



We love, we learn, we live.

St Mary's R.C. First School Newsletter – 24th June 2022

Statement to Live By: At The Altar

Attendance Information: Our target for attendance is 98%

Please strive to make every effort to ensure your child gets to school every day to help us achieve
our target.

	Wilfrid	Aidan	Cuthbert	Oswald	Bede	Overall
WB:06.06.2022	97.9%	86.9%	94.8%	90.0%	94.3%	91.7%
WB:13.06.2022	96.6%	87.7%	84.6%	86.4%	90.8%	87.5%

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We have experienced such a glorious week in Hexham. The weather has, at times, been extremely hot and for that reason please may I ask that parents continue to make sure that your children have suncream applied and bring a water bottle and hat to school on hot, sunny days. We also have several children currently suffering from hay fever. I have this too and feel their pain. Please can parents do their best to ensure that children take an antihistamine each day which can help with hay fever symptoms. If you didn't already know, putting Vaseline just inside the nostrils catches pollen which can help with runny noses.

Preparations are now under way for the final events of the term and I would like to encourage all parents, grandparents, carers to join in these activities. We have had Fr Luke visiting us in school this week and are currently preparing for our Y4 Leavers Mass. We also have sports activities, Gold Book assemblies and a Sports Day planned for the next few weeks.

I am excited to announce that our school will be holding a fun walk in the Sele park to raise money for Lilly Armstrong's chosen charity CHUF. CHUF supports children and families who receive treatment at the Children's Heart Unit based at the Freeman Hospital and many other hospitals providing care for cardiac patients throughout the North East.

Lilly, who is an inspiration to all our school and community, would love children to come to school in PE equipment on Wednesday 13th July. More details will be sent out via parentmail regarding this event and it would be lovely if families could join us. A donation to CHUF would be fantastic from each pupil if possible.

Lilly is still in hospital and being supported by her doctors during this time. She is an absolute inspiration to everyone and we want to support her wonderful family through her difficult and lengthy treatment. Can I also ask that everyone continues to pray for Lilly and her family.

Following on from the letter that I wrote to parents this week regarding leadership changes at St Mary's, I am aiming to update you as soon as I possibly can of any news. Class teachers for next year will also be confirmed very soon.

Can I remind families of children starting reception in September 22 that we have our welcome evening next Wednesday, 29th June, at 6 pm. We have lots of information to give parents before we take you on a short tour of our EYFS provision. This week, transition activities continued for our Nursery pupils and we can't wait to welcome parents next week.

Finally, Pope Francis has written a letter to everyone, asking us to reach out in love to our sisters and brothers in need, whoever they are, wherever they may come from. We are challenged to think of ourselves as one global family, becoming neighbours to all.

Bookfest Visits

Last week, years 3 & 4 visited the Hexham annual Book Festival last Monday held in a fabulous marquee in the grounds of the Abbey. We watched an enchanting reimagining of Frances Hodgson Burnett's classic *The Secret Garden*. We were all given a packet of seeds to take home to plant so that we can create our own secret gardens.

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 thoroughly enjoyed listening to three fabulous stories about Luna in the beautiful marquee in the grounds of the Abbey. The children responded to the story by drawing some of the characters, with help from the illustrator Fiona Lumbers.



The cost of the Bookfest was £2.00 per pupil, payments were made via ParentMail Pay+ If you have not yet paid this, you can still make this payment or if you had trouble with your payment, please contact the school office or email parentcontact@hexhamstmarys.uk

Nursery Transition

We were so excited to welcome our nursery children into reception for their first visits last Friday and today. The children enjoyed exploring the indoor and outdoor provision before having a piece of fruit whilst listening to the story 'Boris Starts School'. There will be two more visits for the children, Friday 1st and 8th July, from 10:30am until 11:45am. We look forward to spending more time getting to know the children!

Sports Day-

We are very much looking forward to Sports Day this year which is due to take place on the morning of **Tuesday 19th July** with a back-up morning of Thursday 21st if the weather is poor. Please can children come to school dressed in trainers and full St Mary's PE kit, with sun protection in the form of a sunhat, sunscreen and a named water bottle. Parents are warmly invited to attend and there will be refreshments served on site by the PTA. Make sure to bring your trainers for the Parents and Nursery Races!

The PTA will be selling refreshments from about 9.15am, throughout sports day.

There will also be a raffle which will be drawn after the events.

Could we ask that if you have any donations could you kindly bring them into the office. Thank you.

Y4 Leavers

To mark their time in St. Mary's we will be holding our Leavers Mass in the school hall on **Wednesday 20th July at 9.30am**. Parents and carers are welcome to attend this event. This will be the first Leavers Mass we have been able to do since July 2019, it will be a fantastic opportunity to celebrate with the children as they mark the end of their journey at St. Mary's with the 'ringing the bell' ceremony at the end of the Mass.

Also, to mark their last day the Year 4 children are welcome to take part in the end of year talent show. This event will also be held in the school hall on **Friday 22nd July at 1.30pm**. Parents and carers are welcome to attend this event to show their support and are welcome to take their children home with them once the talent show has finished. Any children whose parents are unable to attend the event will be welcome to remain in school until the end of the school day at 3.00pm.

Mrs. Berges from the kitchen has been taking requests from the Year 4 children and we are going to hold a Leavers Lunch in their honour on **Wednesday 13th July**. Year 4 children will be able to bring their own party clothes to change into that day as we eat lunch and hear speeches from the year 4 pupils throughout lunch time that day. If any child wishes to have a school lunch instead of their usual packed lunch please contact the school office on: parentcontact@hexhamstmarys.uk

At the end of the Talent show we usually like to show a few slides of the children and how they have changed throughout their time at school. Regardless of when your child started St. Mary's, we would like to invite parents to send in no more than 3 photographs (can be individual or class ones) documenting their school journey to date. We all love seeing their Reception photographs! Please could you send photographs into school via this email: parentcontact@hexhamstmarys.uk We look forward to seeing them!

Summer Time!

Please can children have sun cream applied before school and bring a named hat with them to protect their skin on hot days.

Mission Team

We are delighted to welcome on board the latest members of the Mission Team: Max, Layla, Fleur and Owen. The team will be assisting the Gospel delivery in assembly for the rest of the school year. Last week they have been exploring how Jesus provides for us all in the Miracle of Jesus Feeding the Five Thousand (Matthew 15:32-39)



FSM - Are You Eligible for Free School Meals?

Many families will now have seen the increase in both utility bills and the cost of the weekly shop. With this in mind can I remind parents that you may be entitled to free school meals. The criteria is as below:

- Universal Credit with an earnings threshold that does not exceed £7,400
- Income Support
- Income - based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit, provided you are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income, as assessed by HMRC that does not exceed £16,190
- Guaranteed Element of State Pension Credit
- Where a parent is entitled to Working Tax Credit run-on (the payment someone receives for a further four weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit).
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.

Please follow the link below to see if you may be eligible.

<https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Education/Schools/Meals.aspx>

Additional School Closures:

Monday 27th June is an additional Bank Holiday for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. This is because the official bank holiday fell within half term, therefore, schools were given an additional day of their choice.

Kidz Zone - Cancellation

Due to staffing issues, we have had to make the difficult decision to cancel our Kidz Zone After School sessions on Wednesdays and Fridays until the end of term. These changes will take place with immediate effect.

We have not taken this decision lightly but the safeguarding of our children is paramount and without adequate supervision, this cannot be guaranteed.

Breakfast club is still running every morning Monday - Friday.

We are looking at staffing for September and are hoping to be running a full Kidz Zone timetable once again; we will of course keep you updated.

We sincerely apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

Dates for the Diary:

Wednesday 29 th June	Y4 Rounder's Afternoon at St Joseph's Reception September 2022 Parents' Evening 6.00pm
Thursday 7 th July	Y2 & Y3 Trip to the Discovery Museum
Wednesday 13 th July	Fun Walk for CHUF Leavers' Lunch
Tuesday 19 th July	Sports Day
Wednesday 20 th July	Leavers' Mass
Thursday 21 st July	Reserve Sports Day
Friday 22 nd July	Y4 Talent Show School closes for summer

Headteacher Awards: Well done to the following children:

17th June	24th June
Reception - Riley for making valuable contributions during whole class and small group teaching.	Reception - Kaciey for being creative in the maths area, making numerals out of cubes.
Y1 - Ella for fantastic enthusiasm towards writing.	Y1 - Joe for fantastic independent maths skills.
Y2- Alfie for fantastic effort in R.E.	Y2 - Spike for outstanding behaviour and attitude to learning, well done!
Y3 - Brody for trying super hard.	Y3 - Phoebe for great work in RE.
Y4 - Olivia for fantastic work on fraction and decimal conversions.	Y4 - Leila S for always having a sunny disposition and working hard in mathematics this week.

Good Work:

17th June	24th June

Reception - Phoebe for fantastic independent writing in phonics yesterday.	Reception - Zach for making a huge effort to try and become more independent with his reading and writing.
Y1 - Juliette for fantastic independent effort in maths.	Y1 - Ava for using her phonics really well when writing.
Y2 - Jack H for super question writing in English.	Y2 - Daniel for amazing effort all week!
Y3 - Spencer for trying hard with handwriting.	Y3 - Feebie for super handwriting.
Y4 - Rosa for amazing use of question stems in your writing.	Y4 - Ava for good subordinate clauses in English.

Golden Chair: Congratulations to the following pupils:

17th June	24th June
Reception - Ashton for superb manners and being caring towards others.	Reception - Luca for being kind and considerate towards others.
Y1 - Charlie for brilliant questions on the carpet.	Y1 - Ellie for brilliant effort and hard work in her writing.
Y2 - Emily for being a kind and well-mannered friend.	Y2 - Mason for super effort towards learning, particularly in science.
Y3 - Charlie for all round good effort and attitude.	Y3 - Sebby for working faster in all subjects.
Y4 - Harley for helping and supporting others in class.	Y4 - Elise acting on advice and using this to improve her work.

Our Week in School:

Reception

Last week Reception had a fantastic week at school and especially enjoyed visiting Hexham Abbey to take part in the Hexham Bookfest. As always, their behaviour was impeccable and they made us all very proud! On Friday, the children enjoyed taking part in a science experiment, creating a watermelon volcano. The children experimented with bicarbonate of soda, washing up liquid and vinegar to create a fizzing substance, which eventually exploded out of our watermelon! This week the children have enjoyed lots of time in the outdoor area, splashing in the tuff tray and eating ice-lollies as a treat! Please can I remind parents to continue to apply sunscreen and to send your child to school with a named bottle in their bags as we do anticipate spending time outdoors when the weather is so nice. A water bottle and sunhat are essential too. Another fantastic two weeks, well done you super stars!

Year 1

Last week we were able to take part in Hexham Bookfest and the children thoroughly enjoyed it. Their behaviour was once again exemplary. Well done Year 1.

In maths, we have been practising counting in 2s, 5s and 10s as we begin to explore multiplication and division. In RE we learnt all about the Prophet Muhammad as part of our studies of other faiths. We learnt that he preached kindness and we sampled some dates that feature in one of the stories.

Year 2

A fantastic few weeks in Cuthbert class. Last week we had a super time at Hexham Bookfest and thoroughly enjoyed drawing the characters from the story. We have worked very hard in maths over the last few weeks and Year 2 are now beginning to read the time to the nearest five minutes. We have started a new book in English called 'Here We Are' by Oliver Jeffers. We love the illustrations and the message that it shares. In R.E, we have been learning all about rules and why they are important, we have role played scenarios and had thorough discussions. In science, we have started an experiment about plant growth, we are intrigued to see which plant grows the most over the next few weeks.

Year 3

We enjoyed a trip to Bookfest last week, which sparked our imaginations and inspired us to read The Secret Garden. We are reading 'Here We Are' in English and exploring what is meant by different themes in stories. We are working on time in maths and have been working out the duration of tv programmes and comparing durations of events. We have been labelling the parts of a plant in science and have planted our own cress and radishes to help us work scientifically to see what plants need to survive. In RE we have learned about Islam and mosques and about how we examine our conscience.

Year 4

Last week we started the week visiting Hexham Bookfest and watching a reimagining of The Secret Garden. Rachel brought in her own version of The Secret garden, which we are now reading in class too. It was fantastic to get to see inside the marvellous Bookfest marquee and we even got to take away our own packet of seeds to create our own secret garden at home. In maths, we continued creating whole numbers out of tenths and hundredths and converting to decimals from fractions. In English, we have started our whole school reader 'Here We Are' and have written letters to aliens explaining what life is like on Earth. In geography, we have compared the physical geography of Whitby to our own area.

Gospel

As the time drew near for him to be taken up to heaven, Jesus resolutely took the road for Jerusalem and sent messengers ahead of him. These set out, and they went into a Samaritan village to make preparations for him, but the people would not receive him because he was making for Jerusalem. So they went off to another village. As they travelled along they met a man on the road who said to Jesus, "I will follow you wherever you go." Jesus answered, "Foxes have holes and the birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." Another to whom he said, "Follow me," replied, "I will follow you, sir, but first let me go and say good-bye to my people at home." Jesus said to him, "Once the hand is laid on the plough, no one who looks back is fit for the kingdom of God." Everyone can learn more about this Gospel in Church ~ all are warmly invited.

Luke 9:51-62

God Bless,



Mr P Naughton





SUMMER JUNIOR GOLF CAMP

WITH PGA PROFESSIONAL JJ VALLELY

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OUR JUNIOR GOLF CAMPS WITH FIRST CLASS COACHING DELIVERED IN A FUN ENVIRONMENT. SESSIONS WILL INCLUDE LOTS OF SKILLS CHALLENGES, GAMES AND COMPETITIONS. WE WILL COVER DRIVING, IRON PLAY, SHORT GAME, PUTTING AND ON-COURSE TUITION. 10.00AM - 15.00PM EACH DAY (PACKED LUNCH REQUIRED).

ALL ABILITIES WELCOME FROM AGE 6-15 YEARS OLD

THURSDAY 28TH JULY

TUESDAY 2ND AUG

WEDNESDAY 3RD AUG

MONDAY 8TH AUG

TUESDAY 9TH AUG

MONDAY 15TH AUG

TUESDAY 16TH AUG

THURSDAY 1ST SEPT

FRIDAY 2ND SEPT

SINGLE DAY: £35.00 | TWO DAYS £65.00

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO SIGN UP CONTACT:
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England Regional Coach DBS checked



MATFEN HALL

COUNTRY HOTEL, SPA & GOLF ESTATE