



Dear Parents/ carers, I trust you have all enjoyed the first month back here at St. Mary's. Welcome to our new look newsletter which will go out on the last Friday of every month. The newsletter will carry important information in relation to dates, events and changes to school routines and procedures, which I would strongly encourage you all to take the time and read carefully. **From the first day after mid-term, Monday October 31st, the school day will return to ending at 3:10 for all children.** New procedures in respect to how the children are brought into school in the mornings and collecting them will go out to you all early October. The school will be asking parents to complete up to date contact details, data capture forms and permission slips for Social Media and school events which we may wish to publicise. The Office staff will be in touch with all parents over the next couple of weeks.

Every Good Wish

J. O'Connor



Catholic Life

On Friday 7th October we are Brightening Up for CAFOD! Our school community will join thousands of others to help tackle hunger.

We will be dressing in our brightest clothes, and giving a donation of £1 per child, to help support CAFOD to fix the food system.

CAFOD is an international development charity and the official aid agency of the Catholic Church in England and Wales.

Further details at cafod.org.uk/primary

Home reading is very important. It is our job at the academy to **TEACH** reading skills to your child whereas at home, your child can **PRACTISE** reading. These skills can be practised using any book/leaflet/sign inside and outside the home. Younger children will benefit from having books read to them. We know books can be expensive so, if you haven't already done so, join your local library.



<https://www.gov.uk/local-library-services>

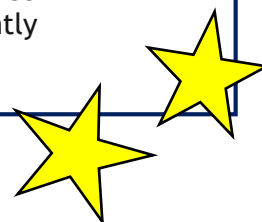
Wreath making workshop. On November 24th at 2 pm I would like to invite all parents/ carers to an Advent Wreath making workshop. Here you will help assemble the Advent wreathes which will be in each classroom and blessed by Fr Andrew on Friday November 25th at 2:15 pm

Important Dates

- 7th October - None Uniform Day
- 19th October - Harvest Festival
- 21st October - Half Term
- 31st October - Back to school
- 15th November - Individual school photos
- 9th December - Christmas Fayre
- 14th December - EYFS Nativity - 9.30am
- 15th December - KS1 Nativity - 9.30am
- And KS2 Nativity - 2.15pm
- 16th December - Close for Christmas

Attendance

Well done to Year 3 for having the best attendance in September at 97.43%
The whole school attendance is currently 95.74%



Reminder - Flu Vaccination will be carried out Tuesday 4th October. Catch up ones will be Tuesday 11th October.

Teaching and Learning at St Mary's: Year 3 have been learning all about herbivores, carnivores and omnivores.



Year 2 children have learned how to make secondary colours by mixing the primary colours together. They applied that knowledge to create planets for our explorer display using those colours.



In science, **Year 2** have been investigating why it is important to exercise and discovered what happened to their bodies after completing different physical activities.



As part of **Year 1** book session for our The Little Red Hen, children tasted different types of bread.



St Marys Catholic Primary School Newsletter September 2022



Year 1 have been using different percussion instruments to keep a beat. In History, the children have placed important events in chronological order.



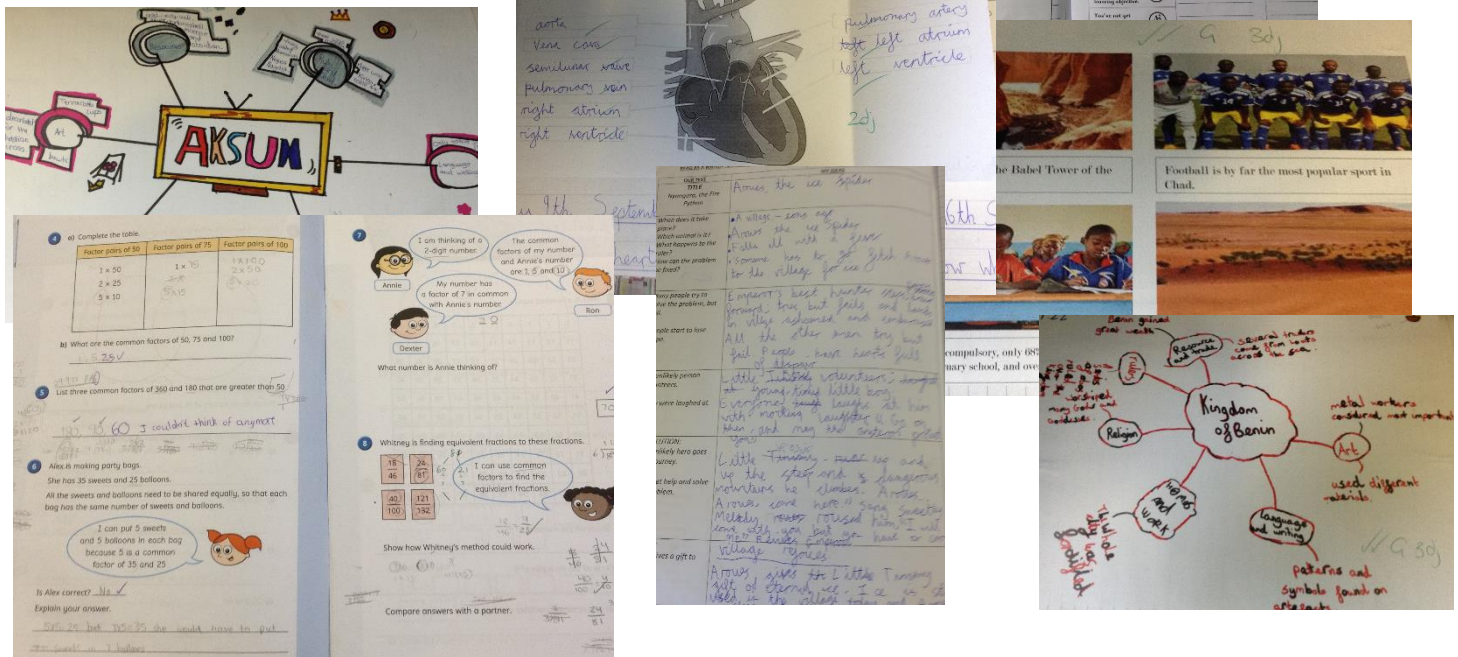
Years 5 and Year 6 had a visit from Prison Me No Way. It was an educational day in helping Young People to Achieve and Aspire. Please see photos of the children experiencing a mock up prison cell.



We value all in the name of Jesus the Christ



Year 6 and what they have been up to so far...



Year 5

.....have been practising our reading comprehension using our inference and retrieval skills. We have improved our grammar knowledge and enjoyed our Talk for Writing lessons. This term we have focused on number and place value in Maths. Our topic we have been learning about the history of Ancient China and in Science, the Solar System. In RE, our topic has been Ourselves- looking at how we treat each other, our gifts, qualities and talents. Finally, in P,E we have been developing our teamwork by playing Spikeball!

New After School Club

Miss Jones will be starting a crochet club after half term. This will take place every Tuesday and is open to all children Year 1 upwards and limited to 20 places. This will have to be booked on Parent Pay. We will inform you once available.





UNIFORM

Can I please remind parents about the school uniform? A simple uniform is helpful in establishing good standards of appearance in school and by wearing it children quickly feel a pride in being part of the school community. We ask that all clothing (including PE kit) has your child's name written clearly on it. This is to ensure that any mislaid items can be returned.

School uniform details:

- Royal blue school sweatshirt/cardigan
- Grey skirt/pinafore/Black/Grey trousers
- Blue/White summer dress
- White/royal blue polo shirt with school logo/white blouse/shirt
- White/grey/black socks
- Black sensible shoes



P.E. Children will come to school in their PE kit on PE days

- White / royal blue tee-shirt
- Black shorts
- Black jogging bottoms/ black leggings
- Blue sweatshirt
- Plain Black plimsolls or trainers



St. Mary's uniform can be purchased through The Uniform Hut. There are also other things available to buy such as:

- Royal blue fleece jacket
- Royal blue reversible jacket
- Royal blue book bag
- P.E bag



We ask that parents support us in ensuring children wear the correct school uniform. For safety reasons children are **NOT** permitted to wear jewellery (other than watches) or hard hair ornaments in school. If children wish to have their ears pierced, we ask that this is done at the start of the summer holiday so that ears have a time to heal before the new school year starts. Nail polish should not be worn and we ask that children do not have extreme haircuts.



Departure.

I should like to take this opportunity to inform parents and carers that Miss Lisa Smith, our attendance/ home liaison officer, is leaving the school to take up a new position at Healing Academy, part of the Harbour Learning Trust.

It is always disappointing to see such valued and dedicated staff leave our school but we are equally delighted for Miss Smith who is excited at the prospect of this new opportunity.

I am sure you will all agree with me that she will be sadly missed. She has worked tirelessly to build up relationships with parents and the wider community and her stealth-like determination with attendance and the monitoring of it has been nothing short of exceptional. We, as a school community, wish her all the best in her new career.