



St Mary's Newsletter

Issue 2

29th September 2023

St. Mary's Catholic Primary School, Woodbridge Road, Ipswich, IP4 4EU

<http://www.stmaryscatholicprimaryipswich.com>

School Rules:

Be ready, Be respectful, Be safe

Tweet of the Week

"The WordofGod invites us not to hide behind the complexity of problems, behind "nothing can be done about it." It urges us to unite worship of God and care for the human person. For Sacred Scripture has been given to us to go forth and meet others, drawing near to their wounds."

Pope Francis (@Pontifex)

Week Commencing 2nd October 2023

Tues 3rd Oct: Year 5 Swimming

Wed 4th Oct: Individual & Sibling Photos

Thurs 5th Oct: Yr5 & Yr6 Class Mass 2.30pm in school

Thurs 5th Oct: Orchestra 3.30-4.15pm

Thurs 12th Oct: Harvest Festival 2.30pm in Church

Fri 20th Oct: Celebration Assemblies –

KS1 8.45am

KS2 3pm

Dear Parents and Carers,

It was wonderful to see so many of you at Mass on Wednesday. It was such a joyful way to start the new term. The singing was beautiful and our music filled the church.

Today some children from Year 5 represented the school at the Diocesan Schools Mass with Bishop Peter, they were excellent ambassadors of the school. We celebrated the Feast of Saints Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, archangels and were reminded of this prayer.

Warm Regards

Mrs Berry and Mrs Measham

Heavenly King, You have given us archangels to assist us during our pilgrimage on earth.

Saint Michael is our protector;

I ask him to come to my aid,

fight for all my loved ones,

and protect us from danger.

Saint Gabriel is a messenger of the Good News;

I ask him to help me clearly hear Your voice

and to teach me the truth.

Saint Raphael is the healing angel;

I ask him to take my need for healing and that of everyone I know,

lift it up to Your throne of grace and

deliver us back to the gift of recovery.

Help us, O Lord, to realize more fully the reality of archangels and their desire to serve us. Holy angels, pray for us.

Amen.

CLUBS & ACTIVITIES

Mondays

Football Club (years 1, 2, 3) starts 3.30pm. Children collected at 4.30pm. No Football Club on Mon 30th Oct (PD Day). This Club Is Full

Wednesdays

Netball Club (Girls years 5, 6) starts 3.30pm. Children collected at 4.15pm.

Football Club (Boys years 4, 5, 6) starts 3.30pm. Children collected at 4.30pm.

Thursdays

Football Club (Girls years 4, 5, 6) starts 8am.

Orchestra (years 4, 5, 6) starts 3.30pm. Children collected at 4.15pm.

Fridays

Handball & Dodgeball (KS2), starts at 12.10pm. This Club Is Full

Multisports Club (years 4, 5, 6), starts 3.30pm. Children collected at 4.30pm.

MUSIC LESSONS

Reminder of days when pre-booked and pre-paid lessons take place.

Mondays - Violin

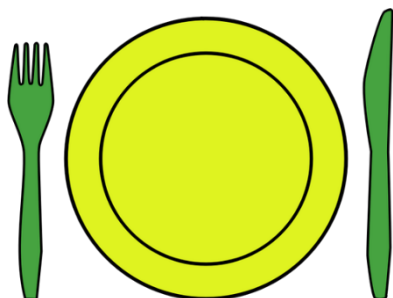
Tuesdays - Brass

Thursdays - Woodwind

Please encourage your children to remember their instrument!

GYM EQUIPMENT:

We loved our new gym equipment! A huge St Mary's thank you to the FOSM and everyone who has helped raised the money to provide this. We are taking it in turns to enjoy the outside equipment.



CENSUS DAY THURSDAY 5TH OCTOBER 2022:

Our school census day will be held on Thursday 5th October. We need as many children to have a school meal that day as possible please, as the more we have the more funding the school receives from the Department for Education.

RECEPTION SEPTEMBER 2024 APPLICATIONS

We will be holding two open day sessions on Wednesday 15th November, one at 9.30am and another at 1.30pm. If you are thinking of applying to St Mary's for a Reception place in September 2024, please email the school to book a slot.

Our email address is: admin@st-marys-ipswich.suffolk.sch.uk

Applications for a Reception September 2024 place should be made by the deadline date of 15th January 2024. The application should be made online via the Suffolk County Council Admissions website.

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/children-families-and-learning/schools/school-places/apply-for-a-primary-school-place-2024-2025>



IMPORTANT: St Mary's require a completed Supplementary Information Form (SIF) which should be sent to the school before 15th January deadline please. The Supplementary Information Form (SIF) can be found on our website under *Key Information - Admissions*

HIGH SCHOOL APPLICATIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2024

Year 6, high school applications are now open and will close on 31st October 2023.

You need to apply directly to Suffolk County Council and remember to check if your new school requires a Supplementary Information Form (SIF); if needed, these should be sent direct to your chosen new school.

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/children-families-and-learning/schools/school-places/apply-for-a-primary-school-place-2024-2025>



HEALTHY LUNCHES:

We are a healthy eating school and would like to remind you that the children should only have a chocolate biscuit or small cake bar, no sweets, chocolate bars or lollies are allowed.

Please could we also remind you that no products containing nuts should be in packed lunches due to allergies.



FREE SCHOOL MEALS

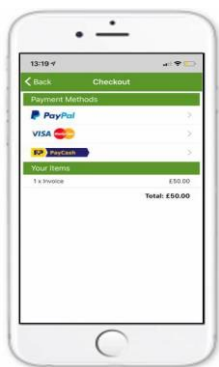
Your child will get free school meals if you receive any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Job Seeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit but no element of Working Tax Credit and have an annual income (as assessed by HM Revenues & Customs) that does not exceed £16,190
- If you are supported under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Working Tax Credit during the four-week period immediately after your employment finishes or after you start to work fewer hours per week
- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400 (£616.67 per month), as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods).



To check if your child is eligible, apply online: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/children-families-and-learning/schools/school-meals-uniforms-and-trips/apply-for-free-school-meals/>

KS2 PAYING FOR SCHOOL MEALS



A polite reminder that school meals should be paid for in advance. Please make sure that your child's lunch account is in credit.



JOB VACANCIES

Effective as soon as possible, we have vacancies in school for midday supervisors to help with our busy lunchtimes during term time.

The hours are 11.40am – 12.50pm (70mins per day); five days per week.

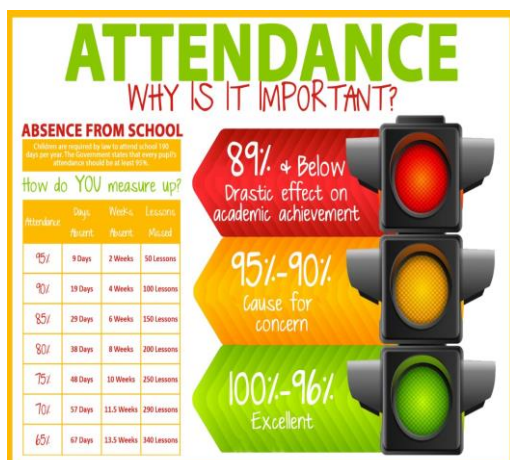
The current hourly rate is £10.98 (subject to pay rise in negotiation) for 38 weeks per year (plus 5 weeks paid holiday).

This is an excellent opportunity to get paid experience of working in a school.

If you would like to know more or know of someone who would like this role, please email:

admin@st-marys-ipswich.suffolk.sch.uk

ATTENDANCE



Please take time to read and familiarise yourself with our Trust Attendance Policy. Please be aware that the school is unable to authorise holiday requests for absence during term time.

If you arrive after 8.50am, please come to the Office to sign the late book.

It is really important that you ensure your child arrives at school between 8:40 and 8:50am.

A late arrival after 8.50am means the class has already started and this is disruptive for your child and others in the class.

If your child is ill, please leave a message on the School Absence Line (01473 728372) before 8am, or send an email to: admin@st-marys-ipswich.suffolk.sch.uk

https://www.stmaryscatholicprimaryipswich.com/_site/data/files/policies/D046258157B2B78BA94749F6FB9079DE.pdf



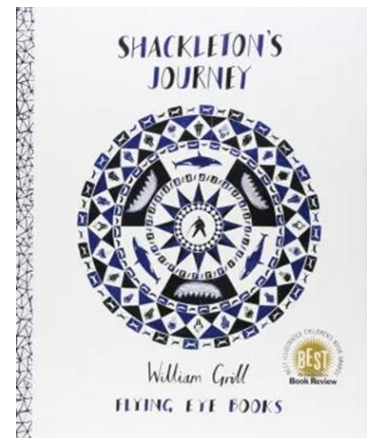
SPOTLIGHT ON YEAR 5

Year 5 have settled in well in their first few weeks back at school. We have been busy starting our new topics in all our subjects. Both Miss Godbold and Mrs Snowden are super impressed with how inquisitive and engaged the pupils have been!

English

We have been enjoying our Guided Reading text, *Shackleton's Journey*. The children are gripped with the story and are excited to see what happens next, as at the moment Shackleton and his crew are still stuck in the ice!

We are also in the middle of writing a third person narrative, set in another culture. The children have worked hard to plan their stories. We are looking forward to reading their stories when they are finished.



Geography & History



In Geography, the children put their map skills to work and found lots of countries linked to different continents. They also used their knowledge of hemispheres and the equator to predict what the climate might be like in some countries.

In History, we have just started our Ancient Greece topic. We used our comparison skills to look at the differences between maps of Ancient Greece and modern-day Greece. The children are looking forward to learning more about Ancient Greece in the coming weeks.

RE.

Our topic this half term is Creation. The children made beautiful creation wheels detailing the seven days. We have had thoughtful discussions about how we can care for God's world so that future generations can enjoy it. The children also designed a board game linked with how we can be a "Steward of Creation." We hope to share these with Year 3 in the coming weeks.



Science

"What is a solution? What is a mixture?"

The children thoroughly enjoyed their first practical lesson. In groups, the pupils placed different solutes such as sugar, flour and glitter into a solvent (water.) After some vigorous mixing (whilst reciting the ABC song), the pupils made observations on whether the solute had dissolved or not. They then recorded their results in a table format and discussed their findings as a class.



SCHOOL COUNCIL:

Our School Council is a student body that works to make improvements to different areas of the school, including a focus on environmental sustainability. Our School Councillors are democratically elected at the start of each academic year and then work on the School Council for all of that year. Any children can put themselves forward to be part of the School Council.

During the first School Council meeting the children devise a School Council Charter stating all of the responsibilities they will undertake to fulfil their roles effectively. The School Council then meets every 3 weeks to discuss issues within the school and to work on future projects.

The School Councillors meet with their classes between meetings to discuss ideas, projects and issues and they then feedback to the rest of the School Council members during our meetings.

Each term the School Council will complete an action plan of things they aim to work on and achieve by the end of that term.

Term dates for 2023 – 2024

Autumn Term 2023

Half term: 23rd – 27th October

Staff training day: 30th October

End of Term: 20th December

Spring Term 2024

Thursday 4th January – Thursday 28th March

Half term: 19th – 23rd February

Staff Training day: 3rd January & 26th February

Summer Term 2024

Monday 15th April – Friday 19th July

Bank holiday: 6th May

Half term: 27th May – 31st May

Staff Training days: 12th April