



St Mary's Roman Catholic Primary School

Kirkley Cliff, Lowestoft, Suffolk, NR33 0DG

Tel: 01502 565384 Email: office@stmarysrcps.org www.facebook.com/stmarysrcps

Executive Headteacher: Mrs Helen Armstrong

Acting Head of School: Mrs Abi Goddard

Chair of Liaison for Governors: Beryl Edwards

Our Mission Statement

As God's family we are STARS within a loving and thriving community, celebrating our diversity. We ignite lifelong learning where everyone becomes a positive influence on our world.

Our Gospel Values

Every person is a valued member of our community, invited to follow Christ's call to a life of **love**, **hope** and **forgiveness**. We **respect** and support each other to live in **peace**. We embrace challenges and develop the **courage** to create a better world for us all.

Schools' Mass

On Friday 29th September, 20 children from St Mary's participated in the Schools' Mass at St John the Baptist cathedral in Norwich to celebrate the Feast of St Michael, Gabriel and Raphael with Bishop Peter. Amelia and Allan had the privilege of holding the school's banner at the beginning of mass and Amelia also had the honour of meeting Bishop Peter as the school's representative.



Preparation for First Holy Communion

Preparation Classes for First Holy Communion (Year 3 and above) are due to begin - please collect your application form directly from Fr Pádraig at the end of whichever Mass you attend.

Parents and children beginning FHC preparation will meet for the first time at 3pm on Saturday 30th September in the Stella Maris Hall.

Harvest Mass - Thursday 5th October

Thank you to all those who brought in donations for the Harvest mass. All the donations will be collected by the local food bank and will be available for those who need help. The Children sang beautifully, they enjoyed listening to Fr Pádraig's homily and it was really lovely to welcome more people from the parish. We have put a video of the singing on Facebook for you.



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Rugby Tournament

A huge well done to our Year 6 rugby team who played in a multi-school tournament on Tuesday. They showed great spirit, skills and excellent sportsmanship finishing 5th out of 13 teams.



Parents Evenings

Please make sure you have signed up for a time slot to meet your child's class teacher on Monday 9th or Tuesday 10th September.



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Volunteers

We are really pleased to welcome a growing team of volunteers into the school to support with reading and small groups. Reading is crucial to children's vocabulary and language development and aids communication and understanding of the world. It opens children's imagination to new possibilities and immersive experiences. If you have any free time and would like to help support the school by listening to readers, please contact the school office. We will support you in how to listen and engage with readers and organise DBS checks.

COVID

We have been receiving a number of phone calls regarding COVID and I would like to clarify our attendance procedures. The Suffolk attendance team have said that if a child tests positive for COVID they can still attend school as long as they feel well enough to do so.

Uniform Reminder

A reminder that children should come to school wearing the correct uniform. Uniform requirements can be found on the school website. Thank you for your support with this.

Uniform Bank

Please see the information below about help with school uniform. Apparently, a lot of the uniform is brand new.





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Attendance and gate times

Now that we are all back in the routine of term, I would like to remind everyone that the school gates are open from 8:35-8:45am. Children should be in class and ready to learn by 8:45am and the gates will be locked at 8:50am. Any entry or exit to the school site after this time is via the front office.

Reception Open Mornings For Prospective New Pupils September 2024

Every Thursday at 11am Reception Open Morning for prospective new pupils. We invite families to drop in if you would like to visit the school before making applications for September 2024.

Christmas Jumper Collection

If anyone has any Christmas jumpers loitering in the cupboards that they no longer need and would be happy to donate to the school, we will be collecting these throughout the term. On the 30th November we will then hold a sale in school where these can be purchased for between £1 - £2.

Curriculum Parents Evening - 9th and 10th October

Wednesday 18th October - Autumn Disco

- KS1 3:15pm - 4:15pm
- KS2 4:45pm - 6:00pm

Judaism Day - Thursday 19th October



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CALENDAR DATES for 2023 - 2024 ACADEMIC YEAR

The following dates and events are subject to change if necessary. Please refer to the most up to date newsletters for termly dates.

Month	Activity	Information
October		
9th +10th	Parents Evening <small>(booking online for face to face appointments)</small>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Share targets with parents and expectations- learning- behaviour- independence- Thrive
10th	World Mental Health Day	Activities for children on how to look after our mental health
18th	Autumn Discos	KS1 - 3:30pm - 4:30pm KS2 4:45 pm - 6:00 pm
Monday 23rd	OCTOBER HALF TERM	Pupils return 30th October
November		
1st	Art Exhibition	Starts at 3:30- 4:00 pm - Parents/Carers welcome to view the children's artwork and purchase their child's artwork.Refreshments will be available in the school hall.
2nd	Whole School Mass (Hall)	Starts at 9am - All welcome
11th	Remembrance Day	Before 11th children will create class wreaths to be displayed at school.
13th - 17th	National Anti Bullying	Daily activities in class. Odd socks day 13th November.
14th	Open evening for new YR pupils	3:15 pm -4:15 pm



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17th	Children in Need	Fun activities happening in school. Non-uniform for a donation to Children in Need charity.
23rd	2nd round Flu Vaccination	Any children that missed the first round
30th	Christmas Jumper Sale Shop	Pre loved Christmas jumpers available to buy after school in the school hall.
December		
6th	Whole School Panto	At school
7th	Christmas Movie Night	More information to follow
8th	Christmas Jumper Day	Whole school Non-Uniform Day £1 donation
12th	EYFS Panto	At Seagull Theatre
13th	Christmas Dinner	Will be available to order on Select in Autumn Term 2
13th and 14th	Reception Class Christmas Performance	Parents may choose either slot. More info to come.
14th	Whole School Advent Mass	Starts at 9am- All welcome
18th and 19th	Y3/Y4 Nativity	More info to come out to parents nearer the time.
20th	Merit Assembly for parents and children	By invitation only
20th	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS	INSET Day 3rd January Pupils return 4th January



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