



# The Federation of St Mary's Catholic Schools

*"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me"*

*Philippians 4: 13*

Respect

Compassion

Resilience

## Quiz Kids

5 Y5 children, accompanied by Mrs Heaton, represented St Mary's at Hope Academy's Annual Quiz Kids competition and we are very pleased to announce that they came 3rd overall. Only a few marks separated the teams and as Mrs Heaton said, we couldn't be prouder of their smiles and success.

## Governors

Our governors met for the first time this term this week. Our governors have such an important role in our school and we thank them for their service.

## Coronation

We will be celebrating the coronation of King Charles with a picnic/school lunch on the field (weather permitting) on Friday 5th May. All children will be invited to wear red, white and blue to celebrate this special occasion. We would appreciate the loan of any picnic blankets on the day.

A design a crown competition has been sent out earlier this week.

## Dojo Shop

Our Dojo Shop opened its doors for the first time this week. Thank you to our school council for organising this so well. We have continued to trial our behaviour policy this week and we have had positive feedback from the children and staff as well as some suggestions to improve it further.

## Fundraising

Biscuits have gone down well today with all money going towards school fund.

Lily in Year 6 has been selling bracelets for Cancer Research and has made £20 in just a week. What a wonderful example of our school values. Well done Lily.

The PTFA survey regarding the Summer Fair is still running: <https://forms.gle/FZLji1Ng2tfb4AnW8> Please take the time to give us your feedback.



# Award Winners



YOU'RE A STAR!



YOU'RE A STAR!



	Star of the Week	Bee Award
3Ri	Jacob	Lewis
3Ro	Isaac	Evelyn
4W	Molly	Tomas
4M	Dylan	Isobel
5R	Yva-Mae	Miss Hodgkinson
5HQ	Leo	Jake
6W	Zak	Hollie
6D	Brody	Rosie






YOU'RE A STAR!



YOU'RE A STAR!



	School Values Award	Matilda F
	Millionaire Reader	Ava W Leo W
	Rock Hero	



YOU'RE A STAR!



YOU'RE A STAR!



# Dates for your diary

## Summer 1

### St Mary's Catholic Junior School

Every Friday	Biscuits for school funds. 50p
Monday 1st May	Bank Holiday—school closed
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> May	Coronation Celebration – dress in red, white and blue. Design a crown competition.
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	Coronation Bank Holiday
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> May	Y6 SATs week. All Y6 children are invited to school from 8.30 for toast and a drink.
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> May	Y4 Apple of my Eye DT food day
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> May	PTFA Family Fun Night @ St Patrick's Club
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	PTFA coffee and cake afternoon at the Juniors. Everyone welcome.
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> May	Y6 Residential
Tuesday 20th June	Sports Day (weather permitting) Y3&4 in the morning; Y5&6 in the afternoon

## PE days

Y3	Thursday
Y4	Wednesday
Y5	Tuesday
Y6	Monday

## Book donations

### We are appealing for children's book donations:

Very good condition books (read just once) to add to our school library.

Good and well-loved books to sell for CAFOD fundraising.

Please send any donations into school with your child and our librarians and house captains will do the rest. Thank you in anticipation of your generosity.



# JOURNEY OF HOPE

Information session for Hope Academy Parents Time: 5.30pm - 6.30pm



## Supporting Students with Disabilities & Special Educational Needs

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2023 (On site Event)** Aimed at all Year groups (also Year 6 students transitioning to Hope)

The workshop will focus on the following:

- Hope Academy Local Offer
- The Four Broad Areas of Need
- Support for students with EHCP and ESS Funded students
- Support for students with a diagnosis of a condition/ syndrome
- The St. Helens Local Offer / What if needs cannot be met? / What if my child struggles to attend school?
- When to involve multi-agencies
- Who do I contact if my child is unable to access work in lessons?
- When do I contact the Pastoral team / SENDCO
- Early Help / Placements in Alternative Education

To book a place, please sign up here: <https://forms.gle/BPrtn5ZSRQsbma26>

Phillippa Hible, SENDCO



RESPECT

COURAGE

AMBITION

HOPE



### Hope Academy Transition – Polite reminder

You will have recently received important documents from Hope Academy – please ensure they are completed and returned in the reply-paid envelope provided by Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May. If you did not receive the documents, please email [lesley.white@hopeacademy.org.uk](mailto:lesley.white@hopeacademy.org.uk)



**Y6 pupils follow the below link for you to order your free Outwood Academy bundles. The cut off date is the 14th May**

<https://www.haydock.outwood.com/transition>.



NEWTON COMMUNITY CENTRE ARE STILL A FOOD BANK DONATION POINT EVEN WHILST THE CENTRE IS CLOSED FOR SUMMER PLAYScheme

IF YOU ARE ABLE TO, PLEASE CONSIDER MAKING A DONATION OF NON PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS TO HELP FAMILIES IN YOUR COMMUNITY THIS SUMMER

**POP IT IN THE TROLLEY**  
OUTSIDE NEWTON COMMUNITY CENTRE  
PARK ROAD SOUTH, NEWTON-LE-WILLOWS, WA12 8EX



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## Sharing the Gospel

### Joining the dots

In this week's gospel, Luke 24:13-35, we see Two disciples walk back from Jerusalem to their home in Emmaus. They are in despair about the death of Jesus. Jesus appears and walks beside them, but they do not recognise him. He teaches them from the Scriptures, and they see who he is when he breaks bread with them. It had all been happening during the past few days in Jerusalem; how could the stranger on the road not even be aware of it?



Lord Jesus,  
this week, help us to keep seeking  
you.  
Reveal to us where you are at  
work in our ordinary lives.  
**Amen.**

**Song of the week:** I can do all things through him who strengthens me

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ult9cnLJGQE&t=83s>

## BRITISH VALUES

This week's British Value we have been looking at is:



### Rule of Law

Different countries have different rules and laws about school and education. In the UK, all children must be provided with an education from age 5 to 18.

The story it links to in the news is:

*An educational television programme for young people in Afghanistan has been launched by the BBC. The TV show has been created to help children, who have been banned from going to school in the country, and is aimed at children aged 11 to 16. The Taliban group, who took over the country in 2021, have stopped girls over the age of 11 from attending school. The weekly programme is called Dars, which means 'lesson' in Afghanistan's official languages.*





@MarysPTFA

The Federation of  
St Mary's PTFA

# 6 REASONS TO JOIN THE PTFA

## FOR THE CHILDREN

BECOME A ROLE MODEL TO  
SHOW YOUR CHILD YOU  
VALUE THEIR EDUCATION.

THE EVENTS WE PLAN WILL  
IMPROVE YOUR CHILD'S  
SCHOOL EXPERIENCE.



## FOR YOU

VOLUNTEERING IS A  
REWARDING EXPERIENCE

WE PLAN TO HOST MANY  
SOCIAL EVENTS TO RAISE  
MONEY AND ALSO TO ENJOY  
EACH OTHERS COMPANY.



## FOR THE SCHOOL

HELP THE SCHOOL TO RAISE  
FUNDS.

HAVE A VOICE IN THE  
PURCHASES THAT ARE MADE  
TO SUPPORT THE CHILDREN.



## BE CONNECTED

THERE IS NO BETTER WAY OF  
KNOWING WHAT'S  
HAPPENING IN SCHOOL.

MEET OTHERS THAT SHARE  
THE SAME COMMON GOALS  
TO HELP IMPROVE THE  
SCHOOL.



## IT IS FUN!

WE AIM TO ENJOY  
OURSELVES IN ALL OUR  
ROLES.

FROM PLANNING EVENTS  
TO RUNNING A STALL IS  
EXCITING!



## KEEP THE PTFA GOING!

AS PARENTS LEAVE SCHOOL  
WE NEED TO KEEP THE  
COMMITTEE GOING.

COME JOIN OUR FRIENDLY  
TEAM AS MANY HANDS  
MAKE LIGHT WORK!



*"I work full time and  
help when I am able"*

*"I really enjoy seeing my  
grown up help out at events"*

*"I didn't realise how rewarding  
it would be"*

*"I've made life long friends"*

St Mary's PTFA Presents ....

## Crazy Family Night & Disco

St Patricks Club  
Friday 12th May 2023  
Doors Open from 6.30pm  
Tickets £5 each in advance of the night

ABBA

Licensed bar, cash tuck shop, extra games,  
fun prizes & much more



# Attendance Matters



## Every Day Counts....



**FACT:** The more time your child spends in school, the better your child's attainment.



# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# WIZZ

AGE RESTRICTION  
**12+**

12+ App Store  
Teen Google Playstore

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Wizz is a networking app which allows users to connect and chat with other people around the world. Its principle is similar to a dating platform: users have a profile with up to three photos, along with optional interests and hobbies tags. This allows other like-minded people to be recommended in searches. If a user likes what they see on someone's profile, they can initiate conversation through the instant message feature; otherwise they swipe on. The app does use age verification technology when an account is created and groups users by age.

## OVER-SHARING

Immediately after setting up an account, users start receiving friend requests (mainly from the opposite gender). For many young people, this will be exciting and a boost to their confidence. As young people tend to be more trusting online and may believe what others tell them, however, this can lull them into dropping their guard and revealing personal information to strangers.

## CATFISHING AND PREDATORS

Wizz uses Yoti, a digital ID system, to verify users' age. The AI only detects approximate age, though – so an older person who looks younger could be grouped with teens (or vice versa). Also, profile pics on Wizz don't have to match the face of the person who did the initial age verification: it would be fairly easy to create a fake account using another person's photos with a made-up name and age.

## EXPLICIT CONTENT

During our research, conversations on Wizz very quickly turned sexual. Users frequently suggested 'taking it to Snapchat' (Snapchat's disappearing image feature can make it conducive to sharing explicit selfies), connecting on other social media, swapping nude or semi-nude pictures, or holding sexual chats. These users created an impression of the platform being sleazy and unsafe for young people.

18

MEET STRANG

## INTIMATE IMAGES

It's not unheard of for young people to be coaxed into sending suggestive images of themselves over apps of this kind. Given that Wizz connects users with strangers, who may not be honest about their real intentions, a teenager might conceivably be persuaded to share sexually suggestive selfies by someone who they believed they had a trusting relationship with.

## NO PARENTAL CONTROLS

The app claims to provide a secure and inclusive environment, but our researcher couldn't find any parental controls or safety features in evidence. If you report another user for inappropriate behaviour, you are offered the option to block them – but there's no indication as to whether the block has actually been successful, and there was no follow-up contact from the developers.

## SECRETS AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

Wizz sent our researcher occasional 'mystery' friend requests from a blurred-out profile. To discover the sender's identity, users can either watch a video (usually an ad for a game or app) or take out a monthly subscription. Cynics might suggest this could be a way to exploit young people's curiosity into making them pay for the app, and that the 'secret admirers' are bots rather than real people.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### TALK IT OUT

If your child has downloaded Wizz, talk to them about why they like it and who've chatted with. Have they shared any personal details with this person or connected with them on other social media platforms? Refresh your child's memory of the various risks that can arise from engaging with strangers online and get them to consider using a similar app with more robust safety features.

### BE SUPPORTIVE

When connecting with strangers on apps like Wizz, seemingly innocent chats can quickly progress to become sexually explicit and lead to nudes being sent. Make sure your child knows to come to you if they're uncomfortable about anything they've been sent or been asked to send. If they've already shared something that they now regret, reassure them that you'll support them no matter what.

### EMPHASISE CAUTION

Young people are far more inclined to see the good in others; they often overlook the fact that scammers set up fake accounts on apps like this with the intention of getting money or personal data. Remind them that not everyone online is who they claim to be, how easy it is for someone to create a bogus profile, and why it's vital to think twice about sharing anything on networking apps.

### KEEP THINGS TRANSPARENT

It might feel awkward, but regular chats about your child's online life can be beneficial. If they seem suddenly anxious or secretive around their phone or tablet, they may have something they need to get off their chest. You could also consider not allowing digital devices in their bedroom, especially overnight – that's when a lot of the riskier conversations on apps like Wizz tend to take place.

## Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



**National Online Safety**  
#WakeUpWednesday

Source: [https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=info.wizzapp&hl=en\\_GB&gl=US](https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=info.wizzapp&hl=en_GB&gl=US) | <https://www.met.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/sexual-offences/sexting/>



@natonlinesafety



/NationalOnlineSafety



@nationalonlinesafety



@national\_online\_safety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 28.04.2023



# OUT OF SCHOOL CLUBS




**This is our game.**


[dynamoscriccket.co.uk](http://dynamoscriccket.co.uk)

Join us at:  
Newton - le - Willows Cricket Club, WA12 9XE

Session dates:  
Friday evenings, 19th May - 7th July 2023, for all children aged 8-11

Session timings:  
6:00 - 7:00 pm

Contact:  
ianwalky112@gmail.com



**This is our game.**

Dynamo Cricket provides a fantastic next step for all those graduating from All Stars Cricket and the perfect introduction for all 8-11 year-olds new to the sport!

Sessions are all about playing together and developing new skills, teamwork and friendship.

Every child that registers will receive their very own Dynamo Cricket New Balance t-shirt, personalised with their name and number on the back and have access to a brand new digital app, packed with exclusive cricket content, unlockable skills challenges, quizzes and activities.

Sign up today to your nearest Dynamo Cricket centre.

[dynamoscriccket.co.uk](http://dynamoscriccket.co.uk)

## Wigan Football Development

St Edmund Arrowsmith High School (AstroTurf Pitch), Rookery Avenue, Wigan, WN4 9PF  
Starting on Friday 19th May 2023

**In association with First Kick Football**

School years - Reception and Year 1	6:00pm - 6:45pm
School years - Year 2 and Year 3	6:45pm - 7:30pm
School years - Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6	7:30pm - 8:30pm

Dear parents,

Places are now available to join a new 12-week football course every Friday at St Edmund Arrowsmith Catholic High School, starting 19th May, which is open to both boys and girls.

Our courses teach children correct football techniques by FA qualified coaches who have full DBS (CRB) clearance to work with children. The structure for the course is 'FUN through Football', building confidence for total beginners and moving onto more complex sessions for experienced players.

We provide a **ball per player** for the majority of our drills ensuring children get more touches of the ball and improve quicker than conventional coaching where children are waiting around to have a turn. The sessions are held on the fantastic AstroTurf pitch so trainers or AstroTurf boots should be worn. Players are also advised to bring a will drink for the session.

The club has links to local junior teams of which players will be able to play for at the weekend. Players who show advanced ability on the course will be recommended for trials at professional academies. Players who have previously attended courses are currently playing for Blackburn Rovers, Preston North End, Manchester United, Liverpool, Blackpool, Everton, Burnley, Bolton, Oldham, Rochdale and Wigan.

The cost of the course is just over £5 per week, which is payable in two instalments. The first payment of £25 is due when booking your child on and the second payment of £25 due at the first session. Parents are encouraged to watch the sessions but are welcome to leave children, as every session is fully supervised.

**\*\*NEW TOURNAMENT FORMAT\*\***

Every four weeks we have a tournament in order for the children to put their new-found skills into practice with medals and trophies awarded at the end of the course for various categories.

**ALL PLAYERS WILL RECEIVE A TROPHY & A MEDAL** at the presentation, which is held on the final week of the course. Additional trophies will also be awarded in each group from categories including: Best Attitude, Star Player, Most Improved Player, Most Promising Player and Hardest Working Player.

To book a place for your child please telephone the number below as soon as possible as a high response is expected.

**TO BOOK PLEASE TELEPHONE**  
Kaden  
**0161 302 2510 or 07514 316 534**

We cannot guarantee that the course will run in consecutive weeks.  
Please note we have a strict no refund policy once the course has been booked.



## JOIN THE STORM!

Newton Storm, your local community Rugby League club, are currently on the look out for new players and volunteers.

With age groups from Reception to Open Age, and continued success both on and off the field, it's a great time to get involved.

If you'd like to know more find us on Facebook or Twitter.

@NewtonStormARL  
NewtonStormARLFC  
[www.newtonstorm.co.uk](http://www.newtonstorm.co.uk)

## U8S COME ALONG & JOIN THE STORM!

Calling Y3 boys & girls to join our U8s team.

Training:  
Mon 6-7pm  
Wed 6-7pm  
Newton Sports Club

For more details, contact:  
Matt 07827 921707  
Jacob 07780 435526



## Big Moments of summer fun!



Sign up today at [allstarscricket.co.uk](http://allstarscricket.co.uk) or at the centre

Join us at: Earlestown Cricket Club, Earle Street, Earlestown WA12 9NU

Session dates: Monday evenings, starting 8 May 2023 for all children aged 5-8

Session timings: 6:00 - 7:00 pm

Contact: [earlestowncc@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:earlestowncc@hotmail.co.uk)

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