

NOVEMBER 2025

St Mary's R.C. School St Mary's Road, Douglas, Isle of Man, IM2 5RB

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and courses starting after school.



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

Parent Survey: Many thanks for your contributions. The results are on the bottom of the Newsletter.

register. School finishes at 3.25pm. We would appreciate if

children are picked up on time, as teachers often have meetings

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.

Snacks: The children have a snack at morning playtimes. They can bring a small snack, such as, biscuits and fruit. Only 1 snack a day is required. Water bottles can be refilled through the day. No NUTS in any snacks.

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.

Poppy Appeal: We support the Poppy appeal each year. During this week items will be on sale in school. Items range from 20p 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 2026 please register them at the school office as soon as possible. The deadline for registering your child is January 2026.

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

<u>Daffodils:</u> You child will be bringing home a daffodil to grow. The judging of the pot and flower will be during March.

Welcome back and hope all the children had an enjoyable half

Parking: I appreciate that the end of the school day causes traffic congestion around the school. However, the safety of the children is paramount. Please can parents not park on the zig zag lines of the crossing. This restricts the children's view when crossing. This is especially important as it is darker when leaving school. Please be considerate when parking and keep the children safe.

Also, an appeal from the police:

https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c9q1e3zjq94o

School Priorities: As you know we have been working on developing our bespoke school curriculum for the past 3 years. Integral to this has been the development of Thinking Moves (a metacognition strategy) and Philosophy for Children (P4C). We base all our projects around an enquiry question to develop the children as creative and critical thinkers ready for the world which awaits them.

Over the next three years we will be developing our main two priorities.

Philosophical Teaching and Learning across all subjects and developing these six strands.



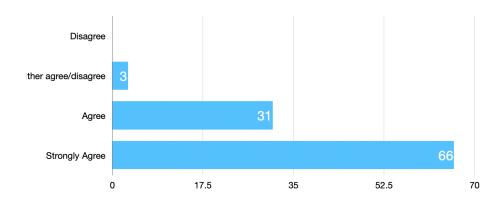
Why are we doing this as a school? Philosophical Teaching equips our pupils with the intellectual skills and strengths of character. It has an emphasis on questioning and reasoning. The emphasis on personal, social and intellectual virtues helps pupils throughout their learning and their lives. Personal virtues include self-confidence, optimism, resilience and enterprise. Social virtues include respectfulness, trustworthiness, open-mindedness and empathy. Intellectual virtues include fair-mindedness and wise judgement.

Our second priority is Inclusion. We will be aligning our policies and practices with the DESC's Inclusive Education Offer. We are adopting a more unified and intentional approach to inclusion and belonging across the school including the co construction of a vision for inclusive leadership. This includes updating the language we use to reflect our intent- one where every child feels seen, valued, and supported. You will see some changes to our reports for all children and the way Individual Education Plans are used. This new approach will ensure that strengths are recognised, celebrated, and built upon. Learning behaviours and key life skills are intentionally nurtured. Support for longer-term needs is structured, aspirational, and forward-looking.

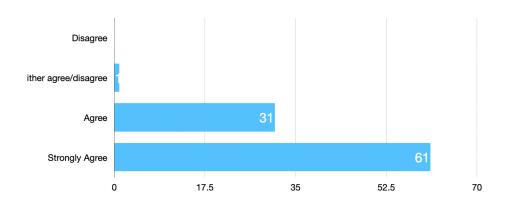
DATE:	EVENT:
Monday 3rd November	Return to school. All PE kits to be brought back
	Poppies for sale - paper flowers 20pm - Larger items £1
Thursday 6th November	Year 3 trip to Bon Fabrics
Friday 7th November	DRESS DOWN DAY - bring a Tombola item - details on FOSMs
	Facebook page
Monday 10th November	Jubilee Icon Visit
	Motiv8 Gaming Workshop with Year 6
Tuesday 11th and Thursday 13th November	First Aid Training Year 6
Wednesday 12th November	Year 2/3/4 Girl's Football Tournament - details in email SNHS Y6 visit
Friday 14th November	Reception Trip to Wildlife Park
	Year 5 Trip to Peel Cathedral Open the Book Assembly
Manday 17th Navambay	
Monday 17th November	Year 1 Trip to the Art Society
uesday 18th and Tuesday 25th November	Young Engineers in Year 6
Friday 21st November	Children in Need - Dress Down Day -
	£1 contribution if you would like to donate.
Tuesday 25th November	Badminton Festival
Thursday 27th November	Year 2 Trip to the Wildlife Park
Monday 1st December	LAST DAY TO ORDER CHRISTMAS DINNER
Thursday 4th December	Years 3 & 4 Christmas Concerts at 10am and 2.30pm
Friday 5th December	Year 1 Christmas Concerts at 10am and 2.30pm
Tuesday 9th December	Year 5 and 6 Christmas Concerts at 10am and 2.30pm
Wednesday 10th December	Reception Christmas Concerts at 10am and 2.30pm
Friday 12th December	Year 2 Christmas Concerts at 10am and 2.30pm
Thursday 11th December	Isle Listen Workshops on Y 4/5/6
Monday 15th December	Year 4 Isle Listen Worshops
Tuesday 16th December	Christams Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day (dress down)
Thursday 18th December	Hosanna Rocks - St Mary's Church at 10.15am - all welcome
Friday 19th December	School Closes
Monday 5th January	School Re opens

Parent Survey Feedback Data shown as a %

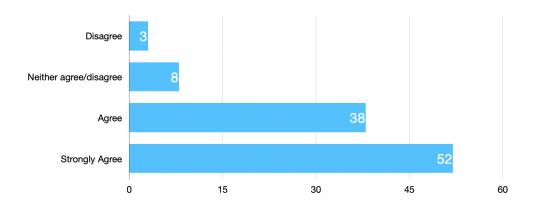
My child is happy in school.



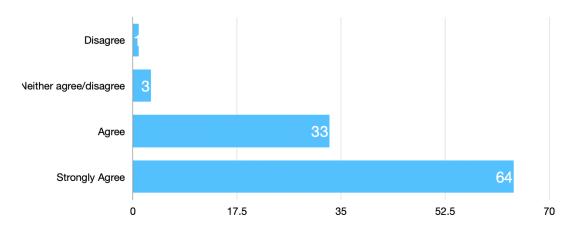
My child feels safe in school



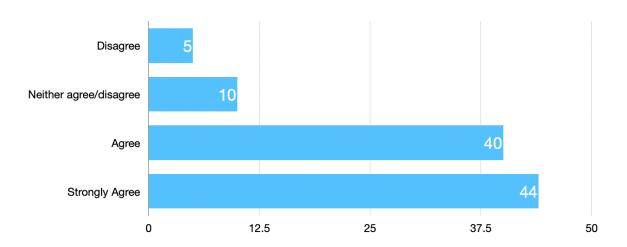
Communication at the school is good



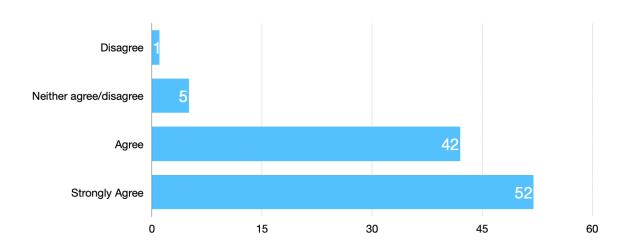
I can approach the school if I have a concern or problem



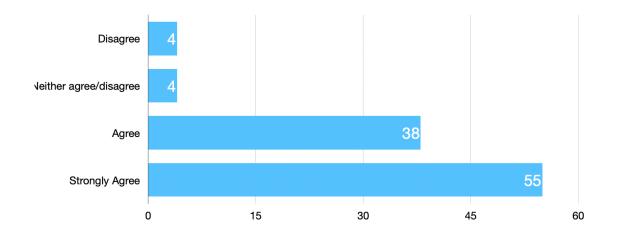
I am kept informed about the school's curriculum



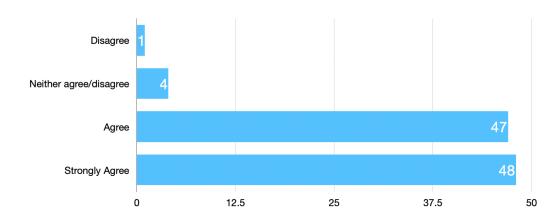
Relationships at the school are good



My child makes good progress at school



I know what the school values are



The school offers a wide range of extra curricular activities

