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July 2023 Newsletter

Dear Parents, Carers and friends of St Mary's,

As we approach the end of yet another school year, I would like to take the opportunity to thank you all for your help, support and interest this year. We have had another very busy and successful year in school and you, as partners in the education of your children, deserve much of the credit for that. Each term has been a busy one and we know from what you tell us that your children have thrived this year.

Next Year

We are already busy planning for next year and have many exciting initiatives in store along with trips and experiences. Thank you for your feedback about the Pantomime trip. We will continue to run this trip and will let you know costs in September so that you can budget for it.

Our aim is that each class will have a trip a term, although one maybe a local trip with minimal expense incurred.

This year we reintroduced a Year 4 residential trip. This proved a huge success, and we hope to repeat this next year.

The uptake of our afterschool clubs has been disappointing this year. Some clubs have not run due to lack of numbers. Next year we are trialling some lunch time clubs to stimulate interest. Please encourage your children to sign up for them.

As always, we have some staff changes for next year. We say goodbye to Mr Owen at the end of this term.

We thank Mr Owen for all his efforts over the past 18 years – he has taught most year groups including Nursery. He will be missed by everyone, and he leaves with our warmest blessings. We wish him success in his next venture.

Miss Elwell will be joining the staff team from September - she will teach in Year 3.

Mrs Alley will be joining the Key Stage 1 team.

As you know I never measure the success of a school by the academic performance only. However, this year, we have been blown away by the efforts of the whole school. Ofsted should visit us next year, but I hope we will not be judged solely by our academic results, but by our children who are developing the skills they need to make a difference in society.

In addition, school has been a very happy wonderful place to be this past year. We have raised a huge amount of money for charities and seen a great deal of sporting success. We cannot thank you enough for entrusting your children to us and working with us.

School Snack

We are a healthy school so no crisps, sweets and chocolate for snack please. There is always fruit available. Bottles must be filled with water and not squash or juice.

School Meals – Price Increase

We have been notified by Halton Borough Council that the cost of a school meal is to increase in September to £2.70 per day. School Gateway will be amended to reflect this price increase for when we return after the holiday. If you think that you may be entitled to claim free school meals, we urge you to apply. This is done on the Halton Borough Council website. If you need any help in doing this, please contact the school office.

School Uniform

Black shoes have always been part of the St Mary's school uniform and we politely ask that all children return to school wearing school shoes and not trainers. Trainers are needed for PE or for children to change into a break time if they want to go on the grass. Fake nails and jewellery are not acceptable for school – please ensure your child does adhere to this request.

Goodbye to YEAR 6

The end of a school year is always bittersweet, and this year is no exception. We are incredibly proud of each and every one of them and wish them every blessing as they leave St Mary's and begin a new journey. They have had a fantastic start to their school life and we have every confidence that they will go from strength to strength. A huge thank you to their parents also – your support has been overwhelming and has made all our jobs more enjoyable.



And finally.....

A reminder that school closes for the summer holidays at 2 p.m. on Tuesday 25th July

School will reopen for children on Tuesday 5th September



Staff would just like to wish all children a very happy summer. We look forward to working with you again next year.