



St Mary's Catholic Primary Academy Newsletter– February 2024

Email: office@smp.nelcmail.co.uk Website: saintmarysprimarygrimsby.co.uk

Dear parent/carers

It is lovely to see the longer days starting; a reminder that the greatest feast of the Church's calendar is upon us – the Resurrection of the Lord. As we enter the season of Lent in preparation for this great day, may we be respectful and kind to all we meet.

There is much to celebrate in this month's newsletter; particularly the work the school has been doing on wellbeing and the History exhibition. I am exceptionally proud of the school's current attendance figures, which place us above the national average. Please remember that attendance at school is key to the success of your child's education.

Have a restful and peaceful month ahead and if there is anything you need, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Safeguarding at St Mary's

If you have any concerns regarding safeguarding, please contact our designated safeguarding Team. At St Mary's our safeguarding lead is Mr. J O'Connor, safeguarding officer is Miss C Queen and deputy-safeguarding officers Mrs. M Steeper. Level 3 safeguarding trained are Mrs R Walton and Miss B Cullum. Mrs K Tuff is our well-being, personal development and RE lead.



Dates for the Diary

Friday 15th March

-

Y3 Dance Festival

Tuesday 19th March

-

Swimming starts for Year 4
and 5

March 27th March

-

Town Hall Exhibition

Thursday 28th March

-

School Closes

Friday 12th April

-

School Opens
(Art Day – Non-Uniform)

Friday 27th May

-

School Closes

Monday 3rd June

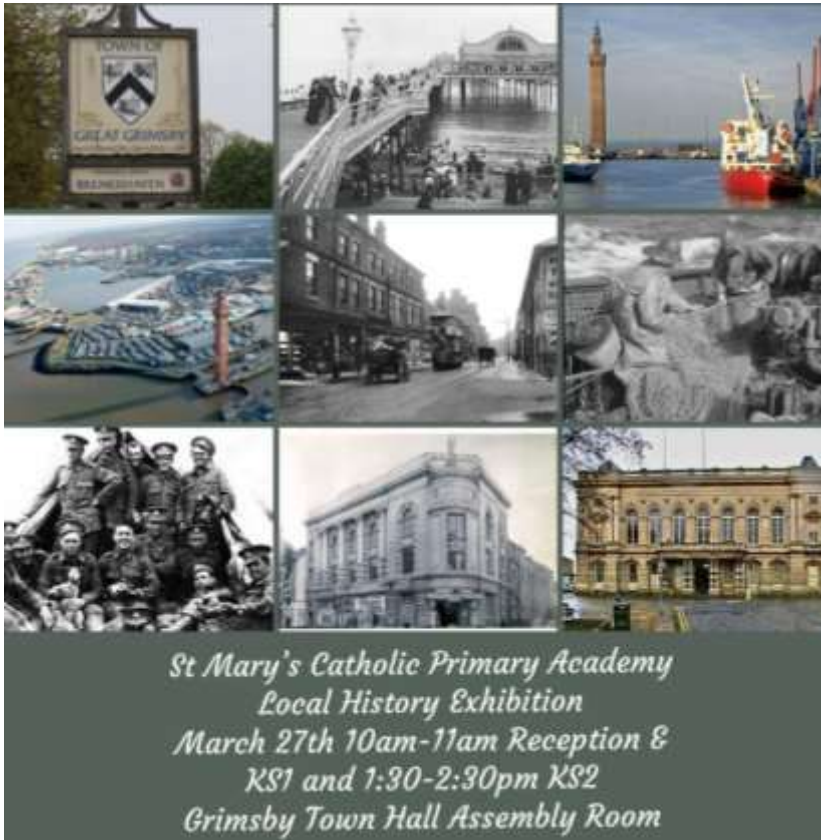
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School Opens



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Exciting news!

We are pleased to invite all parents and carers to St Mary's first Local History Exhibition being held at Grimsby Town Hall in the Assembly Room on Wednesday 27th March. Children will be curators showing their very own work all about our local area. The exhibition will be open from 10am until 3pm with Reception and KS1 presenting their work from 10-11am and KS2 from 1:30-2:30pm.

It is fully accessible to all visitors and there will be refreshments available at a small cost. We look forward to welcoming our school community to this real life experience for our pupils.

What you need to know about Benefit Free School Meals.

You can claim free school meals for a child/children if they are in full-time education, you are responsible for the child, and you get at least one of the following benefits:

- Income support
- Income based job seekers allowance
- Income related employment and support allowance
- Guaranteed pension credit
- Child tax credit with an annual income each year of less than £16,190 (as assessed by tax credits)
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Universal credit (provided you have an annual earned income of no more than £7400 or £616.67 monthly)
- If you receive child tax credit and working tax credit, your child will not qualify for free school meals.



Universal Free School Meals

Even if your child receives Universal Free School Meal (Reception, year 1 and year 2) it is still important to make an application as the school will receive additional funding, known as the pupil premium, for every eligible pupil.

School Milk

School milk is free for children in nursery and reception.

When your child turns 5 years old and not on benefit school meals, you will have to order the milk from our new milk provider – Cool Milk – please follow the link to order milk for your child. www.coolmilk.com. However, if you are entitled to benefit free school meals and your child would like to have milk please pop to the school office or tell your child's teacher.

To order lunches via <https://nel.mealselector.co.uk/>



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Health and Safety.

Can all parents/carers refrain from parking or using the staff car park to pick up and drop off. This is a very busy area with delivery vans and staff vehicles.



Attendance Update

Thank you for your continuing support with raising attendance in our school, we are still currently above the national average. We are 95.53% and the national average is 94.3%

Thank you also for continuing to let us know when your child is absent, we really do appreciate this as it saves time having to chase them up.

Since the attendance newsletter at the end of January the following classes have won the weekly class attendance awards.

Dates Year Percentage

29/01/2024 – 02/02/2024 Year 2 99.2%

05/02/2024 – 08/02/2024 Year 1 98.2%

19/02/2024 – 23/02/2024 Year 1 99.2%

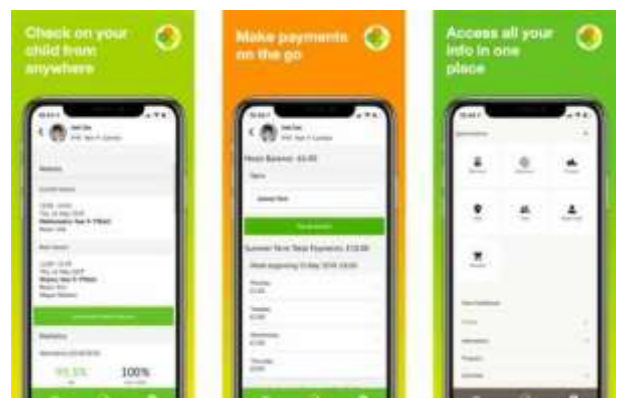
Well done to these two classes.

Arbor App

This is a reminder to parents about the new Arbor App. This app allows you to access all your information in one place and check on your child's attendance from anywhere.

Please check your emails / junk emails to login.
Any issues please contact the office.

Thank you to the parents/carers who have signed in and using the app already.





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Catholic Life at St Mary's



The chaplaincy team have been preparing reflections on the Stations of the Cross, following the journey Jesus took on Good Friday. The Stations start with Jesus being condemned to death, and follow the path he took and the people he met along the way, all the way through to his death and burial. These reflections help us to recognise the great sacrifice Jesus made for us, but also ask us to reflect on the journey of our own lives. The chaplaincy team helped to record these reflections so that throughout the season of Lent each class will be able to spend some time reflecting on the Stations of the Cross.

The chaplaincy team are also preparing for us to take part in CAFOD's Big Lent walk. Each year CAFOD ask participants to walk 200km during Lent to help raise awareness of people in need. This could be people who do not have enough to eat, who don't have access to clean water or lifesaving medicine, or who are affected by the climate crisis, wars, or any other issues which affect today's world. We couldn't expect our children to walk 200km so instead they spent half an hour walking round the playground together thinking about those less fortunate than themselves.





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What we have been up to at St Mary's



Nursery and Reception enjoying the schools new Library. Children even read books to our chair of Governors Mr Purdue and Mrs Steeper



Year 1 have been very busy working. They have been learning how to create and write sentences. Well done!





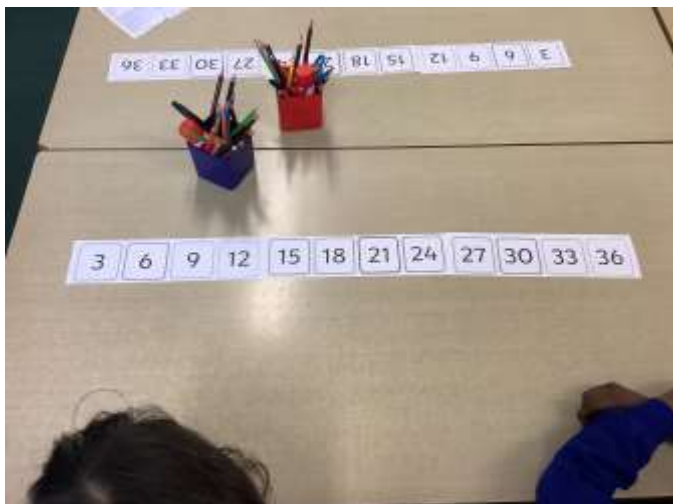
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All the children supported Mental Health Week. Year 2 had fun with word searches and Mrs Solomou showed the class yoga.



Year 3 have learnt their times tables.





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Opera North came to visit Year 4 for an Opera themed workshop. What a fun lesson! Opera North are hoping to be back for a production of Cinderella! We are very excited.



Some of Year 5 competed at a local dodgeball competition. They were amazing and did our school proud! Well done everyone involved.

Year 6 created posters on E-Safety and learnt about the importance of online safety and awareness.





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For the next 12 months Miss Rowell will cover maternity leave in the absence of Miss Souter. I am sure all parent and carers will warmly welcome Miss Rowell to our beautiful school.