



Welcome to our Lent Attendance Newsletter.

Welcome to our Easter Attendance Newsletter. It seems no time since I was writing the Christmas edition. We have much to celebrate as a school and attendance is one; please take time read through. However, there are still incidences of persistent lateness and low attendance in certain areas. Can I please remind you all that attendance in school is essential for the success of your child's educational future and their success in future life.

I have also included information from the NHS about hygiene.

Mr. Joseph O'Connor
Headteacher



Congratulations

**We have 31 children who have already achieved 100% attendance this year.
This is brilliant.
Keep it up – you're well on course to win a prize at the end of the year.**

And to the 57 children who have achieved 100% this term. Well done.

Year 2 is our best attended class achieving 96.78% for the term. Well done everyone and let's see which will be the highest-class next term.

And sadly we've 27 children with an attendance below 90%. Remember a new term means a new start and you could be one of the 100% attenders next term.





Lateness

Lateness has improved this term with 67hours and 53mins minutes of lost learning: Being on time is really important because.

- Numeracy and literacy are taught at the beginning of the day. When a child arrives late they miss
- essential teaching given at the beginning of lessons - in fact, arriving 5 minutes late each day adds up to missing 3 entire days of school by the end of the year!
- They don't have the social time to settle into class.
- Pupils feel awkward and embarrassed going into the classroom when everyone else is settled.
- When one person arrives late everyone loses out – the class is disrupted, and the teacher must take time away from the other pupils to explain what is going on for the lesson.
- School starts at: 9:00am but we expect the children to be in school for 8.55am so they have time to hang their coats up take packed lunches to the trolleys and be ready to start learning at 9:00am.

What Lateness Means:

5 minutes late each day	3 days lost
10 minutes late each day	6.5 days lost
15 minutes late each day	10 days lost
20 minutes late each day	13 days lost
30 minutes late each day	19 days lost or half a day each week

(Figures are calculated over one school year)



HEALTH TIPS

To ensure that your child is happy, healthy and able to

Reporting Absence

If your child isn't going to be in school it is your responsibility to inform school on each day of absence.

Please do this by calling the school office on 01472 357982 before 9am. You can also email the school office at office@smp.nelcmail.co.uk or send a message on the Scholarpack app. (If you do not have the app and would like details on how to get it then please let the office know).
Scholarpack APP.



Please do not message on dojo.

If you do not inform school, you may receive a visit from The Education Welfare Officer.

In line with National Guidelines, the Education Welfare Officer may visit on the 3rd day of any absence even if the absence is authorised. If there are ongoing concerns, they will visit on the first day. If the absence continues, further visits will be made.

Is my child too ill for school?

Term Time Holidays

There is a law which prevents Head Teachers from authorising term time holidays. There are 175 non-school days per year and for this reason Head Teachers can only approve term time leave of absence in exceptional circumstances.

We have forms requesting leave of absence available in the office so if you do have an exceptional reason for missing school please complete a form and return it to the office as soon as possible.

To help you plan these are the term dates for this year and next.

TERM DATES 2023

Bank holiday 1st May
Bank holiday for the Coronation 8th May
Half term 29th May – 2nd June
return to school on Monday 5th June
Last day of term Thursday 20th July.

participate fully in school activities, your child should:

- Be registered with a GP and a dentist
- Have regular checks with their dentist and optician
- Have all the childhood immunisations recommended by the Department of Health
- Have a healthy diet and exercise
- Get enough sleep by going to bed on time Speak to school staff or the school nurse if you have any concerns about your child.

Hand washing

Washing your hands properly removes dirt, viruses and bacteria to stop them spreading to other people and objects which can spread illnesses such as food poisoning, flu or diarrhoea.

It is important to teach your children effective hand washing to reduce the spread of germs which can lead to increased school absence. When to wash your hands

- After using the toilet

- After changing nappies or cleaning up a child who has used the toilet
- Before during and after preparing food
- Before eating food
- Before and after caring for someone who is sick
- Before and after treating a cut or wound
- After blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing

It can be tricky deciding whether or not to keep your child off school or nursery when they are unwell.

It isn't always necessary to keep your child at home. This information should help clear any confusion.

There are government guidelines for schools and nurseries about [managing specific infectious diseases at GOV.UK](#).

These say when children should be kept off school and when they shouldn't.

If your child is well enough to go to school but has an infection that could be passed on, such as a cold sore or head lice, let their teacher know.

The following table provides guidance on some common childhood illnesses, and whether children need to stay off school*:

* From Guidance on Health protection in schools and other childcare facilities (PHE 2018)

Illness	Recommendations
Chicken Pox and Shingles	Keep off school for five days from start of rash and until all the spots have crusted over
Cold Sores	No need to be off school
Conjunctivitis	No need to be off school
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	Keep off school for 48 hours from the last episode of diarrhoea or vomiting
Flu	Children should return as soon as they have recovered
Glandular Fever	No need to be off school
Hand, Foot and Mouth	It is not usually necessary to keep off school
Head Lice (Nits)	No need to be off school
Impetigo	Keep off school until the lesions (spots) are crusted or healed or 48 hours after starting antibiotic treatment, whichever is shorter

Term dates 2024

St Mary's will not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances.

A leave of absence is granted entirely at the head teacher's discretion and is **not a parental right**. In accordance with government guidelines, the application must be made 12 days in advance by completing a leave of absence request form. The head teacher must be satisfied that there are exceptional circumstances which warrant the leave.

If parents take pupils on holiday during term time St Mary's will not provide extra work; students will be expected to catch up with any work they have missed when they return from the holiday.

St Mary's will not agree a 'leave of absence in circumstances such as:

- *Availability of cheap holidays.*
- *Availability of desired accommodation.*
- *Poor weather experienced in school holiday periods; and*
- *Overlap with the beginning or end of term.*

If your request is not authorised and you take your child out of school, or if your child is absent for more than the agreed days, you may be referred to the Education Welfare Service and a

- After touching an animal, animal feed, or animal waste
- After handling pet food or pet treats
- After touching rubbish

If you need further information on effective hand washing, please visit: www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/best-way-to-wash-your-hands



Attendance Policy

The new attendance policy is now on the school website if you wish to read it.

Measles	Keep off school for four days from start of rash and until recovered
Mumps	Keep of school for five days from start of swollen glands
Ringworm	It is not usually necessary to keep off school
Rubella (German Measles)	Keep off school for four days from start of rash
Scabies	Children can return to school after first treatment
Scarlett Fever	Keep off school for 24 hours after starting antibiotic treatment
Slapped Cheek/fifth disease/ Parvovirus B19	No Need to be off school once rash has developed
Threadworms	No need to be off school
Warts and verrucae	No need to be off school
Whooping cough	Keep off school for two days after starting antibiotic treatment or for 21 days from start of if no antibiotic treatment is given

penalty notice issued. Penalty notices are issued per parent, per child. The fine is £60 if paid within 21 days, rising to £120 if paid between 21 and 28 days. If the penalty notice remains unpaid this will lead to prosecution through the Magistrates' Court.

Term Dates 2023 - 2024

The term dates for 2023-2024 are available on the North East Lincs Council website following the link below

<https://www.nelincs.gov.uk/chil-dren-families-and-schools/schools-and-education/school-term-dates/>

Medical Appointments

Whenever possible we would ask that you arrange medical appointments for your child after school or during the school holidays. We realise that this is not always possible so would ask that you bring proof of the appointment to the school office so the absence can be authorised. If the appointment is not first thing in the morning we ask that you bring your child into school so they can get their mark on the register, collect them for their appointment then bring them back to school afterwards.

Remember, here at St Marys: Every student matters, every moment counts

