



NEWSLETTER 2 - NOVEMBER 2024

St Mary's R.C. School
St Mary's Road,
Douglas, Isle of Man, IM2 5RB
Tel: 01624 673807
Email: enquiries@stmarys.sch.im
Web: stmarys.sch.im

the children are at the heart of everything we do



Welcome back and hope all the children had an enjoyable half term.

Staffing: Congratulations to Mrs Quilliam who had her baby boy in September. Both her and baby Finn are doing well. We welcome back Mrs Edwards who has returned from her maternity leave and Mrs Tang has now finished her contract. We welcome Mrs Jones, who is teaching in Year 1.

School Times: School starts at 8.55am. The children can come into school from 8.45am for morning activities. The register is taken from 8.55am until 9am. After 9am is a late mark on the register. School finishes at 3.25pm. We would appreciate if children are picked up on time, as teachers often have meetings and courses starting after school.

Scrap Paper: If any parents work for companies that produce scrap paper we would love it for our chill room at lunchtimes. The children love drawing in here but we are running out of scrap paper! All donations are welcome.

Coats: If coats could be labelled please, we can return them to the children after each play. We have a HUGE amount of lost property which can not be returned due to not having names on.

Booster Seats: When transporting children on buses or in cars, which have a seatbelt, any child under 135cm requires to have a booster seat. If you have any unused (no back) booster seats at home, we would love to take them! We need at least 16 to be able to use the minibuses after half term.



Bikes before school: We ask the children **not** to go on the bikes and scooters before school. There are younger children on the playground who may get knocked down as too many people on the yard. It is not safe and no staff are outside to supervise.

Please do not allow your children on these before 8.45am. There is no risk assessment in place for their use before school starts.

Snacks: The children have a snack at morning playtimes. They can bring a small snack, such as, biscuits and fruit. Children are currently bringing in large snacks and packed lunches for snack time. We are having a lot of children who are not eating their lunch as their snack is quite substantial and they are eating this an hour before their lunch. Only 1 snack a day is required. Water bottles can be refilled through the day.

Christmas Concerts: All the dates for this years concerts are on the second page of the newsletter. There are two performances

each. No tickets are required, however we ask that the maximum of only 4 family members come to watch each performance.

We will also be performing Hosanna Rock at St Mary's Church during the last week of term. If you can not make it the performance will be lived streamed on <https://manxcatholic.org> This can be watched from around the world if you have families not on the island.

Parents' Evening: Parents' evenings take place the week of Monday 18th November. The times will be on Arbor from Monday 11th for parents to book. You will receive an email when these go live.

Home Learning: Along with this newsletter is a home learning letter. This is a summary of all the home learning (homework) which teachers 'set' weekly. Hopefully, having all the information in one place will make it clearer for parents as to what is available to do at home.

School Improvement: As our continuous cycle of school improvement, this year we are working on; Embedding Thinking Moves across all subjects. Reviewing our relational policy and bringing a new policy in, which aligns with emotion coaching. There will be a parent workshop next year about emotion coaching. We are continuing to embed the new DESC reading framework and our new writing framework. P4C continues to be taught weekly and is a real strength of our school. We are also streamlining our assessment procedures and focusing on challenge across the curriculum for all learners.

Poppy Appeal: We support the Poppy appeal each year. During this week items will be on sale in school. Items range from 25pm to £1. If your child would like to buy any items they can bring money in.



Admissions: It seems early, but if you have a child, or know anyone who has, due to start school in September 2025 please register them at the school office as soon as possible. The deadline for registering your child is Jan 2025.

Sporting Success: We entered two teams into the Hockey tournament. One of our teams came joint second, narrowly missing out on the final. Our second team came fourth. They were all a credit to our school. Photos below.

Website: Our school website is continuously updated and has a wealth of information on for parents.

School Mass: Friday 15th November at 9.30am. Year 4 & 5 will be leading the Mass. All welcome.

Daffodils: Your child brought home a daffodil to grow. The judging of the pot and flower will be Thursday 6th March.

DATE:	EVENT:
Monday 4th November	Return to school. All PE kits to be brought back
Friday 8th November	DRESS DOWN DAY - bring a Tombola item - details on FOSMs Facebook page
Week beginning Monday 11th November	Parent IEP appointments (email gone home if your child has an appointment)
Wednesday 13th November	Y3/4 Girls football competition - Parents to pick up from NSC at 3.30pm
Friday 15th November	School Mass led by Y4/5 - 9.30am in school hall. All welcome
Week beginning Monday 18th November	Parents' Evening appointments - live on Arbor to book on Monday 11th Nov
Friday 29th November	Tombola Night - details to follow from FOSMs
Wednesday 4th December	Year 1 Christmas Concerts at 10am and 2.30pm
Thursday 5th December	Year 2 and 3 Christmas Concerts at 10am and 2.30pm
Friday 6th December	Year 4 and 5 Christmas Concerts at 10am and 2.30pm
Wednesday 11th December	Reception Christmas Concerts at 10am and 2.30pm
Thursday 12th December	Year 6 Christmas Concerts at 10am and 2.30pm
Friday 13th December	Report 1 home
Tuesday 17th December	Christams Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day (dress down)
Thursday 19th December	Hosanna Rocks - St Mary's Church at 10.30am - all welcome
Friday 20th December	School Closes
Monday 6th January	School Re opens



Clubs Aut 2	Lunch Time	After School
Monday	Eco Club	
Tuesday	MSR - Y3/4 Boys Football KS2 Choir	
Wednesday	Newsteam Year 1 & 2 Art Club	
Thursday		Y5&6 Badminton
Friday	Girls' Football Y2/3 Tag Rugby (2.30pm in Golden time)	