

### Diary Dates

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup>

January 10am

Morning Prayer  
Class 4

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup>

February

Non-Uniform day -

Wear Red

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup>

February

Rock Kidz

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> &

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup>

February

Reception children

NHS Screening

(more details to  
follow)

Friday 9<sup>th</sup>

February

School Closes

Monday 19<sup>th</sup>

February

School Re-opens

### Head Teacher Column

Welcome back everyone! It has been a busy couple of weeks in school as we start the new year. Attendance has remained good despite the wet and cold weather which is fantastic - thank you! St Mary's remain slightly above national average for Persistent Absences at 21.7% where 17.0% is the national figure. This is much lower than last year which reached over 30%. If we can continue working together to get as many pupils as possible above 90% attendance you will all see better progress in learning for everyone in 2024.

Please can I ask all parents to check if you children's indoor black pumps need replacing? With the wet conditions and gritted paths and playgrounds it is really important that the children have clean, dry pumps to wear indoors. This helps keep the school clean and safe for all children and staff.

This term there is a huge focus on Reading; books, schemes, reading records and, of course, World Book Day on March 7<sup>th</sup>! Please support your children in practicing phonics sounds, reading for pleasure, reading their home/school book and signing the yellow reading record if your child has one. Thanks for supporting school with the book sale too!

Have a lovely weekend, Mr Glover.

Useful for reading: <https://essentiallettersandsounds.org/parents/>

<https://www.worldbookday.com/>

### Teacher Training Days

Please note we have 2 teacher training dates to add to the diary. School will be closed to pupils on

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2024

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2024

### Lateness

As we start the new term we are noticing an increasing number of lateness. This has a knock on effect for assemblies and lesson time and can be very disruptive to classes. Please note school starts at 8.55am. Please ensure your child is in school and ready to start at this time.

### February Half Term

School closes on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February at 3.20pm.

We re-open on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February at normal time.

## Non - Uniform Day Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February - Support Children's Heart Surgery Fund

Meet Archer & Willow.

Archer is the brother of one of our current pupils at St Mary's & Willow is the granddaughter of a member of our staff. Both families have been supported massively by CHSF and would love for our school to take part in raising vital funds for this amazing charity.

The simple action of pupils & staff is to wear something **RED** and make a voluntary donation of £1.00 on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February.



### Free School Meals

At this difficult time, we are determined to support Kirklees families. We want to make sure all children who qualify for free school meals are receiving their entitlement. If you are on a low income or in receipt of any benefits listed below then your child may be eligible.

- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)
- Income support
- Income Based Job Seekers Allowance
- Income Related Employment and Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit, but are not entitled to a Working Tax Credit and your annual income (as assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs) is less than £16,190
- Support under Part V1 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Please take a few minutes to see if you would be eligible.

### How to apply

Please go to [https://my.kirklees.gov.uk/service/Schools\\_and\\_education](https://my.kirklees.gov.uk/service/Schools_and_education) Apply for free school meals

### Mini Vinnies

Congratulations to all our Mini Vinnies who received their certificates and badges this week. They have lots of plans for the future year, watch this space!



### Rock Kidz visit



Rock Kidz are coming to school to deliver an exciting rock 'n' roll workshop. Throughout the day we will transform the whole school into Rockstars.

A letter has been sent out last week through school ping with full details but we are asking children to come dressed as Rockstars, jeans and a funky top will be great or even a funky hair style. We do not expect parents to go out and buy expensive outfits, children could even make their own air guitars.

This is a free event, no donation required.

### Superkid

Class 1 - Jacob & Aiden

Kallie & Ra'Nell

Class 3 - Kai W & Frankie H

Class 4- James G & Hartley C

Class 5- Jordi & Sebastian

### Star of the Week

Class 6-       Alexsander

Class 7-       Willow C

Class 8-       Ava W

Class 9-

Class 10-     Ruby B

Class 11 -     Kian K

WELL DONE!





### Sporting News



Massive congratulations to the Sports Hall Athletics team who came 3<sup>rd</sup> in the North Kirklees final and have now qualified to the Kirklees Final on the 2<sup>nd</sup> February at Leeds Road Playing Fields.

Julia, Scarlett A, Emerson, Eloise, Thea, Vanessa, Lydia, Elina, Tilly & Olivia  
De-Andre, Cohen, Oliver, Riley, Archie, Finnley, Roman, Kian, Tyler, Spencer and Tishe.



Well done to the year 3/4 Sports Hall Athletics team who won the North Kirklees competition  
Michal, Pheobe, Grace, Igor, Eliza, Summer, Kayson, Harvey, Rithushan, Frankie, Manasvini and Isaac,  
Great result!



We have spaces on a Wednesday & Thursday at After School Club. If you require an application form, please ask at the office.

**\*\*Children on pupils premium will be paid for by the school\*\***



A massive well done to the year 6 girls team who competed in the Kirklees final of the Cross Country. Millie, Emerson, Casey, Scarlett A, Scarlett F and Elina & Grace from Year 4

Well done Year 5 / 6 Boys Football Team in coming 3<sup>rd</sup> in Europa Final football tournament & displayed fantastic discipline, teamwork & sportsmanship. Roman, Tishe, Archie, Freddy, De-Andre, Cohen, Finnley, Zachary & Chase.



Well done Year 5 / 6 Girls Football Team in attending the BSSA football tournament & displayed fantastic discipline, teamwork & sportsmanship. Olivia, Julia, Eloise, Scarlett A, Scarlett F, Emerson, Neveah, Lydia