



St Mary's Catholic



Newsletter No.5 – Tuesday 9th January 2024

Happy New Year everyone!

Whole School Dates for your Diary

Lent Term – Half Term 1	
Wed 17 Jan 2024	Whole School Mass 10am in church
Wed 17 Jan 2024	ELSA course for parents 2 – 3pm
Tues 30 Jan 2024	Deborah Tibble – Our Lady of Lourdes Trust visiting
6th & 7th Feb 2024	Parents' Evening Tues 1:30 – 4pm; Wed 2 – 5:30
Fri 9 th Feb	School Closed – Trust INSET Day
Mon 12 – 16 Feb	Half Term Holiday
Lent Term – Half Term 2	
Mon 19 Feb 2024	Lent Assembly and Reflection afternoon
Wed 27 March 2024	Y3 / Y4 Easter Performance
Thurs 28 March 2024	Final Day of Term
Fri 29 Mar 2024	No school - Good Friday
Mon 1 st – 12 th Apr' 24	Easter School Holiday
Pentecost / Summer Term	
Mon 15 Apr 2024	Return to school

Primary School Admissions to F2 / Reception

Will your child be 4 years old by 31st August?

For those families with children who will be 4 years old by 31st August, you must complete your local authority school admissions form by Sunday 15th January 2023. There is just over a week to go. Every child needs their school preference submitting on line, **even if they attend St Mary's Nursery**. Please, if you are unsure about whether you need to apply for your child or not, come and speak to a member of the school office and we will help you.

Please also remember that you must complete and submit an additional form to each Catholic school you request a place for. Supplementary forms must be submitted prior to the admission deadline.

Family Learning – Coping with Anxiety

Before Christmas we advertised a workshop that we are holding in school for parents /carers to support you at home. Discussions will include:

- Understanding feelings and managing emotions
- What it is to have good listening
- How to build self-esteem
- Stress management techniques.

There are limited places, so please sign up by returning the form to the office as soon as possible. A new leaflet can be collected from the school office.



We are Seeking Excellence for All

Ron Berger, a consultant teacher, describes a 'culture of excellence' as the most important aspect of a child's education, He believes the environment and peer pressure do most to form a child's attitudes and responses to learning. He says:

'If you're going to do something, I believe you should do it well. You should sweat over it and make sure it is strong and accurate and beautiful and you should be proud of it'.

St Mary's staff have been exploring how we can support children to show greater resilience and increase the effort they put in to their work. We want children to strive hard to create beautiful, accurate work. Children will know that little things REALLY matter. For example, by:

Showing they care in all they do

Being on time - punctual

Wearing the correct uniform and wear it with pride

Using neat presentation in books e.g. handwriting

Sitting up and engaging in conversations

Waiting their turn

Doing good listen

Taking care of coats and belongings

Speaking kindly and respectfully

Walking around school (not running)

Remembering their manners

Tidying up after them self

Please support your child by encouraging them to be the best of themselves each day. Maybe you could adopt Berger's Culture of Excellence at home too.



A reminder about Attendance and Term Time Holidays

Attendance is monitored closely at school and your child must be in school when they are well.

Term time absences, including holidays, have a significant impact on your child's progress and achievement. Requests for term time absences will not be authorised (unless there are exceptional circumstances) and **will be** subject to a Nottingham City Council referral for a penalty notice to be considered.

Fines

If paid within 21 days, the fine is £60, rising to £120 if paid between 21-28 days. Fines must be paid in full and there is no part payment. Where there is more than one child and one parent in a family, a penalty notice will be issued per parent per child. Unpaid fines will result in the case being pursued and greater costs may be incurred.

Appeal

There is no right of appeal regarding the issuing of a Penalty Notice. Any queries regarding Penalty Notices will be directed to the referrer.

Attendance Matters



Thank you for your on-going support. As a team at St Mary's, we work with determination and commitment to help your child/ren to become the best 'me' they can be. I look forward to all the success, joy and achievements we share in 2024.

Kind regards, Anne-Marie Bell