



the children are at the heart of everything we do

# Spring

Welcome back, we hope the children had a lovely week off. It is a very busy half term until we break up for Easter, so lots to be packed in! Please take a look at the second page with a list of important dates for the half term including all school trips.

**Staffing:** At the end of the half term Miss Slater will be starting her maternity leave. Mrs Helen Moyer will be starting with us and will be taking over as Inclusion Leader. Mrs Moyer is a very experienced school leader and currently works at the DESC as virtual deputy headteacher. We welcome back Mrs Robertson who will be on a phased return to work.

**Daffodils:** Reminder that the Douglas Borough Daffodil competition will be judged on **Thursday 6th March**. Don't worry if your flower didn't survive, the children can still enter their pot! Please bring it to the classroom on the Thursday morning. It must be the original bulb and pot to be entered in to the competition.



**World Book Day:** This is also on **Thursday 6th March**. To avoid any unnecessary costs for families and to reduce waste, the children can come to school dressed in their **PJs or own clothes**. If your child already has a costume, they can of course wear this, but you **do not need** to buy anything for the day. The children will be receiving a book token to buy their own book from participating shops.



**CAFOD** - This year CAFOD are doing a **BIG WALK** for lent. Again, we are going to use our walk down to St Mary's Church for Resurrection Rock as our big walk. If you would like to donate to CAFOD's lent appeal - here is the link;

<https://cafod.org.uk/give/appeals/lent-appeal>

**Projects this half term:** We continue with our History (discover) focus for the term. The children are immersed in a project based around philosophical concepts which they discuss and explore throughout the projects. This concept based approach ensures inclusive learning for all pupils.

The children will continue to be nominated as Thinker of the week and may receive a certificate for using Thinking Moves in their learning.

**Dinners/Milk:** Dinners this half term are £2.55 per day. Children can swap between packed lunch and dinners at the beginning of a half term, but not during the half term.

**PE Kits:** **Please can all the children have correct P.E. kits in school by Friday. P.E lessons have started from the first day back. Please ensure all items are named, including footwear.**

**Swimming:** KS2 swimming remains on Wednesdays until Easter. This is part of the PE curriculum so children are expected to participate. If they are unfit to swim please provide a note explaining why. If they have a heavy cold which prevents them swimming, they should not be in school.

**There will be no swimming after this half term.**

**Sporting Events:** Last half term we took two Year 3 teams to the Tag Rugby tournament at the NSC. Both teams were fantastic and did the school proud.

The cross country championships will be on Friday 14th March at Nobles Park. We will be holding trials for anyone who would like to be selected this Tuesday lunchtime. Please bring in suitable footwear, which will get very muddy!

We are also entering teams in Girls' Football and Netball this half term - all details TBC for those children competing.

**Website:**

This is a huge source of parental information. <https://stmarys.sch.im>  
Please check your child's class page for photos of their learning in class.

**Resurrection Rock:** To celebrate Easter we will be going to St Mary's Church and the children will be performing Resurrection Rock. It would be lovely to see as many parents/relatives as possible at the Church. The event will be live streamed for those who can not be there in person.

**Friday 28th March at 2pm. This is a week earlier than normal so the Y6 children can take part before they go to the Venture Centre during the final week.**

**Parents can collect the children from the Church after the performance, if they wish too and they can go home slightly earlier that day. Any children not going with parents will walk back to school for pick up as normal.**

**First Holy Communion:** In class, our Year 4 children will start preparing for their First Holy Communion this half term.

**FHC is on Saturday 3rd May at 10.30am at St Mary's Church.**

**Year 6:** Our Year 6s will be at the Venture Centre during the final week of half term. Many thanks to the staff for accompanying the children and giving up their own time to take the children.

**Individual Education Plans (IEPs):** Parents with children who have an IEP will have a review appointment the week beginning Monday 10th March. Individual appointments will be emailed out this week. These appointments are in addition to parents' evening appointments which will be held during the summer term.

**Ash Wednesday:** Children in KS2 will receive Ashes from Fr. John on Wednesday 5th March.

**Mass:** Mass will be held in school on Thursday 27th February and led by our Year 2 children. This is at 9.30am and all parents are welcome to attend.

**Parking:** We appreciate that parking around pick up time is tricky and space is limited. If staff ask parents to move their cars from a dangerous position, please appreciate that we are asking to **keep the children safe**, not to inconvenience parents. Please do not park on the zig zag lines at the zebra crossing - we have no patrol officer and it makes seeing the children who are crossing very difficult. Please do not park on the pavements on St Mary's Road or block the road by the cones as this is an emergency access point. We do not want any accidents where our children are hit by cars.

Please see below important dates for your diary for this half term.

Regards, Mrs Martin

## Spring 2 - Dates for your Diary

DATE:	EVENT:
Monday 24th February	All P.E. Kits in school
Tuesday 25th February	KS2 Cross Country trials (lunchtimes) - please bring kit if children would like to try out for the team
Wednesday 26th February	KS2 Swimming - finishing after Easter holidays Year 1 trip to Douglas Fire Station
Thursday 27th February	Year 3 Victorian Day at the ESC - Packed lunch required
Thursday 27th February	Year 2 Spring Mass - 9.30am in hall Year 6 STEM Fest - Packed lunch required
Friday 28th February	Year 4/5 Trip to House of Mannannan - Packed lunch required Netball Competition at Buchan - details emailed
Tuesday 4th March	Shrove Tuesday - FOSMs Pancake Cafe - details to follow
Wednesday 5th March	Year 4/5/6 Girls Football Tournament - all day. Email to follow with details
Wednesday 5th March	Ash Wednesday - KS2 children to receive Ashes
Thursday 6th March	WORLD BOOK DAY - dress in your PJs or own clothes Daffodil Judging - bring in daffodil in the decorated pot
Friday 7th March	Year 6 Trip to Manx Museum and Hutchinson Square
Week beginning 10th March	IEP parent appointments
Wednesday 12th March	Reception Wildlife Park Trip - packed lunch required
Friday 14th March	Cross Country Championships at Nobles Park 1.30pm (Reserve date 21st March)
Tuesday 18th March	Year 2 Trip to Peel - Packed lunch required
Wednesday 19th March	Sportshall Athletics at NSC - Year TBC - Email to follow with details
Friday 21st March	Manx Folk Awards - KS1 Choir - details will be emailed out for children taking part
Thursday 27th March	Spring reports home
Friday 28th March	Resurrection Rock at St Mary's Church - 2pm. Children can be collected from the Church if a parent is there
Monday 31st March	Year 6 Venture Centre Residential Week
Monday 31st March	Year 3 Victorian Film Premier for parents at the SNHS upper school lecture theatre @ 2pm
Wednesday 2nd April	FINAL SWIMMING
Thursday 3rd April	Year 2's Significance Assembly for parents
Friday 4th April	LAST DAY OF TERM
<b>TUESDAY</b> 22nd April	Children return to school - Please note the children return on <b>TUESDAY</b>