



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

Head of School: Mrs Ewa Parker

Chair of Liaison for Governors: Ms Beryl Edwards

St Mary's RC Primary

School Newsletter

Friday 6th September 2024

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.

Dear parents, carers and children,

Welcome back to the academic year of 2024-2025! It is so wonderful to see your children smiling and happy on their first week back to school. We are very excited for the new year filled with many new and ambitious things.

A huge welcome to all our new families, parents and pupils; we are privileged that you have chosen our school to be a part of your child's life, and we are welcoming you warmly into our St Mary's community. Please do not hesitate to ask for help or get in touch with the school's office, class teachers or myself or our SLT team, should you need any help.

Your children will have received or will receive by Friday next week their new class newsletters with all necessary information for the first half term, so please do look out for these in your email box. We are a paperless school and therefore we will very rarely send paper communication home, so please ensure you check your mailbox regularly.

Also, as for the pick up at the end of the day, can we please remind parents that only Reception, Y1 and Y2 classes are picked up from the fire exit doors. All other classes line up on the playground in front of the cones. Please can we ask that all parents and carers go round the cones and not cut through; this is to ensure that our students can all be safely dismissed at the end of the day.



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Lastly, in order to be the best we can be as a school thriving for excellence for your children, we really welcome parental conversation and feedback. Knowing your perspective is always helpful so when you see me around in the morning or after school, please do not hesitate to stop me for a chat. All in all it is all of us, staff, parents and children who make this school a happy place where each child is worthy of excellent performance.

Mrs Parker

Head of School

Some useful information

We take safeguarding very seriously in our school, and therefore wanted to reiterate with you, that should you wish to report a concern you may have in regards to the welfare and wellbeing of students in our school, please do not hesitate to speak to the following people:

Safeguarding Leads

Lead DSL	Ewa Parker
Alternate DSL	Helen Armstrong
Alternate DSL	Carolyn Mann
Alternate DSL	Chelsea Crowe
Alternate DSL	Libby Brown
Alternate DSL	Christopher Lambert

Free School Meals

If your financial situation has changed, you might be able to receive **Free School Meals**. We strongly advise you to apply through our website as you might be entitled to some benefits that would support you and your family in these difficult times. Please see more on our website



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under:

<https://www.stmarysrcps.com/about-us/pupil-and-sports-premium/free-school-meals-and-pupil-premium/> All our PP children receive full funding for breakfast and after school clubs, **we support financially with part paying for the school uniform as well as school trips**. Please fill in the form just in case, as you might be eligible and therefore missing out on that form of support now.

Also, if your child has only started our school, and their older siblings receive Free School Meals, that does not automatically make them eligible. You must fill a form and submit it on the government's website in order for your child to be eligible. Use the above link to fill the form. Thank you.

Wisepay App

Wisepay has finally created an app for parents. This will be an easier way for you all to access.

You will need the school organisation code which is 37564633 and your normal login details.

Please contact the office if you have any problems accessing.



Volunteers needed to support with daily reading at the school and regular school trips

If you have some spare time which you could support the school with, in the form of regular visits to listen to various children read in our school or join us for school trips, please do not hesitate to contact Miss Crowe or Miss Darlaston from our administration team to discuss the details and to complete DBS checks. Your support is invaluable, especially now when schools face unprecedented financial struggles.



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School Clubs provision for 2024-2025

We will be running the following clubs this academic year. Breakfast and Homework clubs run as usual every day already, however other clubs will resume within the next two weeks.

Safeguarding reminder- if a parent/ carer fails to collect a child at the end of the day from after school clubs, we call social services as well as the police within 10 minutes of agreed collection time. Our support staff do not stay longer than 4:30pm, so you must collect your children from clubs at the agreed times.

- Breakfast Club 7:45am- 8:35am; After School Homework Club from 3:15 till 4:30pm. These are bookable on a week by week basis through Wise Pay at the cost of £3.
- Football, multi-sport and gymnastics provided by Premier Sport's professionals, and bookable via their own webpage, please click [here](#) to go to their website for booking.
- Art and gardening clubs from 3:15 to 4:15pm, at the cost of £3 per child. Clubs will be based on the first come first served basis and will be funded by the parents. The clubs will run on a half termly basis to ensure the rota of children who are interested, so that we can ensure fair access to the after school club services. If you are in receipt of PP funding (check your eligibility as the school may be able to part fund the clubs provision for you)
<https://www.stmarysrcps.com/about-us/pupil-and-sports-premium/free-school-meals-and-pupil-premium/>
- If your child has never used breakfast or homework clubs before, and you find it difficult to navigate wise pay, please do not hesitate to contact our school for help.

Day of the week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Club type	Homework Club	Homework Club	Homework Club	Homework Club	Homework Club
How to book and pay	Via Wise Pay	Via Wise Pay	Via Wise Pay	Via Wise Pay	Via Wise Pay



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Club type	Art Club KS2	Multi Sport	Football	Art Club KS1	
	Gymnastics		Gardening club		

Nut Free School

Please remember we are a nut free school. It is very important that you do not send your child into school with nuts as we have a number of children who have a severe allergy.





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First Holy Communion

Is your child in year three or above? Have they made their first holy communion yet? Forms will be available from Our Lady Star of the Sea for an October start.

CALENDAR DATES for 2024 - 2025 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.

September 2024			
4th	First Day Back	Children return to school	All children to be in for 8:45 lessons start
13th	Roald Dahl Day	Celebrating the life and works of Roald Dahl	In class reading
18th	School mass: parents and parishioners welcomed		



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20th	Jeans 4 Genes Day	Jeans for Genes wear jeans at work or school and raise money for children and families affected by genetic conditions. All children are encouraged to donate £2 for the charity. Non uniform day , but must wear denim 😊	
25th	Supporting your child with reading at home	All parents from Reception and KS1 classes are welcomed for an 8:45-9:30am workshop on supporting your child with phonics. If your child is struggling with reading in KS2, you are welcomed to join too! Coffee and cake provided after workshop- come in and help us inspire your child's love for reading.	
October 2024			
1st	Individual school photos	All pupils to wear full school uniform- no PE kit on that day please.	
3rd	Harvest Mass	Food bank donations welcomed	
14th -16th	Year 6 Residential	More information to follow	
14th -15th 16th - 17th	Year 5 Bikeability	More information to follow	
10th	Y1 Maths Cafe	All parents welcomed to join their children at 2:15 pm for a Maths Cafe in the hall.	
21st	1st Round of Flu vaccination		
23rd-24th	Parents evenings bookable via Wisepay website		
November 2024			
11th	2nd Round of Flu vaccination		
14th	Y2 Maths Cafe	All parents welcomed to join their children at 2:15pm for a Maths Cafe in the hall.	
18th	Big Question Time	Year 4 class will do a knowledge based assembly to their parents in the hall from 2:15pm -3:00pm; this will be a showcase of their wider curriculum learning	
21st	Crucial Crew Year 6	More information to follow	



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December 2024			
4th	Whole School Panto	Outside the Box Pantomime company coming to school	donations of £2 towards the cost of the Panto welcomed.
10th	Reception Seagull Theatre Trip	More information to follow	
9th	KS1 Christmas Disco	Time: 3:15-4:30 collection from the playground at 4:30.	Donations of £3 per child
10th	KS2 Christmas Disco	Time: 3:15- 4:30pm, collection from the playground.	Donations of £3 per child
20th	Last Day of term	We break up at 1:30pm.	



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