



The Federation of St Mary's Catholic Schools

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

Philippians 4: 13

Respect

Compassion

Resilience

Dear Parents and Carers,

Open Day

Open Day was held on Tuesday and it was a success.

There were 20 children from Year 2 who volunteered to show prospective families and their children around the school. They were tremendous and I am SO proud of



every single one of them. They spoke confidently and eloquently about everything in St Mary's from our Arches curriculum and trips to Dojos and Celebration Assembly. All who came to Open Day were amazed by our wonderful Year 2 volunteers as they were excellent advocates for St Mary's. Thank you!



£342 raised



Children In Need

Many thanks for your kind donations for Children In Need. Both the infants and juniors raised a total of £342.

Volunteers

We are looking for volunteers who would be available to come into school to talk to the children about how computers, or other computerised equipment are used to do jobs. This will be during the weeks beginning 11th and 18th December when computing is our curriculum focus. If you could spare 30mins or so please get in touch with us. Could you call or email the office and leave a message FAO Mr Beech or message Mrs Grange on Dojo. We will get in contact. It would be great to have as many visitors as possible from a variety of occupations during the 2 weeks. Thank you so much in advance.

PE kit and Uniform

Thank you to all for your continued support with our uniform and presentation. Please remember that our PE kit is a plain navy blue hoodie or jacket (without logos) or our school jumper/cardigan. We do have lots of cardigans and jumpers to spare. Call in to the office to help yourself.

Non uniform day

Just a reminder, next Friday is non uniform day in return for a donation towards the PTFAs colour hampers. Please see PTFA page on the newsletter to tell you the colour that your child's year group has been allocated.

Have a wonderful weekend everyone,

Best wishes, Mrs Grange

AWARD WINNERS

	Star of the Week	Bee Award
Nursery	Arthur	Dexter
RJ	George	Leo
RT	Phoebe	Arlo
Y1M	Kian	Leo
Y1B	Harper	John
Y2M	Xander	Neasa
Y2G	Ivy	Hailie



School
Values
Award

Angelo

Congratulations!

Sts Mary & John and St Patrick's
CHRISTMAS FAYRE

St Patrick's Social Centre
Sunday 3rd December

12:00 start

Hot dogs and Sandwiches

Spin the Wheel

Free Entry



All welcome!

Tombola

Raffle

Crafts

Cakes

St Mary's PTFA presents our

Candy Cane Trail

Find the letters to spell the Christmassy word.

This Earlestown based trail is free to complete & activity sheets will be sent home from school.

Return your completed entry form to the school office with 50p to receive a gift & entry to our special prize draw to win a range of great prizes, including a £50 Smyths Toys Voucher!

A huge thank you to the businesses of Earlestown who have kindly donated prizes & displayed letters!

Runs from 24th November 2023 - 18th December 2023



NON UNIFORM DAY 1ST DECEMBER 2023

IN EXCHANGE FOR A COLOURFUL
DONATION TOWARDS OUR COLOUR
HAMPER RAFFLE:

NURSERY = RED
RECEPTION = ORANGE
YEAR 1 = YELLOW
YEAR 2 = GREEN
YEAR 3 = BLUE
YEAR 4 = PINK/PURPLE
YEAR 5 = BLACK/WHITE
YEAR 6 = SILVER/GOLD

IDEAS INCLUDE - DRINKS, SWEETS, CHOCOLATES, HAIR
ACCESSORIES, CANDLES, TOILETRIES, BOOKS, CRAFTS....
OR WHY NOT BE REALLY CREATIVE & SURPRISE US?!
ITEMS MUST BE CLEAN, UNOPENED & UNUSED



NO MORE LOST ITEMS!

Our nametags are perfect to label
all of your child's possessions.
From clothing to shoes, stationery,
toys - everything is identified!

STAYS ON CLOTHES
& SHOES

QUEEN'S AWARD
WINNER

5 STAR RATING
FROM 35K+ REVIEWS

UK MARKET LEADER
FOR 15+ YEARS

School ID: 20826

Ask your school for the School ID to link your order to its
PTA fundraising account.



Order now on www.mynametags.com

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Christmas at St Mary's

Friday 1st December	Non-uniform day for PTFA Christmas hamper raffle	Colours to be allocated to year groups
Monday 11th December	Infant Movie Night Junior Bingo £3 per child	Infants – 3.15-4.45 Juniors – 3.30-5.00
Tuesday 12th December	EYFS Christmas Nativity	Parents and carers invited
Wednesday 13th December	KS1 Christmas Nativity	Parents and carers invited
Thursday 14th December	Y3 Christmas assembly	Parents and carers invited 9.30am and 2.30pm
Monday 18th December	Y3/4 Christmas Party Children are invited to wear party clothes	
Tuesday 19th December	Infant Christmas Dinner Day – wear a Christmas jumper Y5/6 Christmas Party Children are invited to wear party clothes Carols round the tree	Parents and carers invited
Wednesday 20th December	EYFS Christmas party Children are invited to wear party clothes KS1 Service in church Junior Christmas Dinner Day wear a Christmas jumper	Parents and carers invited
Thursday 21st December	KS1 Christmas party Children are invited to wear party clothes Upper KS2 Mass – 9.15 Lower KS2 Mass – 10.00	Parents and carers invited



The Federation of St Mary's Catholic Schools



Attendance Information for Parents/Carers

We aim for all pupils to have attendance of at least 96%

<u>Excellent</u> 99%-100%	<u>Good</u> 97%-98%	<u>Average</u> 95%-96%	<u>Cause for Concern</u> 94%-90%	<u>Of Great Concern</u> Below 90%
Well Done! This is amazing keep it up! Your child is in school learning and getting their entitlement to an education.	Your child's attendance is good and they will be accessing school to the levels they need to make progress with their learning.	Let's Get this percentage higher! Your child may well start to fall behind with their learning and ability to build on previous learning.	Your attendance really needs to improve. There will be a significant impact on your child's acquisition of skills and knowledge. Over time this will result in your child underachieving.	Your child will not be working at their full potential, and this will have a significant negative impact on their future in school and beyond.

Why is attendance important ?

- It is a legal requirement for your child to be in school on time every day.
- Poor attendance will have a negative effect on your child's learning, outcomes and overall mental health and wellbeing.
- We want our children to make the most of their experiences in school and reach their potential.

What is an example of an authorised absence?

- Your child is too ill to attend school (*proof of illness may be requested*).
- An unavoidable medical appointment in school time (*proof of all appointments will be required*).
- A leave of absence agreed by the headteacher

What do I do if my child is unwell?

- Please notify the school EACH DAY that your child is ill, by **ringing the school office on 01744 678357 for Infants and 01744 678603 for Juniors. Please leave a voicemail if no-one is available to answer your call.**
- If you have not contacted the school by 9.30am then the school office staff will telephone you. If we are unable to get in touch then the DSL or a member of the school pastoral team or the Education Welfare Officer may visit your home.

What is an example of an unauthorised absence?

- A family holiday in term time
- Staying off school because a sibling or parent is unwell
- Taking the day off because it is your birthday or you have an event or other day out planned.

Attendance Matters



Every Day Counts....

When attendance becomes a concern

If your child's attendance falls below 90%, school will send you a letter and monitor their attendance closely. You may also be contacted by school to attend an Attendance Awareness Meeting to discuss the reasons why your child has been absent. Following this, if your child's attendance does not improve then school may make a referral to the Education Welfare Service. You will be notified of this.



Infant Site

Getting Your Child to School Really Matters



Did You Know... ?

In a School Year, If Your Child is Late Every Day By...	Your Child Would Have Lost Approximately...	or They Would Have Missed Approximately...
5 Minutes	3.5 Days from School	20 Lessons
10 Minutes	7 Days from School	41 Lessons
15 Minutes	10 Days from School	55 Lessons
20 Minutes	14.5 Days from School	82 Lessons
30 Minutes	22 Days from School	123 Lessons

Please Encourage Punctuality to Maintain Attendance

Let's talk about PUNCTUALITY



When Punctuality becomes a concern

At St Mary's, we take punctuality seriously and we monitor lateness daily.

If your child is regularly late, you may be contacted to discuss the reasons why and a plan of support may be offered.

Why is Punctuality important?

- It is a legal requirement for your child to be in school on time every day.
- When children are late for school they miss out on the valuable first part of a lesson which impacts on their understanding of the rest of the lesson.
- Many children feel anxious and embarrassed walking into class late.
- Arriving late also disrupts other children already in the class.
- Punctuality is an essential life skill that needs to be taught from an early age.

What to do when your child is late

- Children should arrive at school ready for the gates to open at **8:40 am**.
- Gates are closed at **8:55 am**.
- If your child arrives after this time, they will enter through the main office and you will need to sign them in as late on the data entry system. Your child will receive a late mark on the register.

Unauthorised late marks

- If your child arrives into school after 9:30 am, they will receive an unauthorised late mark.
- If your child receives 10 or more unauthorised late marks within a 10 week period, school may request a Penalty Notice to be issued by the Local Authority.