



*"My soul glorifies the Lord ...." Luke 1:46*

**Saint Mary's Catholic Primary School, A Voluntary Academy**  
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**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September**

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you have had a lovely summer. I am looking forward to welcoming you and your children back to school tomorrow and I am excited for the year ahead. Please find contained within this letter information relating to various aspects of school life.

### **Meet the Teachers**

On Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September from 3:15pm to 4pm you (and your child) are invited into your child's class to 'meet the teacher'. This will give parents the opportunity to gain key information and ask any important questions to ensure that the academic year gets off to a smooth start.

### **Parent Drop in**

During the year there will be a number of dates where parents can drop into their child's class, from 3:15pm to 4pm, to look at their child's books and classroom and have the opportunity for a brief, informal chat with the class teacher. The dates will be:

|                                   |
|-----------------------------------|
| Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> October  |
| Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December |
| Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> February |
| Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> April     |
| Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> May      |
| Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> July      |

### **Behaviour Policy**

Before the summer, you will have received a copy of the revised Behaviour Policy. In light of the feedback from Ofsted, during their visit in May 2024, changes have been necessary. Clear sanctions have been added to the policy and the policy will be applied consistently across the whole school, ensuring high expectations for behaviour and attitude to learning are maintained.

### **Class Dojo**

Class Dojo will be an integral part of the Behaviour Policy and behaviour management. With that, we want to ensure that parents and carers are connected and engaged in their child's Class Dojo. Over the coming days you will receive an email invitation to connect to Class Dojo. From there you will be able to see the green and red dojo points that your child receives and will be able to support, encourage and/or praise your child for their conduct in school. Class Dojo will also be used as a school and class 'notice board' to ensure that parents have a better insight into their child's life at school. Class Dojo does have a messaging facility, however this will **not** be used and any messages received via Class Dojo will not be responded to.

### **Uniform Policy**

You will also have received the revised Uniform Policy. Adhering to the correct uniform impacts on your child's behaviour for learning and we would ask for parents' support and co-operation in ensuring all children come to school wearing the correct school uniform. Warnings and red dojos

will be issued for incorrect uniform and parents will also be spoken to directly. A key change to note is that children will come to school in their PE kit on any day that they are taught PE. PE days will be communicated via Class Dojo.

### Forest School

Forest school will continue this academic year. Forest School is an invaluable part of Saint Mary's curriculum offer. On the days that your child has Forest School, please ensure that they come to school appropriately dressed for the outdoors, eg. layers, coat, hat, warm socks and shoes etc. Your child will need a water bottle and a change of footwear. Forest School will take place on a Friday afternoon. The timetable for Forest School is below:

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>YEAR 6</b>                          | <b>YEAR 5</b>                          |
| Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> September 2024 | Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> September 2024 |
| Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> November 2024   | Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> November 2024  |
| Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> January 2025   | Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> January 2025   |
| Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> March 2025      | Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> March 2025     |
| Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> May 2025        | Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> May 2025       |
| Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> July 2024       |  |
| <b>YEAR 4</b>                          | <b>YEAR 3</b>                          |
| Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> September 2024 | Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> October 2024    |
| Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November 2024  | Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> November 2024  |
| Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> January 2025   | Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> January 2025   |
| Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> March 2025     | Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> March 2025     |
| Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May 2025       | Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> June 2025       |
| <b>YEAR 2</b>                          | <b>YEAR 1</b>                          |
| Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> October 2024   | Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> October 2024   |
| Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> December 2024   | Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> December 2024  |
| Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> February 2025   | Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> February 2025  |
| Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> April 2024      | Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> April 2025     |
| Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> June 2025      | Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> June 2025      |
| <b>EYFS – RECEPTION and Nursery 2</b>  |  |
| Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> October 2024   |  |
| Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December 2024  |  |
| Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> February 2025  |  |
| Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May 2025        |  |
| Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> June 2025    |  |

### Attendance and Punctuality

It is vital that your child is in school, on time, every day, unless they are too unwell to attend school. Attendance will be routinely monitored and if a child's attendance falls below the National expectation, the Education Welfare Service will be involved in the monitoring of and supporting the improvement of the child's attendance. Requests for term time absences must be made in advance and holidays will not be authorised. In line with the new DfE statutory guidance, Fixed Penalty Notices will be issued by the local authority for unauthorised term time absences. Please support your child and Saint Mary's in securing positive attendance.

I look forward to getting to know Saint Mary's, its pupils, parents and staff, much better over the coming weeks and months.

Kind regards,  
Martine Gum  
Executive Headteacher