



On The Vine

FRIENDSHIP

Newsletter

St Mary's CE Primary
& Nursery School

Spring Half Term I
2024

'Growing Together in God's Love to Achieve Excellence'

Dear Parent

I hope that you all had a wonderful Christmas break. The children have returned refreshed and ready to learn. We have a busy and exciting term ahead with many wonderful activities planned to motivate and engage.

PTA Bring a Bear and Book

The PTA wants to support the school goal to encourage the children to read regularly and grow their love of reading. On **Friday 19th January** we should like the children to bring a favourite book and a cuddly toy (it doesn't have to be a bear) to school.



Sometime during the day they can read and share the story with their cuddly school visitor. A suggested donation of £1.00 towards the PTA fundraising.

Eco Update



Well done to the winners of our 'Turn the lights off' poster competition – I think you can agree their posters look fantastic, we hope that they encourage everyone to save energy!



Trafford Deadline for Reception Admissions

The Trafford deadline for Reception applications is **Monday 15th January 2024**. Decisions regarding the allocation of places will be emailed to parents on 16 April 2024. Applications received after the closing deadline, 15 January 2024, will only be considered after all other applications received on time have been processed.



Internet Safety

In school, we always emphasize to the children the importance of internet safety and each class will be learning about safer internet use in school on **Tuesday 6th February**. Years 3-6 will also have online safety workshops delivered by Altru Drama on this day.



Governors' Easter Card photograph competition

Over the past few years the Board of Governors has held an Easter card photographic competition. The winning entry is then produced as an Easter card which is sent to all the families in the school. The photograph could be about "Growth" or alternatively a general Easter theme. The photograph should not include identifiable photographs of people. Please could all entries be emailed to office@st-marys.trafford.sch.uk marked "Easter Card photograph" by **Wednesday 28th February** in order to get the winning entry printed in time for Easter.



Families to lunch – Reception – Year 5

We are delighted to be able to offer the opportunity for a family member to join us for lunch on **Wednesday 24th and Thursday 25th January**. Further information regarding booking to follow.

Day School Sunday

We are looking forward to holding our traditional Day School Sunday which will take place at St Mary's Church on **Sunday, 4th February starting at 9.30 am**. This is a whole school tradition which has been in existence for over a hundred years and every child is expected to attend. Each class will be working hard rehearsing their songs for the service. Nursery children are welcome but will not be performing.



Please could the children wear their school uniform for Day School Sunday – white shirts with ties and blazers. Please could you ensure your child brings home all items of school uniform which they will require, including their school shoes not trainers. We do expect all children to attend the service which will run from **9.30 – 10.30 am**. If you are unable to attend, please could you send a note into school to inform your child's teacher.



Reading Council Bake Sale

On **Friday 2nd February**, the Reading Council will be holding a bake sale after school, in order to raise funds and move closer towards our goal of purchasing the 'St Mary's Book Exchange'. We will be asking if parents and family members could donate home baked goods for the bake sale, letter and further information to follow.

Stay & Share Mornings – after February half term

We will be providing both in-person and on-line opportunities for parents to understand the progress of their child. During our Stay & Share sessions, parents have the opportunity to come and share the children's books and see their classrooms. No booking is required for the Stay & Share, both parents are able to attend but please can each parent only attend one session. Parents of children in Nursery and Reception do not have Stay & Share sessions as they can regularly attend Stay and Play. The dates and times for Stay & Share are below:

- **Monday 26th February, Years 1 - 6 – 8:40 – 9:15am**
- **Tuesday 27th February, Years 1 - 6 – 8:40 – 9:15am**
- **Wednesday 28th February, Years 1 - 6 – 8:40 – 9:15am**



Parents' Evening – after February half term

We shall be holding on-line parents evening on **Thursday 29th February and Monday 4th March.**

We will send further information about how to book appointments on school cloud in the next half term.

Fair Trade Fortnight

When the children return after half term, they will be taking part in class based activities for Fair Trade Fortnight from **Monday 20th February to Friday 3rd March.**



Own Sports Clothes Day – School Council

On **Friday 9th February**, as well as their own sports kits, please could the children also wear jogging bottoms. Nursery and Reception children can wear a T-Shirt, school sweatshirt, shorts, jogging bottoms and trainers. We would suggest a minimum donation of £1.00 for a charity that will be decided upon by the School Council in the coming weeks.

5 Minute Challenge Day

Throughout the week **5th – 9th February** the children will be taking part in a 5-a-day Fitness Active Minutes Challenges and on **Friday 9th February**, the challenge will be to incorporate as many 5 minute exercise routines and 2 minute chill out routines as possible. We want children across all year groups to get involved as physical activity can re-energise, motivate and boost concentration. The school Sports Council will be helping to plan.



Reading Raffle and National Storytelling Week

As you are aware, given the recent success of the sponsored silent read, St Mary's is always striving to improve standards in all subjects and enhance the children's enjoyment, particularly of reading! With this purpose in mind, we will be re-launching the "St Mary's Reading Raffle" from January, which is drawn every half term. In the Juniors, if children read at least five times a week, at home and have their reading journal signed by an adult to show this, they are awarded a raffle ticket. Younger children are awarded tickets for their enjoyment of books. Keep up the good work readers and parents!



National Storytelling Week is being held from **Monday 30th January to Friday 2nd February 2024**. During this week the children will be taking part in lots of activities involving stories and storytelling. Due to the success of last year's event, St Mary's would like to invite Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and 2 parents to school, to share stories with their child and their friends in class. Story times will take place on certain afternoons during this week and you will be given an opportunity, via School Cloud, to request a day and a 10 minute time slot. Letter and school cloud booking link to follow.

Notices

"We Are All Special" Board



We like to celebrate our children's achievements and efforts from outside school as well as their achievements in school. We do this by displaying photographs of children on a display board in our corridor.

The photograph could be about any achievement outside school of which your child is proud. Previously these have included sports, dramatic activities, musical activities etc but could be of almost any activity. If you would like to share your child's achievements in this way, please email a photograph to the school office – office@st-marys.trafford.sch.uk Please also indicate the activity if there is any ambiguity. We look forward to seeing the photographs.

Birthday Sweets

We understand that children may wish to celebrate their birthdays by bringing in sweets for their class. As a reminder, if you send in sweets, please ensure that they do not contain nuts / traces of nuts and are also not on lollipop sticks. The sweets will be handed out by the child at the day so that they can be eaten at home, if parents allow.



Payments



Please could I remind you to ensure that you are up to date on payments on ParentPay, (for Breakfast / Angels club fees) and Arbor (for school meals). It is important that these accounts remain in credit and do not go into arrears. If payments are made for Breakfast / Angels through Child Care Vouchers, please allow time for these to be credited to our bank account. If you have any queries, please contact the school office.



Hair Bobbles



Please could you ensure that if your child has shoulder length hair, or longer, that they come to school with their hair tied back. It helps prevent the spread of headlice.

Collecting Children

Please could we remind parents that when parking to drop off or collect children, please could you turn off your car engines. Research into the environmental impact of cars that are parked, but keep their engines running, has shown high levels of pollution, particularly in cold weather. Please let's make it a healthier environment for our children. **As always, please remember to park with consideration to our neighbours, not parking over their driveways.**

When dropping off or collecting children, for those parents whose children are in classes on the far side of school ie Yrs 3, 4 and 5, **please remember to use the one-way system around school**, to alleviate congestion in the narrow walkway outside these classrooms. Parents of children in Nursery, Reception, Years 1, 2 and 6 have the option of exiting via the main entrance where there is considerably wider access. If you are late arriving to drop off or pick up a child, please come to the main school office.

End of Term

School closes on
**Friday 9th February
at 3:15pm** and
reopens on
**Tuesday 20th
February at 8.55
am.** Angels will be
open until 6pm on
the 9th February.

Parking

A polite reminder not to park illegally on Barkers Lane – local residents have contacted the school noting that there are cars who are parking opposite the junction to St Mary's (exit end) which causes congestion for cars turning out of St Mary's and is a danger to children trying to cross over at that point.

Are you driving to school? - If so, please use the one way system around St Mary's Road to avoid congestion.

DO NOT park on the Zig Zag lines - they are there to protect the children.

DO NOT park across residents driveways.



Information



Are you entitled to Free School Meals?

If you are on any income based support you may be entitled to Free School Meals.

Children who are on Free School Meals in school are also able to access Extra-Curricular Activities for FREE.

If you are unsure if this applies to you, please contact the school office for advice or go to Trafford Council's application page to check eligibility:

<https://www.trafford.gov.uk/residents/schools/trafford-catering/free-school-meals.aspx>

School Information

Address St Mary's CE Primary School, St Mary's Road, Sale, Cheshire, M33 6SA.

Phone 0161 973 5030

Email office@st-marys.trafford.sch.uk

SEND Email sen@st-marys.trafford.sch.uk

Website <https://www.st-marys.trafford.sch.uk/>

Arbor Login <https://login.arbor.sc/>

ParentPay Login <https://www.parentpay.com/>

School Meal Menu <https://www.st-marys.trafford.sch.uk/parents-and-carers/healthy-eating>

Uniform - <http://www.stmarys.uniform4you.co.uk/> Password Stmarys1

School Nursing Team Trafford Local Care Organisation 0161 912 2340



SEND View the latest issue of the SEND [The Link Newsletter](#)

The above link is for parents and carers of children and young people who have Special Educational Needs or Disabilities, as well as those who work with them. If you would like to receive future editions of this newsletter, please sign up using the short [online form](#).

Dates for your Diary

School Opens - Spring HT1 - FRIENDSHIP	Thursday	04 January 2024		
Prospective Parent Tour	Tuesday	09 January 2024	09.30 - 10.15	Nursery, Reception
Trafford Deadline for Reception Applications	Monday	15 January 2024	All day	Nursery
Crucial Crew	Tuesday	16 January 2024	09.00 - 12.00	Year 6
Nursery 'How to Help My Child' - January starters	Tuesday	16 January 2024	09.00 - 10.00	Nursery
Year 2 Multiskills Trip	Tuesday	16 January 2024	13.10 - 15.20	Year 2
Trafford Online Safety Ambassador Network	Wednesday	17 January 2024	14:00-15:00	Digital Leaders, Year 5
Inspiring Careers	Thursday	18 January 2024	13.00 - 15.00	All years
Bring a Bear and a Book	Friday	19 January 2024	All day	All years
Families to Lunch	Wednesday	24 January 2024	11.40 - 12.30	Rec to Year 5
Families to Lunch	Thursday	25 January 2024	11.40 - 12.30	Rec to Year 5
Reading Council Bake Sale	Friday	02 February 2024	15.15 - 15.45	All years
Day School Sunday	Sunday	04 February 2024	09.30 - 10.30	All years & Staff
5 a day Fitness Challenge Week	w/c	05 February 2024	All week	All years
Children's Mental Health Week	w/c	05 February 2024	All week	All years
Safer Internet Day - Workshops	Tuesday	06 February 2024	09.15 - 15.00	Year 3 to Year 6
Young Voices AO Arena Performance	Wednesday	07 February 2024	12.30-10.30pm	Choir members
Trip to Hindu Temple	Thursday	08 February 2024	09.30-11.30	Year 4
Own Clothes Day School Council	Friday	09 February 2024	All day	All years
School Closes - Half term	Friday	09 February 2024	3.15pm	
INSET day	Monday	19 February 2024	No students in-school	

Deadlines coming up:

Meals for School trips - a packed lunch will be provided for children who normally have a school meal – please advise the school office if you would prefer to bring your own lunch.

Tuesday 9th Jan Year 6, Crucial Crew – consent required on Arbor

Wednesday 10th Jan 'Families to Lunch' bookings open on Arbor at 8am

Monday 15th Jan Trafford Reception Admission deadline
Parent Sign up for 'National Storytelling Week' opens at 9am on school cloud

Thursday 25th Jan Parent Sign up for 'National Storytelling Week' closes at midnight on school cloud

Friday 2nd Feb Years 3-6, Online Safety Workshops – payment and consent required on Arbor
Choir members, Young Voices AO Arena performance – payment and consent required on Arbor

Friday 2nd Feb Choir members, Young Voices, AO Arena Performance – payment and consent required on Arbor

Thursday 1st Feb Year 4, Trip to Hindu Temple – consent and payment required on Arbor

Monday 5th Feb, 12 noon Parent sign up for PSP meetings on school cloud <https://stmaryssale.schoolcloud.co.uk/>