



www.stmarysmiddlewich.cheshire.sch.uk

T: 01606 516171 E: admin@stmrc.uk



Follow us on social media

St Mary's Newsletter 15.11.2024

Dear Parents / Carer's,

It was lovely to see so many parents attending parents evening this week! It is a pleasure to share the children's achievements.

Thank you for supporting our partnership to ensure that your children make the most of their potential.

As we approach the cold weather, please ensure your child has everything with them for the start of the school day.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Janet McKinlay

Headteacher

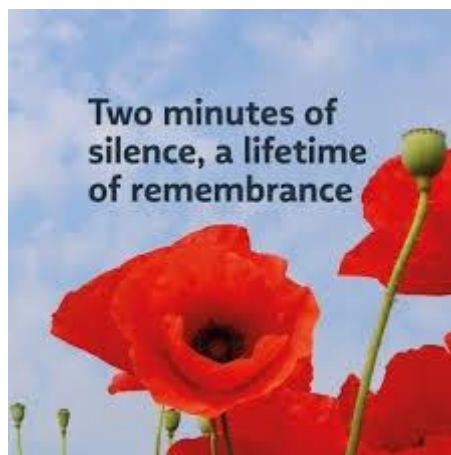
Remembrance Parade





It was lovely to see all the parents and children from St Mary's supporting the Remembrance Parade last Sunday.

The School's Act of Remembrance



The whole school observed a two minutes silence on Monday 11th November following The Last Post performed by Gary Curtin of The Love Music Trust

Nursery Proposal & Donations

Thank you to those who have expressed their interest so far and completed application forms.

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.

We are in the process of sourcing outdoor equipment for our school nursery and would be very grateful if any local trade contractors could spare any cable wheels, UPVC pipes, tree stumps, an ex display shed for our children's outdoor area in return for free advertising in our school newsletter and on our school Facebook page



Diary Date Reminders

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
Wednesday 4 th December 2024	Elf Run – Children to wear their PE Kits this day
Monday 9 th December to Friday 13 th December 2024	<p>Christmas Crafts in school – All children will make a Christmas craft during this week to bring home on Friday 13th December.</p> <p>If you wish you can make a voluntary donation of £1.50 towards the cost of the craft, which can be paid on ParentPay.</p>
Thursday 12 th December 2024	<p>Santa's Christmas Grotto Photograph £5.00 – please pay on ParentPay</p> <p>Children to wear their Christmas jumpers with their school uniform and this is there chance to meet Santa in the Christmas Grotto and have their photograph taken and receive a present. Parents who have paid on ParentPay will receive a photograph via school spider.</p>
Tuesday 10 th and Wednesday 11 th December 2024	<p>School Christmas Performances. 1.30pm and 6.30pm on each day</p> <p>Tickets are limited to TWO per family.</p> <p>The TWO-ticket rule applies to ALL families in the school and to those with siblings. We will try our best to accommodate your preference. Tickets will cost £4.00 each.</p> <p>There may be the option of purchasing extra tickets on a first come first served basis later but for now, we are limited to the amount of seats we can accommodate safely in our school hall.</p> <p>We will notify you next week of your ticket allocation via ParentPay.</p>
Wednesday 11 th December 2024	Last session of Kids with Bricks 3-4pm
Wednesday 18 th December 2024	Christmas Lunch - Children can wear their Christmas Jumpers with their school uniform
Friday 20 th December 2024	Rocksteady Christmas Music Concert - Details to follow
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 nearly here. we are looking forward to our November retreat in Bollington.

Year 6 will be going to Crucial Crew on 29th November. The event encourages model behaviour and good citizenship through active participation in a range of health and safety activities.

Please see ParentPay for payment details.

Updated PE Timetable

PE Timetable

Monday - Rec, Yr 2, Yr 3, Yr 5, Y6

Tuesday - Yr 1, Y4,

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

Thurs – Rec

Children are to wear their PE Kits on their PE day and swimming day.

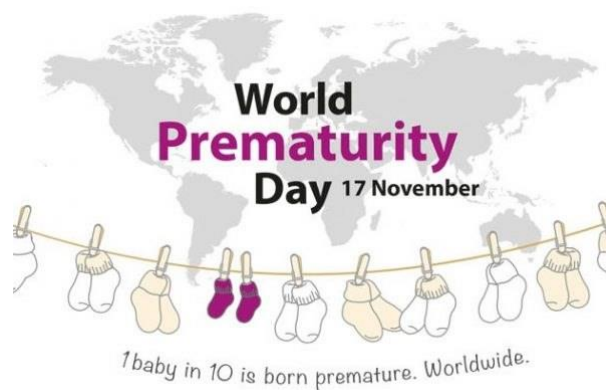
Faith in Action

We are blessed to have access to our very own chapel. Please encourage your child to attend the faith in art work group who meet in the chapel of Tuesdays at 8 am. All welcome!



School Events

World Premature Day and World Diabetes Day



Thank you to all the children for supporting both these special charties' this week which are very close to the school's heart, it was lovely to see the children wearing purple and blue to support them both.

World Diabetes Day

If you wish to donate, please use the link below.

Link¹

World Prematurity Day.

If you wish to donate, please use the link below. This goes straight to Leighton Hospital.

¹https://www.diabetes.org.uk/?gad_source=1&gclid=EAlaIqObChMlybLPit7PiQMVLppQBh2tZwTmEAAyASAAEgJcrPD_BwE

Link²

Elf Run 4th December 2024



The annual sponsored Elf Run will take place on Wednesday 4th December.

All children will need to wear their PE kit this day. Each child will receive an elf's hat and a pot of porridge supplied by St Luke's Hospice which they can take home with them afterwards. We appreciate that families may be struggling with the cost of living so all children will receive their hat regardless of whether parents/carers return the sponsor forms which will be sent home with each child

Christmas Crafts Monday 9th December to Friday 13th December 2024



Christmas Crafts in school – All children will make a Christmas craft during this week to bring home on Friday 13th December.

²<https://mchcharity.org/appeals/neonatal-unit-leighton-fund/#donate-llo>

If you wish you can make a voluntary donation of £1.50 towards the cost of the craft, which can be paid on ParentPay.

Santa's Coming 12th December 2024



Santa's Christmas Grotto Photograph £5.00 – please pay on ParentPay

Children to wear their Christmas jumpers with their school uniform and this is their chance to meet Santa in the Christmas Grotto and have their photograph taken and receive a present.

Parents who have paid on ParentPay will receive a photograph via school spider.

Christmas Lunch



On Wednesday 18th December 2024 we will be having our school Christmas Lunch. All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to this meal free of charge. For other Year Groups, the cost of the school Christmas Lunch is £3.40 and payment needs to be made by ParentPay, www.parentpay.com³.

If your child WILL NOT be having a Christmas Lunch on this day, please can you advise the school office so that we have an idea of numbers for catering purposes.

Children can wear their Christmas Jumpers on this day with their school uniform.

³<https://www.parentpay.com>

‘Rock and Pop’ Music Lessons!



Rock Steady fun and inclusive lessons are taught by highly trained professional musicians. 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.com⁴.

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).

⁴<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

Community Events



Every Tuesday 6-7pm
Middlewich Town Football Club
4G Pitch

Open to all girls aged 5 – 11
Just turn up ready to play!

Gain football skills, meet new
friends, build confidence.

Any questions/more information
contact Andy on 07738 203486
or Jordan on 07765 401075





 <h2>OCT/NOV TIMETABLE</h2> <p>Talks are delivered online via zoom 7pm to 9pm £24 each Book online at facefamilyadvice.co.uk</p>	
FREE SESSIONS Introduction to Facing Defiance Decreasing Depression	24 OCT 25 NOV
Anxiety Explained	17 OCT
Understanding Anger	21 OCT
Autism: Improving Communication	28 OCT
Introduction to OCD	29 OCT
Improving Family Communication	4 NOV
Anxiety-Based School Avoidance	12 NOV
Anxiety Explained	14 NOV
Understanding Anger	18 NOV
Drug Awareness for Parents	19 NOV
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	21 NOV
What is ACT?	26 NOV
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	28 NOV
Understanding the Teenage Brain	2 DEC

facefamilyadvice.co.uk info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk

 <h2>November 2024 Newsletter</h2>	
Monday 25th Nov 19:00 - 20:00 FREE	 FREE SESSION Decreasing Depression A range of steps that can help to reduce the crippling impact of depression.
Thursday 7th Nov 19:00 - 21:00 £24	 Supporting a Child with ADHD Challenging the stereotypes and giving practical interventions. Clear explanation of the condition in all its forms and extremely useful advice.
Tuesday 12th Nov 19:00 - 21:00 £24	 Anxiety-Based School Avoidance Understanding and supporting children who are anxious about school. Steps you can take to help them back into the classroom.
Monday 18th Nov 19:00 - 21:00 £24	 Understanding Anger: Yours and Theirs! What is anger? Why do we have it? How do we manage it in ourselves and in our children?
Thursday 21st Nov 19:00 - 21:00 £24	 Supporting Healthy Screen Use Clarifying the difference between healthy screen use and unhealthy screen use. Addressing concerns about blue light and sedentary behaviour.

facefamilyadvice.co.uk info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk

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/>

Nut Free School



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!

Name	Reg	Type	Recorded On	Recorded By
Tench Noah	Reception	STAR OF THE WEEK	08 November 2024	Mrs Charlotte Ashley
Browne Esther	Reception	STAR OF THE WEEK	15 November 2024	Mrs Charlotte Ashley
Szabla Laura	Year 1	STAR OF THE WEEK	08 November 2024	Mrs Kate Reed
Connolly Jaydan	Year 1	STAR OF THE WEEK	15 November 2024	Mrs Kate Reed
Sharrock Isla	Year 2	STAR OF THE WEEK	08 November 2024	Miss Clare Cook
Oswell Finley	Year 2	STAR OF THE WEEK	15 November 2024	Miss Clare Cook
Sushecki Oliver	Year 3	STAR OF THE WEEK	08 November 2024	Miss Laura Dziarnarski
Bogoslaw-Shard Elena	Year 3	STAR OF THE WEEK	15 November 2024	Miss Laura Dziarnarski
Hughes Benjamin	Year 4	STAR OF THE WEEK	08 November 2024	Miss Eve Smith
Howell Lily	Year 4	STAR OF THE WEEK	15 November 2024	Miss Eve Smith
Lourenco Andre	Year 5	STAR OF THE WEEK	08 November 2024	Mr Daniel Philo
Salvi Jack	Year 5	STAR OF THE WEEK	15 November 2024	Mr Daniel Philo
Coxon Noah	Year 6	STAR OF THE WEEK	08 November 2024	Mrs Shelley Hughes
Lomas Annabella	Year 6	STAR OF THE WEEK	15 November 2024	Mrs Shelley Hughes

Important Information about additional funding for your child's school - PLEASE READ

The Council provides two types of free school meals to children attending a school within the Cheshire East Borough.

Free school meals for infants - Children at school and in reception class, year 1 or year 2 (key stage 1) can have free school meals. This is called universal infant free school meals (UIFSM). You don't need to claim for UIFSM, just contact your child's school.

Income related free school meals IRFSM - If your child is in receipt of income related free school meals, they are automatically eligible for the Household Support Fund⁵.

You can claim free school meals for each child who attends school in Cheshire East if you receive one of these benefits:

- Universal Credit with no earned income or with net monthly earnings less than £616.67
- Income Support
- Income based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income related Employment Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit - as long as you have a yearly household income of less than £16,190 (as assessed by HM Revenue and Customs) and do not get Working Tax Credit
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)

We suggest you do make a claim for free school meals even if your child is in key stage 1 as the school can claim additional funding (pupil premium) for new equipment and resources.

You can apply for nursery-age children if they attend before and after lunch sessions at a local authority nursery school, nursery class or an Academy nursery if it has the same Ofsted number as the primary school.

Please see below link

Free school meals⁶

⁵https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/council_and_democracy/council_information/financial-support/household-support-fund.aspx

⁶https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools/school-meals/free_school_meals.aspx

Please check your entitlement by phoning the helpline Free School Meals Helpline - 0300 123 5012

Alternatively you can complete the Free School Meals enquiry form online at http://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools/free_school_meals.aspx Cheshire East will assess your claim and if successful will begin the same day. If your claim is not successful or requires further information, they will contact you

If you think you may be eligible it is really important that you apply online or by phone to help make sure St Mary's school is as well funded as possible.

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
£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.uk⁷

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.uk⁸

To contact the headteacher Mrs Janet McKinlay, please email head@stmrc.uk⁹

To contact our school SENCO Miss Laura Dziemarski, please email ldziemarski@stmrc.uk¹⁰

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

Absence

⁷<mailto:schooloffice@stmrc.uk>

⁸<mailto:admin@stmrc.uk>

⁹<mailto:head@stmrc.uk>

¹⁰<mailto:ldziemarski@stmrc.uk>

- 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/>

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.uk¹¹

¹¹<mailto:aturnbull@stmrc.uk>