

www.stmarysmiddlewich.cheshire.sch.uk T: 01606 516171 E: admin@stmrc.uk







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St Mary's Newsletter 31.01.2025

Dear Parents / Carers

It has been lovely to see how hard the children have been working in school this week. There is lots planned in school and the community so please make sure that you read the newsletters carefully to keep up to date.

Could we please ask if any parents have any lego particularly bases - smaller the better, that they would like to donate

to the school to support our oracy and nurture work in school.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend.

Mrs Janet McKinlay

Headteacher

Just a little reminder about Health and Safety - please do not drive into school and drop your child off in the turning circle area. The lay-by is reserved for Kids Planet, Early Learners and coaches. The staff car park is for school employees.

Computing Workshop Years 1 to 6 - 21st January 2025

Years 1 to 6 were very excited about the Computing Workshop day.

It gave them the opportunity to develop their knowledge and skills in a range of concepts such as coding and robotics but also gain an insight into how ICT and computing are shaping the world around us in a multitude of ways.

Our school's ambition is to provide a wide range of learning opportunities and this event allowed our pupils to work with a specialist provider so that they can use what they learnt and enhance their interest in this area of our curriculum.

We would like to thank all the parents who kindly donated a voluntary donation of £5 in supporting this event.







Worry Dolls Workshop - 11th February 2025

This is a full day cross curricular workshop commissioned by the school which will combine MFL (Spanish), Art, global and cultural dimensions and well-being. it will be delivered by a fully qualified MFL teacher with 15+ years of teaching experience - none other than Madame Dellapiana! Pupils will learn about the origin of the dolls and their use. In traditional and modern times, worry dolls were given to anxious children. They would tell the doll their fears, worries or sorrows, then hide the dolls under their pillow before going to sleep at night. It will be very interesting to learn about other cultures and we hope to engage Madame Dellapiana to provide other curriculum enrichment activities.

ANSA Dennis Truck - 14th February 2025



ANSA Dennis Schools are a program that brings a converted waste collection vehicle to schools to teach students about recycling and waste reduction. The vehicle, named Dennis, is a former waste collection vehicle from Dennis Eagle, a manufacturer of waste collection vehicles, we are pleased to announce St Mary's will receive our visit in school to Year 1-4 on the 14th February 2025.

Holiday Clubs

There will be a holiday club running at St Mary's from Monday 17th February to Friday 21st February 2025 run by Coach Gary and Coach Mike. (Coach Gary will be in attendance). Sessions will run from 8.15 am to 5.30 pm. Charges: £25 a day or £100.00 per week.

If this would be of interest to you, please contact Coach Gary directly on garyssc@hotmail.co.uk¹ or pick up the booking forms from the office.

Coach Gary intends to run a holiday club during all our holiday periods going forward.

¹mailto:garyssc@hotmail.co.uk





TO BOOK A PLACE: Please tick which days you wish your child/ren to attend in the boxes below.

Places must be booked by the Friday prior to the holiday club starting the following week.

Refunds will not be given for cancellations, however where possible days can be swapped.

	October - Half Term	February - Half Term	April - Easter	May-	Whit	
	28/10/24 - 01/11/24	17/02/25 - 21/02/25	14/04/28 - 17/04/26	27/06/25 - 30/05/25	02/09/25 - 06/08/25	
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Return to School Reminder dates

Year 3 Pettypool Parent Information Evening 3pm to 3.30pm
MHS Hockey Competition 3.30 - 5.00pm. St Nicks Hockey Competition on Thursday 6th Feb 2025, 3.45 - 5.15pm
Part of the Year 2 class will be going to St Nicks High school to take part in the Multi skills
Year 5 Redridge Parent Information Evening 3pm to 3.30pm
Worry Dolls Workshop
PTA Valentine's Disco – See poster for details
School Finishes 3.00pm
Half Term
8.30am School Opens 8.30am
Lent begins this year's Lenten fundraising will take the form of the Big Walk and individual class & pupil initiatives
World Book Day
Smile for a mile cross country competition at St Nicks Catholic High School on their school field at 3.45 - 4.30pm
Mixed Netball Year 3 & 4 Middlewich High School 3.30-5pm
Year 1 British Farming Visit
World Down Syndrome Day 2025 Gingerbread Sock Biscuit Campaign
Level 1 Bikeability Year 4
Mixed Netball Competition at Middlewich High School 3.30-5pm
Year 4 Activity Day St Nicholas High School
Academy Photos Class Groups and Leavers -Reception and Year 6
Parents Evening School Hall — Bookings will be on ParentPay nearer the time

School Trip Reminders

Please pay on ParentPay

Green are school residentials

Red are school day trips

Cost	Place	Year Group	Date
£110.00	Petty Pool	3	6 th to 7 th March 2025
£190.00	Redridge	5	Wednesday 19 th to Friday 21 st
			March 2025
£26.00	Tatton Park	4	21st March 2025
£19.00	Weaver Hall and	1	
	Workhouse		1 st April 2025
£20.00	Trentham Gardens	3	24 th April 2025
£20.50	Jodrell Bank	5	12 th June 2025
£304.00	Robinwood	6	
	Activity Centre		
			18 th June to 20 th June 2025
£24.00	Jodrell Bank	Reception &	
		Nursery	26 th February 2025
TBA	Llandudno	2	TBA
£128.00	Savio House	4	19 th to 21 st November 2025

PE & Swimming Timetable from 07.01.2025

Day of week	PE	Swimming
Monday	Year 1, Year 2, Year 3, Year 5	
Tuesday	Year 1, Year 4	
Wednesday	Reception, Year 2, Year 3,	Year 4 will run until
	Year 6	02.04.2025
Thursday	Year 6	
Friday	Year 5	

Children are to now wear their school uniform each day and bring their PE and swimming kit on their PE/Swimming day.

School Clubs

MONDAY KS1 & KS2 HEALTH & FITNESS, & SMILE FOR A MILE TRAINING

TUESDAY KS2 NETBALL & HOCKEY

WEDNESDAY KS2 FOOTBALL

THURSDAY KS1 & KS2 FOREST SCHOOL & OUTDOOR ACTIVITES

FRIDAY KS1 & KS2 DANCE & GYM

Monday to Friday - Sports Clubs 3 - 4pm £4.00 per session details are on ParentPay for parents that have signed up. These will run until Friday 28th March 2025 and re-commence after April 2025 half term Tuesday 22nd April 2025.

Kids with Bricks After School Club commences for 6 weeks until Wednesday 12th February 2025

The club costs £3.99 +VAT per child per session and is paid for termly in advance. All club places are reserved and paid for online. Just go to **www.kidswithbricks.com** to book your child's place

Rock Steady Music run inclusive rock and band sessions in school on a Friday morning 8.30am to 10.30am to book a place please go to the below link. https://www.rocksteadymusicschool.com/

Residentials and Trips

Up and coming Trips and Residentials

Due to annual inflation, the costs for Residentials and travel costs have increased in 2025, to make Residentials more affordable this year to parents but not compromise on the enrichment experience, the school has subsidised them so that where there are increases they are less than £10.00. Providers offer free places to staff who accompany/supervise children on residentials.

Costs in 2024 Costs in 2025

Petty Pool Y3 £105.50 Petty Pool Y3 £110.00

Savio House Y4 £119.00 Savio House Y4 £128.00

Redridge Y5 £219.00 Redridge Y5 £190.00

Abernant Lake Y6 £295.00 Robinwood Y6 £304.00

There will be presentation evenings for each residential prior to the trip to answer all queries. Class teachers will make parents and children aware of any upcoming trips and what they will entail.

The next presentations will be held:

Monday 3rd February 2025 Year 3 Pettypool - Parent Information Evening 3pm to 3.30pm (Repeat session from 5.30pm to 6pm)

Monday 10th February 2025 Year 5 Redridge - Parent Information Evening 3pm to 3.30pm (Repeat session from 5.30pm to 6pm)

For working parents, the information session is repeated. There is no need to attend both sessions.

Upcoming Sporting Events

Please see attached dates of all competitions for St Mary's, which we hope to attend unless it clashes with a residential or event in school.

Notifications are on ParentPay for the Spring term, please can parents ensure they turn their ParentPay notification settings on, so that they don't miss them and let the school office know if they are chosen and cannot attend the event for any reason.

All available event information will be in the ParentPay description and final details will be issued 2 weeks before the event when the school receives them from the event organiser.

The team kit will be issued to each pupil on the event day and they can get changed in school.

Whe	When	When	Time	Where
Year 5/6	Sirls Football	Wednesday 18* September	3:45-5:16	5t. Nic's playing fields
Year 5/6	Mixed Pootball	Thursday 26" September	3:45-5:15	5t. Nic's playing fields
Vear 3/4	Maxed Feetball	Wednesday 2 nd October	4:00-5:15	St. Nick playing fields
Year 5/6	Green Country	Thursday 3" October	3:30-5:00	Geofferd Primary
Year 5/6	Mixed Nerball	Thursday 17th October	3:45-5:15	St. Nic's netball courts
Year 8/4	Mined Feetball	Thursday 24" October	3/30-5/30	Middlenich High
Year 5/6	Wines Beakerball	Thursday 21" Newbyber	3:45-5:15	St. Nic's sports hall
Year 5/6	Dedgeboll	Thursday 6 th December	3:30-5:00	stiddlewich High
Year 5/6	Mixed Indoor Athletics	Tuesday 26": January	3:45-5:30	St. Nic's sports hall
Year 5/6	Mixed Quicksticks Hockey	Thursday 6" February	3:45-5:15	St. Nic's sports hall
Year 5/6	Mixed Indoor Hockey	Thursday 6th Pebruary	3:30-5:00	Middlewich High
Vegr 1-5	Smile for a mile	Thursday 6° March	3:45-4:30	St. Nic's playing fields
Year 3/4	Wired Netbell	Thursday 13th March	3:30-8:00	Middlewich High
Year 5/6	Wised Nethall	Thursday 27" March	3:30-5:00	Alidelawich High
Year 5/6	Mused Cricket	Tuesday 29" April	3 00-5:30	Winnington Park CC
Year 5/6	Mixed Dodgeboll	Tuesday 6 " May	3:45-5:15	St. Nice sports tell
Year 5/6	Wased Feetball	Thursday 8 th May	3:30-5:30	Widdlewan High
Year 5/6	Mixed Tog Rugby	Thursday 22° May	3:30-5:00	Middlewiss High
Year 5/6	Quarkids Athletics	Wednesday 11th June	3:45-6:15	St. Nich
Year 5/6	Town Sports	Wednesday 18" June	3:30-5:30	Middlewich Prinary
Year 5/6	St. Mary's Cup Critiset	Sunday 29th Ziste	9-2pm	Middlewice Cricket Chil
Year 5/6	Roundans	Thursday 3" July	3:30-8:00	Middlewick Primary

Year 5 and 6 Indoor Athletics Competition St Nicks - 28th January 2025

The Year 5/6 Indoor Athletics team had a fantastic time at the competition this week. They all performed brilliantly and represented St Mary's with passion and dedication!

Even though we were lacking in numbers, we showed great determination and teamwork. We had some amazing results; winning a number of races and coming 1st and 2nd in some field events. A special mention goes to Ava Toro for winning the girls chest throw event.

It was lovely to see new faces competing, pushing themselves out of their comfort zones and we hope to see them in future competitions.

PTA Disco - 12th February 2025



Community Events





Scan the QR code or visit: cheshireeast.gov.uk/familyhubs







Cheshire East Family Hubs are a one-stop-shop for families with children and young people aged 0-19 (or up to 23 for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities). We bring the very best of council, health, and community services together.





Our hub journey is broken down into three key steps; Start for life (0-3), Primary (3-11) and Young Persons (11-19).

The Start for Life Journey includes family play sessions which are free of charge and operate on a drop-in basis. Babies Together (or waiking), Stay and Play (or-9yrs) and our Lifet Stars group for children with additional needs (0-4yrs) run at each of our Mubs. Families can

socialise, seek advice from our Start for Life Portage Practitioners and meet with Health Visitors as well as being directed to mental health services.

Our South Locality Hubs can be found at:

- Monks Coppenhall Family Hub and SEND Centre of Excellence Remer Street, Crewe, CW1
- Oak Tree Family Hub Newcastle Street, Crewe, CW1 3LF
- Crewe Family Hub Crewe Lifestyle Centre, Moss Square, Crewe, CW1 2BB (opening January 2025)

If you are unable to visit one of Hubs, our new digital offer is the family Hub in your hand. The website can be accessed via the link below. It provides a wealth of information and is there to signpost families to the very best of services that are available in your locality. For families with older children our Young Persons offer includes support with money, social media, and mental

health as well as coping with exam stress and healthy relationships.

Our "What's on in your local area' section outlines all of our free-to-attend groups across Cheshire East. On your first visit to a Family Hub, you will be asked to register with the centre so that we can continue to work in line with health and safety policy.

We look forward to meeting you and your family soon!

Family Hubs (cheshireeast.gov.uk)



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 15th February Saturday 15th March

10—11.30am—Help with phones and tablets, and using Word, Excel etc.

cake and doughnuts provided and occasionally toast!

For more information, please contact Lucie Ferneyhough on 07929 717909 or lucie.ferneyhough@cheshireeast.gov.uk² or the school office.

2025 Jubilee Year reflection on Pilgrims of Hope at St Mary's Middlewich

Are you wondering what the 2025 Jubilee Year is all about? Please join parishioners at St Mary's Parish in Middlewich as they explore the biblical background to the Jubilee Year and what the theme *Pilgrims of Hope* means for us today using material produced by CAFOD.

The meeting will take place in St Mary's Parish Centre on King Street, Middlewich CW10 2EB on Saturday, February 8th 2025 for tea and toast at 9.45 am for a 10 am start. They aim to finish by 1pm at the latest. For more information and to book a place, please contact Anne Sturman by email: annesturman17@gmail.com³. You can just turn up on the day if you prefer.

Creative Craft Fairs

We are excited to announce that Creative Craft Fairs will be using St Mary's to host their Craft Fairs on the following dates and details will follow nearer the time.

We hope you can support them and the school to raise money for St Mary's.

Saturday 12th April 2025

Saturday 4th October 2025

²mailto:lucie.ferneyhough@cheshireeast.gov.uk

³mailto:annesturman17@gmail.com

Attendance



As we start a new 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, became effective from 19th August 2024, and 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.

17.01.2025

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 Christmas. As we start a new year in supporting your child's education, we want to remind you of important changes to the law regarding school attendance. These changes were effective from 19th August 2024 and have been in place since September 2024 as 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 Offenses:** 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 is offering advice, resources, or helping to find solutions that work for your family.

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

Concerns about a child – Cheshire East Consultation Service⁴ (CHECS) 0300 123 5012 (opt 3), Out of Hours⁵ 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?

⁴http://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/education and learning/first contact service.aspx

⁵http://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/social care and health/adults 18 social care/contact the social care team/s ocial_care_out_of_hours_team.aspx

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

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**.

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 Fund⁶.

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

⁶https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/council and democracy/council information/financial-support/household-support-fund.aspx

- 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 meals⁷

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. When paying for items please use the option - Add to Basket - Other Payment Method option as the Pay by One-click payments is causing problems with payments pending.

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.

⁷https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools/school-meals/free_school_meals.aspx

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

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

We would like to welcome our new staff to the After School and Breakfast Club; Mr Turnbull, Miss Smith and Miss Lofthouse.

Miss Smith, Miss Lofthouse & Mrs Appleton have brought lots of fun to the after school club with new craft making ideas and Mrs Turnbull and Mrs Quilliam have had the children playing bingo! It has been lovely to hear the parent and children feedback.







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 school office email which is: schooloffice@stmrc.uk⁸

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.uk⁹

To contact the headteacher Mrs Janet McKinlay, please email head@stmrc.uk10

To contact our school SENCO Miss Laura Dziamarski, please email ldziamarski@stmrc.uk11

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

⁸mailto:schooloffice@stmrc.uk

⁹mailto:admin@stmrc.uk

¹⁰mailto:head@stmrc.uk

¹¹mailto:ldziamarski@stmrc.uk

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.uk¹²

¹²mailto:aturnbull@stmrc.uk