



School Newsletter

Autumn 1



Dates for your diary...

Monday 21st September: Aston Villa Football Day
Wednesday 30th September: Flu Sprays (nursing team contacts parents direct)
Wednesday 7th October: Year 5 and 6 RAF Museum
Friday 9th October: Partnership Mass for Year 6 pupils.
Friday 23rd October: School Closes for Half Term Holiday.
Monday 2nd November: School reopens to all pupils.
Tuesday 1st December: Parliament Trip Year 5 and 6. (Early drop off to be planned and late return)

Future dates

Tuesday 1st December: Year 5 and 6 Houses of Parliament trip.
Monday 14th December: KS1 Christmas Performances 1:30pm and 6pm
Tuesday 15th December: KS2 Christmas Reflection in the Church, 1:30pm and 6pm.
Thursday 17th December: End of Year Mass and Carols round the Crib Service.
[FLU IMUNISATIONS- please complete the parent registration forms.](#)
[ROCKBAND- Rock Steady are running taster sessions over the next couple of Thursday afternoons.](#)

Clubs Autumn - Please book all on Parent Pay

Monday: Football & Cooking after school clubs.
Premier Education Football lunch club.
Tuesday: Dodgeball after school club.
Wednesday: Arts and Crafts after school club
Thursday: Fencing and Tennis after school clubs
Friday: Saints Rugby after school club
Mon-Fri: Rising Stars

Book on ParentPay



Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to everyone who attended our Parent Information Evening this week. It was wonderful to see so many families in attendance and to hear teachers sharing key information about their classes, the curriculum and the exciting year ahead. We greatly value the partnership between home and school and appreciate your continued support.

For our Early Years and KS1 families, Tapestry login details will be sent out via email shortly. Tapestry is an online learning journal that allows you to see photographs, observations and examples of your child's learning and development throughout the year. Where we do not yet have the necessary permissions in place, updated consent letters will be issued. For children in Years 2 to 6, login details for Purple Mash and Mathletics will be attached to pupil planners over the coming days to support learning both in school and at home.

This week also saw the launch of our Read Write Inc. sessions. Children will soon begin bringing home their book bag books alongside the text they are currently studying in school. These books are carefully matched to your child's reading stage and are an important part of developing fluency and confidence. Please help us by keeping books safe and ensuring they are returned to school in reading folders each day. Children taking part in the Fresh Start programme will also bring home an anthology to support their reading practice.

We are looking forward to welcoming the Aston Villa Development Team on Monday for a series of football coaching sessions. If required, children will change into trainers on arrival at school to ensure they can participate comfortably. We are also delighted to have secured two exciting educational visits to London. Year 5/6 pupils will visit the RAF Museum, and then pupils will have the opportunity to visit the Houses of Parliament. These visits will enrich classroom learning and provide memorable experiences that bring the curriculum to life.

Our recent Safety Week was a tremendous success. Pupils enjoyed learning from a range of professionals, including a paramedic, first aid trainer, firefighter and police officers. The children's engagement throughout the week was excellent, and they gained valuable knowledge and skills about staying safe in a variety of situations. Continuing this theme, I will be leading an assembly next week about Benedict's Law to help children develop a greater awareness and understanding of allergies and how they can help keep others safe.

As children spend increasing amounts of time online, we would also encourage families to continue discussions about online safety at home. Simple steps such as keeping devices in shared family spaces, checking age ratings on apps and games, setting screen time limits and encouraging children to speak to a trusted adult if they see something that worries them can make a significant difference. Parents may also wish to explore tools such as Google Family Link, which allows you to monitor screen time, manage app downloads and set device controls to support healthy and safe technology use.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. It has been a fantastic week in school, and we look forward to many more exciting learning opportunities throughout the term.

Kind regards,
Laura Concannon
Headteacher
St Mary's Catholic Primary School



Safeguarding

Lead: Mrs Concannon

Deputy: Mrs Morgan

Mental Health: Mrs Morgan



Keep in Touch



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After School Clubs

Unfortunately, due to low enrolment numbers, we have had to make the difficult decision to cancel both the Saints Rugby After School Club and the Fencing Club for this term.

We are naturally disappointed, as opportunities to work with professional coaches and specialist instructors provide children with unique experiences that help develop confidence, teamwork, resilience and new skills. We are incredibly fortunate to have access to high-quality coaching partners, and we remain committed to bringing these opportunities to our pupils wherever possible.

We would like to thank those families who did sign up for these clubs. Whilst the numbers were not sufficient to run the sessions safely and sustainably, your support is greatly appreciated. We will continue to review interest in these activities and hope to offer similar opportunities again in the future.



Food Standards

As part of our preparations for the new School Food Standards due to be introduced in September 2027, we will be reviewing a number of our food and snack arrangements during this academic year. The updated standards place a greater emphasis on fruit, vegetables and healthier snack options, whilst reducing foods that are high in fat, sugar and salt. By introducing changes gradually, we hope to ensure that children, parents and staff have the opportunity to adapt and provide feedback before the new requirements become statutory.

One of the most significant areas under review is our break-time, tuck shop and RS snack provision. St Mary's already encourages children to bring a fruit or vegetable snack for morning break, and we are consulting with families on a number of potential changes to further support healthy eating. These include reviewing the snacks available through our weekly tuck shop and considering healthier options such as raisins, plain popcorn, breadsticks, pretzels and wholemeal bagels. We would be grateful if parents and carers could complete the short questionnaire being sent home, as your feedback will help shape our plans for the future.

Head Boy and Head Girl

A huge congratulations to Ollie, who has been appointed as our new Head Boy, and Liana, who has been appointed as our new Head Girl. Both pupils impressed staff and their peers with their commitment to the school, their leadership qualities and their vision for how they can make a positive difference to our school community. We are incredibly proud of them and look forward to seeing them thrive in their roles throughout the year.

We would also like to extend a sincere thank you to all of the pupils who put themselves forward and delivered speeches during today's assembly. Standing up in front of others and sharing your ideas takes courage, confidence and determination. Every pupil who participated should be proud of themselves for demonstrating such maturity and enthusiasm for serving the school community. Well done to everyone involved.

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