



www.stmarysmiddlewich.cheshire.sch.uk

T: 01606 516171 E: admin@stmrc.uk



Follow us on social media

St Mary's Newsletter 27.09.2024

Dear Parents / Carers,

It has been a busy few weeks in school and lovely to see how all the children have settled well into their new classes and school routine.

We hope you have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Janet McKinlay

Headteacher

Nursery Proposal

Thank you to those who have expressed their interest so far.

Our aim is to run nursery provision here at St Mary's. The consultation is currently being handled by Cheshire East and the final decision will go to the November Children and Families Committee meeting.

Please register your interest at schooloffice@stmrc.uk. We hope to offer nursery places from January 2025.

Diary Date Reminders

Tuesday 1 st October 2024	Book Bus Visit Education Library - RY1-6 Whole school Mass next at 9am, which all parents are welcome to attend in the school hall.
Wednesday 2 nd October 2024	Flu Nasal Spray (FLUENZ) to all school aged pupils in the Autumn term 2024
Thursday 3 rd October 2024	Cross Country Competition Cledford Primary School Years 5 & 6 3.30pm to 5.00pm – See ParentPay for details
Wednesday 16 th October 2024	St Nicholas Music Festival It has been announced that Sandbach Leisure Centre will be undergoing some essential maintenance resulting in a full pool closure from Monday 14 th October – Sunday 20 th October. Therefore, there will be no school swimming for Year 5 on Wednesday 16 th October 2024.
Thursday 24 th October 2024	PTA Autumn Disco see flyer for details
Friday 25 th October 2024	Pyjama Appeal 2024 – Pyjama day/dress down in exchange for donation of PJ's for Children's Hospital Pyjamas. See flyer for details
Monday 28 th October to Friday 1 st November 2024	Half term school closed
Monday 4 th November 2024	School opens 8.30am
Wednesday 13 th November to Thursday 14 th November 2024	Parents' evenings
20 th November 2024 to 22 nd November 2024	Year 4 Savio House Trip
Friday 29 th November 2024	Year 6 Crucial Crew Trip 9am to 12pm
Tuesday 10 th and Wednesday 11 th December 2024	School Christmas Performances
Friday 20 th December 2024	Rocksteady Christmas Music Concert
Monday 23 rd December to Monday 6 th January 2025	School Christmas Holiday
Tuesday 7 th January 2025	School opens at 8.30am

Residentials and Trips

Our Year 4 residential to Savio House is coming round again. This particular residential is a chance for pupils to spend a few days away from their normal surroundings with the opportunity to reflect on their lives and experiences, learning more about their gifts and qualities, and discovering a little of the reality of God in their lives. It's great fun especially the disco on the second night!

Year 6 will be going to Crucial Crew on 29th November. Crucial Crew is an innovative and interactive way of delivering health and well-being messages to Year 6 children in preparation for their migration to secondary school. The event encourages model behaviour and good citizenship through active participation in a range of health and safety activities.

PE Timetable

PE Timetable

Monday - Rec, Yr 2, Yr 3, Yr 5,

Tuesday - Yr 1, Y4,

Wed - Yr 1, Yr 2, Yr 3, Yr 4, Yr 5 (Swimming), Yr 6

Thurs – Rec, Yr 6

Children are to wear their PE Kit's on their PE day and swimming day.

Year 5 swimming will commence on Wednesday 18th September 2024

Girls Football Competition



Congratulation to the girls football team who came runner up (2nd) in the football competition last week at St. Nicholas. The girls showed great determination, passion and teamwork. They lost their first match but they didn't give up, they worked together to come up with a plan and then drew the next match and won their last 2 matches. They were 1 point away from the winners. Isabelle was the star goal scorer and Naomi made some fantastic saves. Well done girls, you represented St. Mary's brilliantly and we are very proud of you!

Harvest Festival



Thank you to those parents/carers who donated some food items to help those who are struggling to put enough food on the table. Middlewich Food Bank has experienced a huge increase in demand over the last 12 months - in fact a 240% increase. We are always overwhelmed by the kindness and generosity of our parents and local community.. The food has been collected by our Mini -Vinnies and a display created in the project court. Donations will be taken down to the Food Bank next week so if there are any parents who didn't get around to donating, there is still a small window of time . Items can be dropped off at classroom doors or handed to the office.

Tuesday Chapel Group & Mass



There will be a Whole school Mass next Tuesday 1st October at 9am which all parents are welcome to attend in the school hall.

Chapel Group is every Tuesday at 8 am - 8.30 am - all year groups are welcome. We share a reflection together and do some art and craft activities relating to the piece of scripture shared. It's a great opportunity to come together to pray and have fun.

Mass is every Thursday in the Chapel from 9.00am and parishioners are all welcome to attend, access is through the doors at the side of the Chapel corridor.

PTA Events

PTA fundraisers - Autumn term

Your PTA needs you!

From September all roles within the PTA will get renominated. We will be looking for a new chair, vice chair and secretary.

Would you like to be part of the PTA? If you would like to know more about what is involved in these roles please contact your class rep.

All roles will be elected at the AGM which will take place in the school hall at 5pm on 8 October 2024.

PTA AUTUMN DISCO

Thursday 24 October 2024
Reception and KS1 @ 5.00pm - 6.00pm
KS2 @ 6.15pm - 7.15pm

Tickets are £2.50 each, this includes a drink and snack

Don't forget to bring some pocket money for our tuck shop and glow sticks

ASDA

Do you shop at ASDA? Have you downloaded their app? Collect points for St Mary's Primary CW10 9DH

you scan, we donate £££ TO SCHOOLS.

Download the ASDA Rewards app and opt in today

Points = Money

St Mary's PTA

COMING SOON

PTA personalised Christmas cards & gifts

ONCE ARTWORK HAS BEEN COMPLETED IN CLASS EVERY CHILD WILL RECEIVE A PERSONALISED ORDER FORM TO ALLOW YOU TO ORDER ONLINE

class fundraising™ TEACHER'S GUIDE

Writing too close to the edge...

Wrong	Printed	Correct

Use firm pressure with coloured pencils

Wrong	Printed	Correct

Make sure artwork is central...

Wrong	Printed	Correct

Block colour designs should fill the space

Wrong	Printed	Correct

Sticking artwork to the template

Wrong	Printed	Correct

NEED HELP?
visit www.classfundraising.co.uk

TEACHER'S GUIDE

It's time to get creative!

But first, here is a guide to get the best results...

- 1 Provide each child with an artwork template, ask your fundraiser if you need more. **DO NOT PHOTOCOPY.**
- 2 Read through our handy tips so that you can guide the children on what they can and cannot do.
- 3 Have the children draw and create their artwork on the template. Check out the inspiration poster for ideas!
- 4 Make sure that each child's design has their full name & class name in block capital letters at the top of the template. This should be completed by a teacher.
- 5 Collect all the completed templates and pop them into the envelope. Then, fill out the details on the front and have them ready for your fundraiser to collect by your agreed collection date.

✓ PLEASE USE:

- ✓ Felt tip pens
- ✓ Coloured pencils (Must use firm pressure to avoid faint print)
- ✓ Paints
- ✓ Wax Crayons
- ✓ Ink

✗ DO NOT USE:

- ✗ Metallic paper & stickers
- ✗ Glitter
- ✗ Fluorescent colours
- ✗ 3D objects
- ✗ Photos printed on glossy paper
- ✗ Folds or creases
- ✗ Sellotape & staples
- ✗ White paint
- ✗ Paper collage

NEED HELP?
visit www.classfundraising.co.uk

↑ THIS WAY UP	68C32E	7Y6IIG	2546217	↑ THIS WAY UP
First Name				
Last Name				
Class				

DO NOT PHOTOCOPY THIS TEMPLATE class Fundraising
Need more templates? Please contact your project organiser.

Each class will be invited to take part in this lovely fundraising idea, their class teacher will provide each child with an artwork template to take home (white sheet of paper). Using the Teacher's Guide example attached, help your child complete their artwork, then write your child's first name, last name and class number and teacher's name on this form and return it to their school class teacher no later than Friday 25th October 2024.

Once artwork has been completed and returned to school, every child will receive a personalised order form to allow parents to order their personalised Christmas cards online in time for December.

Pyjama Appeal 2024 Friday 25th October 2024



PYJAMA APPEAL!

CHARITY NUMBER: 1185739

Please donate a brand new pair of pyjamas
for a poorly child in your
**LOCAL HOSPITAL OR
CHILDREN'S HOSPICE**

Each year, we collect donations of brand new pyjamas from new-born to age 18, which are then gifted to children in hospital on Christmas morning.

In reality, they are also used in other situations where children may have had their clothes cut off in A&E or in an emergency situation where there hasn't been time to pack essentials.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Please donate a brand new pair of non-fleece pyjamas (as hospitals are cosy enough). Have a collection at work, through family & friends or even your local school could have a PJ Day or simply donate a pair yourself.

LOOK ONLINE AT
www.childrenshospitalpyjamas.co.uk
FOR YOUR NEAREST PYJAMA DROP OFF POINT

Or order via Amazon with free delivery to Co-ordinator
<https://amzn.eu/acJOv8t>

WHY? Because no child wants to be in hospital at Christmas and if they have to be they want to be wearing brand new cosy PJ's to make their stay as comfortable as possible at such a fearful time.

**OUR APPEAL IS FROM
1ST SEPTEMBER
TO 31ST OCTOBER
2024**



Follow us on our Facebook, Instagram and Twitter pages
'Children's Hospital Pyjamas' to see me delivering your PJ'S x

Lisa, Area Coordinator | 07835 660083

<https://amzn.eu/acJOv8t>

A collection of ten children's poetry books by Pie Corbett, arranged on a wooden surface. The books include titles like 'Puffin Book of Fantastic Poems', 'The Works Book', 'Poems Around', 'The Final Year', 'Julia Donaldson Poems & Performances', 'First Poetry Book', 'Lost Haddock', 'Taming the Dragon', 'The Works Book', 'Poems Around', and 'The Works Book'. Each book features colorful illustrations and the author's name 'Pie Corbett'.

Half-term Holiday Club

October holiday club forms will be available in the school office from next Monday, please contact Gary via email or pick up a form to secure a place for your child garryssc@hotmail.co.uk¹

¹<mailto:garyssc@hotmail.co.uk>

'Rock and Pop' Music Lessons!



We welcomed Rocksteady Music School last Friday. It's an incredible opportunity for the children to be in their very own bands with a choice of drums, keyboards, electric guitar, bass guitar or vocals.

These fun and inclusive lessons are taught by highly trained professional musicians who know how to inspire a life-long love of music. At the end of term, the bands will perform a concert for the school and their families on Friday 20th December in the morning. More information to follow.

If you wish to sign up for lessons online, visit www.rocksteadymusicschool.com².

If you have any questions about Rocksteady lessons, you can call 0330 113 0330 (local rate, office hours are Mon –Thurs 8am – 8pm, Fridays 8am – 6pm).

²<http://www.rocksteadymusicschool.com>



**ROCK
STEADY**

IGNITE THEIR INNER SPARK!

**Inclusive rock and pop
band lessons at your school**

With Rocksteady Music School, your child can learn to play an instrument in their own band with no experience necessary. Our inclusive band lessons tune into children's creativity, amplifying their self-belief and igniting a sense of confidence that carries far beyond the classroom!

**BOOK YOUR
CHILD'S PLACE
ONLINE!**



0330 113 0330 (Mon-Thurs 8am-8pm, Fri 8am-6pm, local rate)

rocksteadymusicschool.com

St Nicholas Music Festival 16th October 2024

For Key Stage 2 Children that have joined the Choir

Children who have joined the choir are invited to participate in our Partner Primary School's Music Festival event. St Nicholas Catholic High School will arrange transport for the children from St Mary's to the High School, arriving at 2.45 pm. Students will then practice their performances (songs they have learnt as part of the choir) and will be served a light tea at approximately 5 pm (please inform us of dietary requirements as requested by your primary school.) At 6 pm parents and carers are invited to attend the performance free of charge at St Nicholas Catholic High School. The performance will last approximately one hour. Students will need transport for leaving the High School at the end of the evening.

Digital Inclusion



FREE IT SESSIONS

DO YOU LACK CONFIDENCE IN FINDING YOUR WAY AROUND YOUR PHONE, LAPTOP OR DEVICE?

If so, please come along to St Mary's Catholic Primary School (Manor Lane, Middlewich) on:

Saturday 14th September
Saturday 5th October
Saturday 23rd November
Saturday 14th December

10—10.45am—Help with phones and tablets
11—11.45am—Help with using Word, Excel etc.

Refreshments provided by
Able Together

For more information, please contact
Lucie Ferneyhough on 07929 717909 or
lucie.ferneyhough@cheshireeast.gov.uk



Attendance



STMARY'S Getting your child to school really matters. Did you know...

If in a school year, your child is late every day by...	Your child would have lost approximately...	or they would have missed approximately...
5 Minutes	3.5 Days from School	20 Lessons
10 Minutes	7 Days from School	41 Lessons
15 Minutes	10 Days from School	55 Lessons
20 Minutes	14.5 Days from School	82 Lessons
30 Minutes	22 Days from School	123 Lessons

You should not take your child on holiday during term time.
Please encourage punctuality to maintain school attendance.
Remember Absence = Lost Opportunity

As we start a new academic year in supporting your child's education, we want to inform you of important changes to the law regarding school attendance as attached letter. These changes, are effective from 19th August 2024, are part of a new National Framework for Penalty Notices, including those for unauthorised holiday absences.

We understand that these new regulations might bring up some questions or concerns, and we want to assure you that we are here to support you through this transition.

2nd September 2024

Dear Parents / Carers,

IMPORTANT NOTICE: CHANGES TO ATTENDANCE LAWS

We hope this message finds you and your family well and that you have had a restful summer. As we start a new academic year in supporting your child's education, we want to inform you of important changes to the law regarding school attendance. These changes, are effective from 19th August 2024, are part of a new National Framework for Penalty Notices, including those for unauthorised holiday absences.

We understand that these new regulations might bring up some questions or concerns, and we want to assure you that we are here to support you through this transition.

What Are the Changes?

1. National Threshold for Unauthorised Absences:

Beginning 19th August 2024, a penalty notice will be considered if your child accumulates 10 unauthorised sessions (equivalent to 5 school days) within a rolling 10-week school period, for any reason.

2. Holiday Absences:

We understand the importance of family time, but under the new rules, taking your child out of school for a week's holiday during term time will now result in a penalty notice being issued.

3. Increased Penalty Fines:

The fine for unauthorised absences will increase from £60 to £80 if paid within 21 days. If not paid within this period, the fine will rise to £160 if paid within 28 days.

4. Repeat Offences:

If a second penalty notice is issued for the same child within a rolling 3-year period, the fine will automatically be £160, with no option to pay the lower rate. Should further absences occur, the local authority may consider additional enforcement actions.

5. Additional Enforcement Options:

In the case of a third offence within a 3-year period, the local authority will consider further steps to address the attendance issues.

We're Here to Support You:

We understand that these changes may seem challenging, and that life can sometimes make regular attendance difficult. If you have any concerns about how these new rules might impact your family, we encourage you to reach out to your child's Education Family Support Worker. They are available to discuss your situation and provide support, whether it's offering advice, resources, or helping to find solutions that work for your family.



I'm Kelly Gooch and I work as an Education Family Support Worker in the Attendance and Children out of School Team at Cheshire East Council. Data analysis shows that every minute counts in school, and those with higher attendance achieve higher scores both academically and socially as a result. I'm very pleased to be working with St Mary's Catholic Primary School, and becoming part of your local school community, to increase attendance and to help achieve the best outcomes for your children.

Kelly Gooch

Education Family Support Worker

Attendance and Children Out of School Service
Children & Families | Cheshire East Council
Floor 5 Delamere House | c/o Municipal Buildings | Crewe
CW1 2BJ
07881037622

Concerns about a child – [Cheshire East Consultation Service](#) (CHECS) 0300 123 5012 (opt 3), [Out of Hours](#) 0300 123 5022

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs):

Q: If I have already booked a holiday for next year, could I receive a penalty fine at the new higher rate?

A: Yes, if the absence is not authorised by the Head Teacher. However, if you have concerns or special circumstances, please discuss them with your child's Education Family Support Worker or Headteacher as soon as possible.

Q: Who can be issued with a penalty notice?

A: Each parent can receive a fine for each child who has unauthorised absences. This includes anyone who lives with the child and is involved in their day-to-day care, such as step-parents or partners.

Q: Do the new rules only apply to holidays during term time?

A: No, they apply to all unauthorised absences, including truancy, arriving late after 9:15 am, and failing to provide reasons for absence.

Q: How do I request leave for my child during term time?

A: If you need to request leave, please submit a written request to the Head Teacher at least 20 days before the proposed absence. We understand that there may be exceptional circumstances, and your child's Education Family Support Worker can help you navigate this process.

Q: Do the 10 sessions of unauthorised absence need to be consecutive?

A: No, the 10 sessions can occur at any time within a rolling 10-week period, either consecutively or non-consecutively.

Q: What should I do if I am worried about my child's attendance?

A: If you're concerned about your child's attendance, we encourage you to reach out to your child's Education Family Support Worker. They are dedicated to working with you to improve the situation and ensure your child receives the support they need.

We sincerely appreciate your co-operation and understanding as we work together to ensure the best possible educational experience for your child. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us for any assistance you may need.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Janet McKinlay
Headteacher

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
MANOR LANE, MIDDLEWICH, CHESHIRE, CW10 9DH
<https://www.stmarysmiddlewich.cheshire.sch.uk/>

School Kitchen



Well done to our school catering team, Mrs Grant, Mrs Turnbull and Mrs Tench on receiving a food hygiene rating of 5 which is the highest rating a business can receive, indicating that our school has very good hygiene standards and fully complies with the law!



As our **schools** have pupils who suffer from a serious **nut allergy**, we therefore request that parents and carers do **not** send food to **school** that contains **nuts**.

Well done Stars of The Week!

Well done to all the Stars from the past two weeks!

Reception - Noah Tench & Anna Farrington

Year 1 - Alivia Birkenhead & Alfie Blackhurst

Year 2 - Keeva O'Brien & Ralph McAller

Year 3 - Fortune Nwachukwu & Charlotte Galdes

Year 4 - Felicity Pearson & Benjamin Hughes

Year 5 - Oliver Charlton & Daniel Coxon

Year 6 - Pippa Hough & Rohan Evers

ParentPay Accounts

Please can you check your ParentPay accounts for each child are up to date for the week ahead.

The school operates a **NO DEBT** rule relating to the provision of school meals so please ensure your school meal account is in credit for the week ahead.

Please note this message does not apply to school trip items which already have payments schedules in place.

We would like to thank all parents / carers that pay promptly, as this ensures that all money that is for children's learning is available.

After School & Breakfast Club bookings

Please book on ParentPay.

The cut-off date for Breakfast Club bookings is 11am the day before the booking.

The cut-off date for After School Club bookings is 11am on the day.

This is so that staffing and numbers can be set and managed.

Users will be able to cancel and make changes to their booking up until the booking cut off time.

If a child is picked up late from After School Club a charge of £5 will be made for every 15 minutes beyond the collection time.

After the cut off time, if a child is booked into a club and does not attend, the fee will still apply as the charge relates to the place being held not the actual attendance.

Clubs prices

Breakfast Club	£4.50 7.30am to 8.30am
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After School Club	£4.00 3pm to 4pm Fruit & drink provided
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£6.50 4pm to 6pm Snack & drink provided at 4pm

£10.50 3pm to 6pm - Sibling's price is £8.50

The Breakfast Club and After School Club number for emergencies operates whilst the club is running
0777 4496 483

Morning Registration & End of Day Release

Morning registration takes place at 8.30am each morning. Please ensure your child arrives to school on time and has everything for the day ahead.

To ensure a smooth end of day release for children, please can Parent's / Carer's ensure any messages regarding alternative collection arrangements are relayed to the teacher first thing in a morning or to the office by 2pm latest and if your child is not booked into a club, please ensure they are collected on time at 3pm.

Contacting the School Office New Email Address

When contacting the school office for parent queries relating to clubs, medical appointments or school payment items, please contact the new school office email which is: schooloffice@stmrc.uk³

If you have a general enquiry or a query regarding admissions or paper copies of any information published on our website, please contact the School Business Manager at: admin@stmrc.uk⁴

To contact the headteacher Mrs Janet McKinlay, please email head@stmrc.uk⁵

To contact our school SENCO Miss Laura Dziamarski, please email ldziamarski@stmrc.uk⁶

If you have a query or concern regarding your child please speak with your child's class teacher in the first instance.

Absence

- Reporting an absence, please ring 01606 516 171 & select option 1, by 9am latest each day. State child's full name, class and reason for absence

St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Manor Lane, Middlewich. CW10 9DH

01606 516 171

Office hours are Monday to Friday 8.00am to 4.00pm

Visit us on the web at <https://www.stmarysmiddlewich.cheshire.sch.uk/>

³<mailto:schooloffice@stmrc.uk>

⁴<mailto:admin@stmrc.uk>

⁵<mailto:head@stmrc.uk>

⁶<mailto:ldziamarski@stmrc.uk>

Lost Property

If you have an item of lost property or your child has mislaid their lunch box please contact the school Site Manager Mrs Anne Turnbull so that she can look into locating it aturnbull@stmrc.uk⁷

⁷<mailto:aturnbull@stmrc.uk>