



# NEWSLETTER

5<sup>th</sup> September 2025

## Clubs

Clubs starting next week are as follows:

**Tuesday** – Street Dance (some Class 2 spaces available) £5 a session [To sign up click here](#)

**Tuesday** – Multi-sports (Sports coach) [To sign up click here](#)

**Thursday** – Young Voices Choir [Information and to sign up to YV click here](#)

Please complete all forms by Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> September to enable us to allocate places on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September

## FAB AWARDS

★ Emilina

★ Luna

★ Elliot O

★ Edie

♥ Eleanor

♥ Harriet

♥ Belle

♥ Alayna

**Children achieving 100% this week across school**

## Quick glance dates...

SEP	Event
15 <sup>th</sup>	Grandparents' day event 3pm in the hall
16 <sup>th</sup>	Open class info session 3.45pm
15 <sup>th</sup> -22 <sup>nd</sup>	BOOK WEEK
22 <sup>nd</sup>	World peace day

This week we wish Happy Birthday to...

Arthur, Lola, Henry B, Sylvie, Louie, Marlie, Isla, Albie, Hugo, Phoebe. Jack



## This week at St Mary's...

A very warm welcome to all our new children joining the St Mary's family, and a welcome back to our returning pupils. It has been wonderful to see everyone looking so smart in their uniforms, full of smiles and eager to share stories of their summer adventures. We are excited to begin another fantastic school year at St Mary's.

Over the summer, our team worked hard to improve learning spaces across the school. In Class 3, a wall has been removed to create a much larger classroom, and a new 'breakout' area is being developed, led by Mrs Sheppard, to support children with self-regulation and nurture needs. We look forward to sharing updates as this space is completed.

We have also expanded the outdoor provision, with new fencing to open up the Early Years area, and more exciting projects in the pipeline. These include plans for a whole-school outdoor learning and conservation area, as well as a quiet outdoor reading space.

A huge thank you goes to our incredible staff team for their dedication over the summer, and to the Friends of St Mary's for providing the wonderful new backpacks – they look fantastic!

## House Leaderboard – Our new house captains



Oak

Jacob



Birch

Alayna



Pine

Joseph



Willow

Harriet

# Welcome back

As we begin a new school year, we'd like to take this opportunity to share some important information and reminders about St Mary's. Please read the details below carefully and complete any relevant forms by **Thursday 26th September**.

## **Attendance**

At St Mary's, we have high expectations for attendance and define good attendance as at least **97% across the school year**. This equates to no more than five days of absence (10 sessions).

- School gates open at **8:40am** and close at **8:55am**.
- School gates open at **3.25pm** and close at **3.40pm**
- Children arriving after **9:00am** will be marked as late.
- Arrivals after **9:15am** (when registers close) will be recorded as an unauthorised absence ('U' mark).

Regular attendance is vital, as poor attendance has a significant impact on learning and reduces future opportunities. We therefore ask all parents and carers to work closely with us to ensure children attend school every day.

Please note: the school **cannot authorise holidays** unless under exceptional circumstances. Unauthorised absences may be referred to the local authority and may result in a Fixed Penalty Fine. If we suspect a child is on holiday without notification, a home visit may be carried out. Please see the attached **Attendance Guide** for a full outline of our policies and procedures. It is the parents' responsibility to complete a 'leave of absence request' for any intended holiday/leave of absence a minimum of 20 school days prior to the holiday/leave being taken.

## **Illness**

If your child is unwell and unable to attend school, please contact the school office as soon as possible. We require contact made on each day of a child's absence.

- If we cannot reach a parent/carer by **1:00pm**, a home visit will be made to check on the child's welfare and safety.
- If a child has been absent for **nine sessions**, a welfare visit will be conducted in line with our safeguarding and attendance policies.

## **Data Collection**

To support our move towards a more paperless office, we've updated our data collection system. **All parents/carers are required to complete the updated form** to ensure we hold accurate and up-to-date information, including emergency contacts, medical needs, and dietary requirements.

👉 [Data Collection Form](#)

## **Class Dojo Agreement**

At the start of each school year, we ask **all parents/carers** to review and complete our Class Dojo agreement.

👉 [Class Dojo Agreement](#)

## **Permissions & Consent**

If your child is **new to the school** or you would like to **update your child's existing permissions**, please fill out the permissions and consent form.

👉 [Permissions/Consent Form](#)

### **Walking Home or to the Craft Centre Car Park – Class 3 & 4**

- **Class 4** children may walk home from school **with prior written consent**.
- A number of **Class 3** children walk to meet parents at the Craft Centre car park. We now require formal parental consent for this to take place.

👉 [Walking Permission Form](#)

### **School Lunches**

- **FREE** for all children in **Reception, Year 1, and Year 2**
- **Years 3–6** can order a hot meal for **£3.16**, payable via **School Money**  
(If you need help accessing the School Money system, please contact the school office.)

### **Snacks**

- Free fruit is provided daily for children in **Class 1 & 2**.
- Children may also book snacks from the school kitchen via **School Money**.
- Children may bring **one healthy snack** from home (no crisps or sugary items, please).

### **Free School Meals**

Some families are eligible for **Free School Meals (FSM)**, which also provides extra school funding to support your child's learning. Even if your child is in **Reception, Year 1, or Year 2** (and already receives a free meal), it's important to check eligibility.

Find Out More and Check Eligibility – [Visit this page of our School Website](#)

### **Uniform & Jewellery**

- If your child has pierced ears, **ONE** pair of plain studs may be worn. These earrings **must be removed for PE lessons** for health and safety reasons. If your child is unable to remove the earrings themselves they should not come to school with them in on PE days. Freshly pierced ears will need to be taped over for PE lessons. Adults in school are not permitted to remove earrings. If your child has pierced ears, please complete the form below to acknowledge these terms. A separate form has been sent home for children who take part in swimming.
- Uniform reminder: **Plain black shoes only. Trainers are allowed only on PE days.**
- All children require school PE kit for lessons. Children in classes 2, 3 and 4 should come to school in PE kits. Class 1 should bring their kit into school. PE days have been sent home via your class dojo page.

👉 [Earrings Permission Form](#)

### **Swimming**

Children in Class 3 will be swimming on a **Thursday morning from 11<sup>th</sup> September**. Information has been sent to parents/carers via Class Dojo.

### **Communication**

Please ensure you check in regularly with Class Dojo where important reminders and messages will be posted along with updates of class learning. Important and more formal letters will be sent out via email. Newsletters are posted to our school website each week with a link to this on Class Dojo. A reminder that as part of our class dojo agreement you understand that communication via messages to staff are to be respectful and staff are not expected to reply to these outside their working hours.

## Dates

A school planner of important dates is attached on this newsletter. Please keep referring to this to support you with planning ahead. Events and date reminders will be added to Dojo as they approach.

## Residential

Exciting news that we have booked Class 4 residential to Boggle Hole in Whitby Mon 20<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July – A letter with all details for booking and paying will be sent soon.

## Trips and Visits

We are looking at ways we can enhance our school offer through enabling more trips and visits to take place in school. We rely on the contributions of parents to support with the costs of these and would like your views on this. Please complete this short survey about how we proceed with this.

👉 [Trips survey](#)

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

**Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to a fantastic school year ahead.**

