



ST MARIE'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOL

A VOLUNTARY ACADEMY

*'Following the teachings of Christ, so that we
are His hands and feet!'*

25th September 2026

Which of the two did the will of his father?
Matthew 21:31

Parking Issues Outside of School

There are a number of parents parking on double yellow lines outside the main KS2 gate at home time on Cecil street (between our school and Holy Trinity/car park). We ask that parents do not park here and remind everyone to always park responsibly. We all want to keep our children and families as safe as possible. We have been in contact with the parking attendants from Bury council regarding this issue. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sacramental Programme Children's Mass

The Welcome Mass for the children on this year's Sacramental Programme will take place this Sunday at 11.30 am at St. Marie's church. Fr Foley and I look forward to seeing the children and families there.

Year 5 Five Swimming

Next week the Year 5 children start their intensive swimming lessons at Castle leisure. These lessons are very important, teaching lifesaving skills and are part of the national curriculum PE lessons. All information has been sent out previously.

Phonic drop ins and Reading meetings

Our phonic drop ins and reading meetings for Nursery and Reception children take place next week on Tuesday 29th September and Wednesday 30th September at 9am. Details and sign-up information have already been sent out and we look forward to seeing all those who can attend.

Year 6 SATS meeting

A meeting for parents of our Year 6 children regarding the SATs test in May take place on Wednesday 30th September at 2.15pm in the main hall. This is an opportunity for the staff to explain the work the children will be doing in school and also how you can support your child at home. I know parents in the past have found these sessions informative and useful. Year 6 parents, please do come along if you can.

MacMillan Coffee Morning

Thank you to those of you who were able to attend and/or support our Macmillan Coffee morning yesterday which helped us raise funds for a most important charity. Thanks to Mrs Hodgson, Mrs Dandy and Mrs Rashid for organising the event.

Pantomime

We have set up the trip for our Christmas pantomime in December for all children. The deadline for payment is Monday 28th September as we need to order tickets – please ensure this is paid on time.

History Workshops

There are several History Workshops taking place over the next couple of months and these again have been placed on Arbor. The deadline for consent and payment is 9th October

Year 5 trip

The deadline for consent and payment is Wednesday 30th September – all details have been placed on Arbor.

If parents are having trouble with any aspect of Arbor please do contact Mrs Barber who will be happy to go through everything – thank you.

School Uniform

Mrs Dandy has a number of good quality donated uniform items available. If any parents would like particular items please email into school – sdandy@stmaries.stoccat.org.uk and we will get in contact with you regarding these. The Helping Hand shed will be open next Friday from 2.45 pm.

Free School Meals

The guidelines for Free School Meals entitlements has changed over the Summer months. We are now using a new site www.lgfl.co.uk to ascertain whether a child is eligible for free school meals. We ask all parents to enter their details onto the system – it literally takes a minute – and a decision is instant. This new systems links to school so if a parent enters the details themselves we will be notified of this. Should anyone be struggling with this please do call in and speak with Mrs Barber.

Support and Help

It is really important to us at school to know that if any parents/families are struggling for whatever reason then we are here to help as much as we can - please do speak to the class teachers or directly to myself if you need any support in any way. Sometimes we can direct you to other professionals for support or we may be able to help ourselves. We are here to help.

Attendance Matters

As a school, we have always had really good attendance compared to other schools in the local authority. Good attendance is everyone's responsibility and we must maintain this and continue to improve. There is currently a renewed drive from the Department of Education and schools must to seen to promote excellent attendance. Whilst we appreciate there are times that children cannot come into school and individual children that we know about have medical conditions that impact on their health, we still need to do everything as a school to promote and celebrate excellent attendance.

Class attendances for this week.

Year Group	Attendance %
Reception	94.4%
Year One	98.1%
Year Two	98.9%
Year Three	90.3%
Year Four	92.5%
Year Five	93.4%
Year Six	95%

Well done to Year 2 for having the best attendance this week – making this three weeks in a row!

The class with the best attendance will receive an extra playtime each week.

Celebration Assembly

Our weekly celebration assemblies will take place at **2.30pm** on a Friday afternoon starting next week. All parents are welcome to attend, especially if your child has been awarded a certificate. If your child has been awarded a certificate, you will be sent a message the day before to invite you to the assembly, should you wish/be able to attend. Please note that our all Reception children will not come to assemblies just yet as they settle into their new classroom and routines. Should your child be receiving the certificate you will be notified should you wish to come and join us for the assembly.

This week we congratulate the following children:

Nursery	-	-
Reception	-	-
Year 1	-	-
Year 2	Charles Berry	For being a fantastic friend and always trying his best

Year 3	Archer Berry	For his fabulous sentence work and amazing work in Maths! A shining star this week!
Year 4	Malaika Hussain	For being a shining star <u>all</u> of the time and having an amazing attitude to learning!
Year 5	Benedict Nwakamma	For FABULOUS work in RE! Sharing his knowledge with the other children, but also listening extremely carefully and being able to explain what each of the Ten Commandments mean and how we can follow them!
Year 6	Adam Dziomba	For amazing writing on Odysseus
Mr McRae		

Where a child's name has not appeared on the table above, it is because permission has not been given to include names on newsletters etc. Please contact the school office to amend this if needed for the future

A Final Note

Yesterday, September 24th was the feast day of Our Lady of Walsingham. Walsingham is the Catholic national shrine of Our lady and also a shrine for Anglicans too. It is a place where Our Lady is said to have appeared to a medieval lady in 1061. The original shrines were destroyed in 1538 by Henry V111 but were restored in the 20th century. Pilgrims across the Uk visit the shrine, which is a beautiful, peaceful place.

This week I was proud to show our new regional performance officer from the St Teresa of Calcutta trust around the school and introduce him to all of our hardworking staff and lovely children. Another highlight was our welcome meeting for our parents whose children are starting their sacramental journey this year.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

God bless,

Mr McRae
Head Teacher



**Artsmark
Silver Award**
Awarded by Arts
Council England