



NEWSLETTER 1 - SEPTEMBER 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: Welcome back after the summer holidays. We are delighted to see all the children return and looking so smart in their uniforms. Please can you ensure ALL clothing items are named, especially the younger children. A warm welcome to all our new Reception children and parents and to all our new starters in other year groups.

School Newsletters: All parents will receive a half termly Newsletter which contains important school information and a list of key school dates. We always endeavour to give parents as much notice as possible for events and dress down days etc. You will also be emailed a class letter which is specific to your child's class and will detail their key dates and what exciting learning they are doing in their projects.

Website: We have a school website which is continuously updated with school blogs, weekly news broadcasts and key policies. You can also download holiday absence forms and administration of medicine forms from here. Each class has their own page which has photos of the children learning in class and trip photos etc, are posted on there. It is a great source of information and keeping up to date with what your child is doing in class.

<https://stmarys.sch.im>

School Developments: Welcome to our Deputy Headteacher, Mr Rotchell and our new teachers Miss Patience and Miss Kelly. We also have two new support staff, Miss Heginbotham and Miss Bawden. Mrs Quilliam will be starting her maternity next week. Congratulations to Mrs Robertson who will be leaving on her maternity late November. As soon as a teacher is appointed to take over her class we will let you know. Congratulations to Miss Longshaw who got married over the summer. Her new name is Mrs Stewart. Also, congratulations as she has been appointed to a new role at Rushen school. Sadly she will be leaving us at Christmas, to begin her new job there.

Collecting Children: We ask that all Reception and KSI (Years 1 and 2) children are collected from school by an adult. If your child is being collected from school by somebody new or unfamiliar, please let your child's class teacher or the office know that morning. It is important that we know who the children are going home with. Years 3 to 6 will also finish school at 3.25pm and can be collected from the main playground. If you need to speak to the teachers, after school is a more convenient time, as they are in class with children from 8.45am onwards and it can be a busy time. I am on the playground every morning from 8.45am and always available for a quick chat or query. If children are not collected by 3.30pm they will go up to the school office.

Consents: Please ensure that all your child's consents are up to date via the Arbor Parent Portal. If consents are not in place this may result in your child not being able to go on trips etc. Please check your address is correct, contact details and all consents. New consents may have been added and they will need to be approved by you for this year. This must be updated annually.

Snacks: Children can bring a snack with them each day. Plain biscuits or fruit. Also, a drink which can be accessed in their class at anytime throughout the day. Please can we ask that no sweets, chocolate, crisps, or fizzy drinks are brought in. Also, no snacks or food items containing NUTS. No NUTs in packed lunch items either please.

Medicines: If you require school to administer any medicine to your child, please complete the appropriate permission form at the school office and ensure your child's class teacher is aware of this. If your child requires an

inhaler or Epi-Pen, please ensure that it is in school and they are in date. We require two Epi Pens in school at all times. A new form will be coming home for inhalers to be signed and returned.

Swimming: Swimming starts on Wednesday 11th September for Key Stage 2 children (Y3-6). Correct attire is required for swimming lessons, it is imperative that boys wear swimming trunks and not baggy shorts. Unfortunately, children will be unable to take part in the lesson if they don't have the appropriate swimwear. If your child requires arm bands they will be provided at the pool. Swimming hats are required for any child with long hair or a long fringe. No jewellery to be worn on swimming days, including ear rings. If you are able to help with swimming lessons, please get in touch. Parent help with these sessions is invaluable and we really appreciate parents who give up their own time to help with this. All regular helpers will require a police check. Forms can be collected from the office.

Milk / Dinners: For those children who have paid for milk it will be commencing on Monday 9th September. Dinner price is £2.40 per day. Children can change to packed lunches or dinners at the beginning of the half term, not during term time, please. Parents are asked to pay through Parent Pay. If you have misplaced your log in details, Mrs Poole will be able to re issue them. New Parents will receive their Parent Pay log in details from Mrs Poole this week.

NUTS - we do have children with nut allergies so please do not bring in nut based snacks or food.

Attendance: Should you request leave of absence for your child, please put your request in writing to myself (forms can be collected from the school office or printed from the website). If your child's attendance falls below 90% you will be informed by email and attendance will be monitored. Absence from school will only be authorised in mitigating circumstances.

Lates: The children can come into school from 8.45am. School starts at 8.55am. Any children arriving after 9am will have to come through the main entrance and let Mrs Poole know. To keep children safe the gates are locked at 9.15am. A late mark is given if arrival is after 9am.

Scrap Paper: If any parents work in companies that have any 'scrap' or spare paper reams we would love to use them in our Chill Room. The children love to draw over lunchtimes so any donations of paper would be gratefully received.

Green Flag Status: Congratulations to our Eco School Committee who have again achieved the highest award of Green Flag Status. This is the second year we have been awarded.

Positive Relationships and Values: We will continue to embed our school values of Faith, Achievement, Trust and Compassion and encourage our school community to live by these values in everything we do. Our Positive Relationship Policy ensures we are all Respectful, Ready and Safe in school at all times.

Uniform: The uniform swap shop is set up in the cell room and can be accessed before and after school. There are lots of uniform items to swap. Reminder please that shoes/trainers should be ALL black.

Clubs: Please see below the new club timetable - all starting from Monday 9th September.

Any questions or queries, please get in touch! Mrs Martin

Autumn 1 - Dates for your Diary

DATE:	EVENT:
Wednesday 4th September	All inhalers and Epi Pens to be in school New administration of medicine forms completed and sent back by Friday 6th.
Friday 6th September	All PE kits to be in school please
Monday 9th September	Manx starts Y5 and 6
Tuesday 10th September	MSR Club - YEAR 2 Multi-sports 3.30 - 4.15pm - pick up from hall
Wednesday 11th September	Swimming starts - y3 to y6 Y3 dropped to NSC by 8.45am
Thursday 12th September	Badminton Club Y5&6 - 3.30pm - 4.30pm Hockey Club - Y3&4 - 3.30pm - 4.20pm (Only when weather is dry. On the Astro.)
Friday 13th September	Year 6 Mass at School - 9.30am All Welcome
Friday 20th September	Open the Book Assembly
Sunday 22nd September	Civic Service at St Mary's Cathedral at Ilam KS2 Choir will be singing - details to follow
Friday 27th September	Flu vaccinations for children who have consents
Wednesday 9th October	Year 5 - Outdoor Learning Day - details to follow
Wednesday 23rd October	Year 3 - Little Stars Workshop Trip - details to follow
Friday 25th October	CLOSE FOR HALF TERM
Monday 4th November	Back to School

Clubs Aut 1	Lunch Time	After School
Monday		
Tuesday	KS2 Choir	Year 2 - Multi sports 3.30 - 4.15pm (pick up hall)
Wednesday	News Team Year 1 & 2 Art Club	
Thursday		Badminton Year 5&6 - 3.30 - 4.30pm - pick up hall Hockey (ONLY WHEN DRY WEATHER on astro) 3.30 - 4.20pm pick up on yard
Friday	Girls Football	