



St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

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In God's light, we love, learn and grow together

But the Lord says, "Do not cling to events of the past or dwell on what happened long ago. Watch for the new things I am going to do." (Isaiah 43:18-19)

WELCOME BACK -HAPPY NEW YEAR!

We hope you all had a wonderful, happy, peaceful Christmas and New Year. There are lots of new changes for 2023, but we look forward to them all with excitement. We also hopeful for an extension to the front of the school which I am sure will cause disruption but will help the school move forward and provide better space for all. I will keep you all updated!

Mrs Scott x

ROY CASTLE 50/50

A HUGE congratulation to our Y6 children who smashed the Roy Castle 50/50 challenge.

St Marys have raised a phenomenal **£2407** in the past three 50/50 campaigns, making our pupils the best entrepreneurs that have taken part in the challenge. The children will receive certificates and have won the [TeachRex](#) workshop. Thank you to all who supported the challenge. The children enjoyed running their own businesses!

Dates to Note

Monday 30th January – Y6 Health Survey

Tuesday 7th February – 2pm-6pm
Virtual Parents Meeting

Wednesday 8th February – 2pm-5pm
Virtual Parents Meeting

Thursday 9th February – DIVERSITY
CONCERT at Pontins, Southport 6:30pm

Friday 10th February – Parent Coffee morning arranged by Mrs Lynn Rudd; Pastoral Advisor 9-10:30am.
Term Ends 2:30pm

Monday 13th Feb - Friday 17th Feb –
HALF TERM BREAK- Mr McLaughlin
Holiday Club

Monday 20th February – Spring Term
2 begins

Wednesday 22nd February – Ash
Wednesday

Friday 24th February – Swimming
Gala 9:30am-12pm

Friday 3rd March – World Book Day –
Dress up as your favourite book
character and bring the book to school.

Friday 24th March – Parent Coffee
morning arranged by Mrs Lynn Rudd;
Pastoral Advisor 9-10:30am

Tuesday 28th March – Y3&4 final
swim

Wednesday 29th March – Whole
school assembly 2pm. Parents invited.

Thursday 30th March – Mad Hair day.
Bring in £1 donation. Term ends at
1:15pm

PARKING

School have once again received an unpleasant email regarding parents parking. Please can I ask you not to park on the corners or bends and be mindful of others. I know life is busy and stressful but can we all take our time as children may get hurt.

Drop off times

Children need to be in school for **8:55am** otherwise they will incur a late mark. Lessons start at this time and if children are missing the first 5 or 10 minutes they can be anxious to try and catch up. Extra work such as reading and catch ups begin in classes from 8:45am.

Wednesday Word

Money

This week's Wednesday Word is also on the Catholic Life of Our School page. Please take some family time to read about the birth of Jesus.

The office would like all monies to be handed into school in a sealed envelope with the amount; child name and reason. This is so money doesn't get misplaced. We understand that not everyone carries money and we are working on a payment system but this is taking a while. Thank you for all who pay money on time.

Holy Communions

Over 8 years ago, the Catholic Church decided along with the Archbishop to take the preparation of Holy Communions off schools. This means that if you want to have your child make the sacrament of Holy Communion, you would have to contact your own parish directly. School did try to have a whole school approach with our school church but this was not possible.



Children should be making their Holy Communion from Year 4.

It is important that you contact your own Parish Priest to arrange the preparation for the sacrament. Mrs Scott did contact Father John at St Peter and Pauls in Crosby who was happy to support parents from our school in his parish with the sacrament. All letters and emails were sent. If you wish to contact Father John to see if there are any spaces left, his number is 0151 928 3456.

ATTENDANCE SUMMARY: 2022-23

Sefton council class any child below **90% as persistently absent**. Our whole school target is **96.5%** which tends to be in line with national averages. It is so important that children attend school as much as possible. We understand that this cannot be the case with genuine illnesses.

DARK GREEN- Very Good	GREEN – Good	AMBER- Slight Concern	RED- Below the acceptable level- Classed as persistently absence level			
WHOLE SCHOOL - 93.7%						
Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
93.7%	92.7%	95.1%	93.1%	93.1%	94.9%	93.2%

School are becoming concerned with the overall level of attendance as this is much lower than local schools in the area. It must be emphasised that children must be in school unless ill. More children are staying off for reason such as a slight cold or slight temperature. Moving forward more letters and meetings with the senior leadership team of the school regarding attendance will now be issued and the Education Welfare Officers from Sefton Council will need to get involved with families who continue to keep children off sporadically. All children deserve a full education.

Half Term Club

To book Mr McLaughlin's February club, please contact him on 07973928063. The club will run from 9am-3pm and costs £20 or £75 for the full week. Children need to bring their packed lunch.

