



# St. Mary's News

## October 6th 2023



### Provisional Calendar Dates for the Year



#### Important Dates



Monday 9th October 2023	Y4/5 STEM Club continues 9th, 16th and 23rd October 13th, 20th, 27th November Final session - 4th December Session run from 3.30pm - 4.30pm Collect children from front door
Wednesday 11th October 2023 2.45pm - 3.30pm	Coffee and Tea with SLT & Governors Parents/carers are invited to come along for a chat about our school. Tell us what is going well and let us know what we can do to be even better.
Wednesday 18th October 2023	Open Afternoon (2.15 - 3.15pm) and Parents' Evening 1 See newsletter for further information
Friday 20th October 2023 9.30am	Reception and KS 1 Harvest Festival Assembly
Tuesday 24th October 2023	Y5 Anglo Saxon and Viking Workshop A separate letter has been sent out
Tuesday 24th October 2023	Diversity Workshops
Wednesday 25th October 2023	Open Afternoon (2.15 - 3.15pm) and Parents' Evening 2 See newsletter for further information
Wednesday 25th October 2023	School breaks up for October Half Term School re-opens <b>TUESDAY 7TH NOVEMBER</b>
Friday 10th November 2023	Y5/6 children to take part in the Billinge Remembrance Walk and Service
Tuesday 14th November 2023	Reading Workshop for Reception parents/ carers 9.15am—10.00am . Further information to follow
Thursday 30th November 2023	Reception and Key Stage 1 Christmas Movie Night 3.30—5.15pm
Tuesday 5th December 2023	Year 1 and Year 2 Nativity Play 2.30pm
Wednesday 6th December 2023	Year 1 and Year 2 Nativity Play 2.30pm
Thursday 7th December 2023	Key Stage 2 Christmas Movie Night 3.30 - 5.30pm
Friday 15th December 2023	Reception Nativity Play 2.30pm
Friday 22nd December 2023	Christmas Service in Church 2.00pm School closes for Christmas No after school club this evening



## Whole School Photographs

Our children had their photographs taken this week and proofs and order forms have been sent home for you to order directly from Tempest. Please ensure that orders are submitted before the deadline date of **MONDAY 16TH OCTOBER** to qualify for free delivery to school. The Reception children also had a whole class photograph taken - the proof will be sent home once school receives it.

## Get Caught Reading Challenge Winners

A big well done to James from Y2, Daisy and Billy from Y3 and Reception and Ruby from Y5 who were all chosen as the winners of this year's Get Caught Reading Challenge. The children will receive their prizes in assembly on Monday.



A shout out to Charles and Henry, who both received their certificates for successfully completing their Summer Reading Challenge with the library service. Well done boys.





## Phonic and Reading Workshops for Parents/Carers

Our workshops are now complete and we have been blown away by the number of parents/carers who have attended the workshops over the last 3 weeks. If you were unable to attend the information shared at each workshop can be found on your child's class page on the website.



### Coffee and Tea with the SLT



We would like to invite parents/carers into school for a cuppa and a chat on Wednesday 11th October from 2.45pm - 3.25pm when Mrs Hymers and members of the governing body will be available to chat with you - in order to seek your views about how things are going in school. We are keen to hear about the things that we do well —and perhaps—more importantly—ways in which can further improve.

(Please note that these sessions are not to discuss your individual concerns about your child as Parents' Evening is the place to do this.)

SLT and governors find these sessions really useful as a way of reviewing practices and procedures in school in order to make St. Mary's the best that it can be, so please do try to come along. You will be warmly welcomed and refreshments will be waiting.

We will organise another session later in the school year for a different day and time in order to enable different groups of parents to attend.

If you are able to attend, just sign in at the main office and you will then be shown to the Infant Hall.



### Reception, Y1 and Y2 Harvest Assembly

Our Reception and Key Stage 1 children would like to invite parents/carers to their Harvest Assembly on Friday 20th October at 9.30am. Places are limited to a maximum of 2 per family as we are restricted by the size of the Infant Hall. If you would like to attend, simply sign in at the office from 9.20am. We look forward to seeing you there.



### Harvest Collection

As part of our Harvest celebration we will be collecting in donations of dried and tinned food to send to the local foodbanks which we know are really struggling at this time - they are especially short of the following:

Coffee, Jam, Toiletries, Chocolate & Crisps  
Sugar, Custard, Tinned Tomatoes, Tinned Fruit  
UHT Milk, Long Life Milk, Pasta Sauces  
Instant Mash, Tinned Potatoes, Noodles and  
Packet Pasta in Sauce



Donations can be sent in, in carrier bags or boxes, the week commencing Monday 16th October. We will then arrange for the donations to be collected or taken the following week.



The PTFA now have their own tab on our school website and this will be populated over the coming weeks with dates of upcoming events and PTFA news.

**The Autumn/Halloween Disco has proven to be very popular with only 17 tickets left for the Rec/KS1 event. The KS2 event is SOLD OUT**



**The scarecrow hunt and build a scarecrow events are still open for entries. Forms are available from the school office**

**SEE POSTERS AT END OF NEWSLETTER**



### Guitar Awards

Congratulations to the following children who have been chosen as Mrs Connolly's Guitar Stars of the Week.

Week beginning 26/9  
Ewan (Y6)

Week beginning 3/10  
Ralph F (Y4)





## Full of Beans Half Term Multi Skills & Football Holiday Camps

We will be holding our popular half-term camp again in October/November — but this time it will be slightly different.

Instead of 1 camp—there will be 2 different camps running.

One camp will be our usual multi activity camp.

The second camp will be a football academy camp.

The camps are flexible and can be mixed - whole days can be booked on each camp e.g your child can attend Football Camp for 2 days and Multi Activity Camp for 3 days.

The pricing and times of each camp remain the same as in the summer.

Sibling discount codes will be automatically applied so no code is needed and if booked before

**MONDAY 9TH OCTOBER**

an EARLYBIRD discount code of 10% will be automatically applied.

Camp places can be booked using the link below.

<https://app.joinin.online/#/app/joinin/organisation/shop/4a3b31f8-f811-4c6d-a826-53b48dd51e02>

If you have any problems, give Rebecca a ring on  
07789  
743893  
She will be  
happy to help.



**OCTOBER FOOTBALL CAMP**

Fun filled, action packed football camp for ages 5 – 11 with enough options to keep your child happy and entertained. Run by FA qualified coaches. Includes learning skills like Shooting, Goal Keeping, Passing, Dribbling, Defending, Attacking, Shooting and playing Matches, Beat the Coach & Cross Bar Challenge.

Bookings can be made via our website  
[www.fullofbeansfitness.co.uk](http://www.fullofbeansfitness.co.uk)

Email: [camps@fullofbeansfitness.co.uk](mailto:camps@fullofbeansfitness.co.uk)  
Telephone: 0151 374 0454  
Facebook: FOBWirral Twitter: FullOfBeansFit

**COST**  
£25 Standard day 9am-4pm  
£32 Extended day 8.30am-5.30pm

**LOCATION**  
Birchley St Mary's Primary School  
Birchley Road, Billinge, Wigan

**DATE**  
Thurs 26th Oct- Fri Nov 3rd  
EARLYBIRD Discount 10% until Monday 9th October  
Sibling Discount throughout 10% off second child  
Both Discounts automatically applied at checkout

Our coaches all hold professional qualifications and an enhanced DBS. Expert and qualified instruction in a safe, non-competitive environment. We go out of our way to ensure a personal and special day.

**OCTOBER HOLIDAY CAMP**

Fun filled, action packed camp for ages 5 – 11 with enough options to keep your child happy and entertained! Includes 50+ indoor and outdoor activities including special Halloween games such as Monster races, Monster crafts, Spooky obstacles courses, Halloween scavenger hunts, Pumpkin carving, Zombie apocalypse Quidditch, Dracula's dodgeball, Creepy Crawly crafts

Bookings can be made via our website  
[www.fullofbeansfitness.co.uk](http://www.fullofbeansfitness.co.uk)

Email: [camps@fullofbeansfitness.co.uk](mailto:camps@fullofbeansfitness.co.uk)  
Telephone: 0151 374 0454  
Facebook: FOBWirral Twitter: FullOfBeansFit

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## Parents' Evenings/Open Afternoons



We will be holding two open afternoons on Wednesday 18th October and Wednesday 25th October from 2.15pm—3.15pm. If you would like to attend, simply sign in at the school office and you will be taken to your child's class, where you will have the opportunity to look through your child's books with them. You can move between classrooms if you have more than one child.

For safeguarding purposes, we do ask that you leave the site promptly at 3.15pm and make your way round to the school gates for normal pick up procedures. Our staff will then use the last 15mins to set up ready for Parents' Evening and to get the children packed up. No child will be released at 3.15pm to go home with their adult.

Appointment slips for Parents' Evening went out last week. Please return slips ASAP. Staff will not see parents who do not have appointments. PLEASE NOTE that Parents' Evening is for parents only. Children should not attend. They can be signed in to ABC for the 3.30 - 4.30pm slot or the 4.30 - 5.30pm slot at the usual hourly rate of £4.50 if you need childcare whilst you attend. Places can be booked via School Money.

Don't forget parents evening!

Year One	Isaac	Chloe
Year Two	Alfie	Grace
Year Three	TJ	Wallis
Year Four	Ralph F	Erin
Year Five	Harry S	Eliza
Year Six	Jonathan	Heidi

## Meet our Reading Influencers



We love to read at St. Mary's. Books transport us to different worlds and help us to experience new adventures. In order to share our love of reading and to promote different authors and stories throughout our school community, the following children have been chosen as Reading Influencers to shine a light on all of the wonderful books and authors out there, for

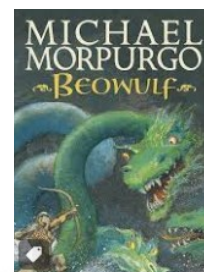
their class mates to read and try out for themselves.

Every week, one of our Influencers will recommend a book for others to read, so look out for their recommendations in our weekly newsletter.

This week, Harry and Eliza, from Y5 have recommended Beowulf.

They say, 'There is a person called Beowulf who is a strong and kind warrior who saves a kingdom from 3 different monsters. They scored the book 8.5/10

Thank you for this recommendation. Look out for a new book next week.

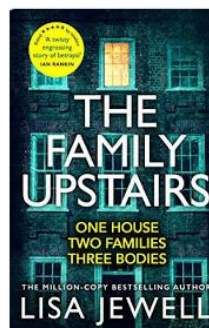


## Introducing Mrs McDonald as a reader:



Mrs McDonald mostly loves to read fiction as she likes to escape in a good book, especially when on her holidays. She would say that her favourite genres have to be Mystery and Thrillers. She thinks she would make a good criminal detective!

The two most recent books she has read were by the author Lisa Jewell - 'The Family Upstairs' and its sequel 'The Family Remains', both of which were so gripping that she couldn't put them down! They were both psychological thrillers and if any grown ups would like to borrow them—feel free to ask her.



Growing up, the first book that Mrs McDonald remembers reading, and her all time favourite, was 'A Little Princess' by Frances Hodgson Burnett. If she had to choose a favourite quote it would be, 'The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go!' by Dr. Seuss.

## Class Attendances for the Week

Reception	98.47%
Year 1	99.54%
Year 2	100%
Year 3	97.62%
Year 4	95.49%
Year 5	98.96%
Year 6	96.30%



## Celebration Page



### Emile—Key Stage 2 Homework Star of the Week



Year 3	James
Year 4	Harry
Year 5	Eliza
Year 6	Niamh

### Bucket Fillers

Bucket fillers are children who fill other people's buckets (lives) with kind words and deeds. They are shining examples to others around them.

This week's  
Bucket Fillers are



Rec 	Emily S for being a responsible member of class
Year 1 	Lola for always showing respect to others
Year 2 	Taylor for using his lovely manners
Year 3 	Wallis for always trying to be the best that she can be
Year 4 	Wilson for always being polite and having lovely manners
Year 5 	Maddison for being a mature, caring and helpful member of class
Year 6 	Ethan for being selfless and putting others first

### Good Work Stars

A big well done to the following children who have all been recognised for their super work week.

Rec	Theo - super listening during Welly Walk
Year 1	Ava - a fabulous 'happiness' poem
Year 2	Jaxon - trying hard with his writing
Year 3	Domhnall - great poetry writing
Year 4	Noah - great Stonehenge information text
Year 5	Theo - super spelling work
Year 6	Kate - wonderful poetry writing

### ABC Star of the Week

A big SHOUT OUT to George from Y2 for looking after the little ones so well. Thank you George.



### Star Pupil Award



	Matthew House Winner	Mark House Winner	Luke House Winner	John House Winner	Overall Star Pupil
Rec	Lillia	Max K	Billy	Elena	Elena
Year 1	Freddie F	Millie	Nancy	Ryder	Millie
Year 2	George	Bobby	Grace	William	Bobby
Year 3	Abir	Thomas FP	Thomas B	Daisy	Daisy
Year 4	Lyla	Mae	Romeo	Anna	Romeo
Year 5	Howie	Sam	Penny	Emmie	Sam
Year 6	Ishaan	Malachy	Luca	James B	Luca





# St Mary's PTFA PRESENTS



**AUTUMN  
SCHOOL  
DISCO**

Rec' & KS1

KS 2

Tickets on sale - Thursday 5th October - 9am

24th October 2023 | 6:00pm-7:30pm

**TICKETS £5**

Children can come in either Halloween costumes or just their disco clothes. Faces can be painted and hair coloured but please NO FACE MASKS. Ticket price includes a spooky snack bag.

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Birchley St Mary's PTFA  
Presents

# DO YOU WANNA BUILD A SCARECROW? AND WE'RE GOING ON A SCARECROW HUNT

Join our scarecrow building crew and send your pictures to Birchley Bear on Facebook to show off your super building skills.

If you just want to hunt, keep an eye out for scarecrows in your friends' front gardens and find the codeword attached to them; collect as many words as you can on your entry form for the chance to win a prize, and don't forget to vote for your favourite scarecrow!

- Be part of the build crew for £2
- Take part in the hunt for £2
- Entry forms will be sent out to all children and should be returned to school by Wednesday 11th October to make sure you don't miss out on the fun!
- Scarecrows should be built by Friday 27th October
- Hunt entries need to be returned to school by Friday 10th November



Made with PosterMyWall.com

Entry forms for both the hunt and 'build a scarecrow' can be picked up from the school office.