills at 12:00pm.
22 May	Y6 Canal visit.
22 May	Y4 Collective Worship (2:30pm in the hall). All welcome!
23 May	Y6 Chemistry with cabbages.
26 May	Y2 SATs end.
26 May	Celebration Assembly (2:30pm in the hall). All welcome!
26 May	School closes for the half term break.
12 June	School reopens following the half term break.
13 June	Parent Governor nominations closing date.
12-16 June	Y1 Phonics Screening Checks.
12-16 June	Y4 Multiplication Checks.
14 June	Class photos (please wear full school uniform including jumpers/cardigans).
15 June	Y4 visit to the Museum of Science and Industry.
15 June	Y5/6 mixed 7-a-side football tournament.
19 June	Y6 Collective Worship (2:30pm in the hall). All welcome!
19 – 23 June	Y6 Bikeability Week.
20 June	Y2 visit to Bramhall Park – legacy walk.
21 June	Reception visit to the Sea Life Centre.
23 June	PTA Book Fair (lower playground outdoor classroom).
26 June	Y5 Collective Worship (2:30pm in the hall). All welcome!
27 June	Sports Day – parents are invited from 1pm – 3pm.
28 June	Nursery Sports Day and picnic 9:30am – 1pm. Parents welcome!
28 June	New EYFS parents intake meeting (6:00 – 7:00pm) in the hall.
30 June	Y3 Going Forth Mass (First Holy Communicants) at 10:00am in St Mary's Church. Parents of Y3 are welcome to attend!
30 June	PTA Summer Disco (5-6pm or 6-7pm). All children welcome!
3 July	Y2 Collective Worship (2:30pm in the hall). All welcome!
6 July	Transition and move up day.
7-9 July	Family Camp.
10 July	Y1 Collective Worship (2:30pm in the hall). All welcome!
14 July	PTA Colour Run (3:30pm).
17 July	End of Year Reports to parents/carers.
19 July	Open Evening to discuss reports and meet your child's new teacher (3:45 – 5:45pm).
20 July	Y5/6 End of Year Production (1:30pm and 6pm). All welcome!
21 July	School Council visit to Parliament in London.
24 July	Y6 Leavers' disco (6pm-8pm). Y6 parents welcome to stay for nibbles.
25 July	Leavers' Assembly (10:00am in the hall). All welcome!
26 July	End of Year Mass (10:00am in church). All welcome!
26 July	School closes for the Summer break.
5 September	School reopens following the summer break. (New Nursery and Reception parents, please see the new starter letters for details of dates and times.)

**Wishing you all a wonderful weekend and prayers for our First Holy Communicants at St Mary's.
Mr John Nish and Miss Alice Poole.**