



# St. Mary's News

## October 20th 2023



### Provisional Calendar Dates for the Year



### Important Dates



Tuesday 24th October 2023	Y5 Anglo Saxon and Viking Workshop A separate letter has been sent out Payment via School Money
Tuesday 24th October 2023	Diversity Workshops Key Stage 2
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
Tuesday 7th November 2023	School re-opens Breakfast Club open as normal
Friday 10th November 2023	Y5/6 children to take part in the Billinge Remembrance Walk and Service
Monday 13th November 2023	Non Uniform Day 1 Donations of Christmas Chocolates/Selection Boxes
Tuesday 14th November 2023	Reading Workshop for Reception parents/ carers 9.15am–10.00am. Further information to follow
Monday 20th November 2023	Non Uniform Day 2 Donations of bottles/festive spirits
Monday 20th November 2023	KS2 Anti Bullying Assembly for parents/carers 2.45pm. Sign in at the office
Monday 27th November 2023	Non Uniform Day 3 Donations for our Colours of Christmas Hampers
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



## Reception, Y1 and Y2 Harvest Assembly

What a wonderful occasion it was this morning to see our youngest children come together with their families to celebrate harvest time. Our children were amazing scarecrows and farmers and they sang and read beautifully. A big thank you to everyone who was able to come along and share this special occasion with the children and staff. We were so proud of them all!

## Harvest Collection

A big thank you to everyone who was able to donate to our harvest collection of items much needed by the local food banks.

We will take the donations over to Church so that they can be collected.



## School Nurse Drop-in Session

School has been allocated a new school nurse - Sarah Chapelhow. She will be holding a drop in session for parents/carers on Wednesday 25th October from 2.00pm—6.00pm to tie in with our open afternoon and parents' evening.

If you would like to speak, in confidence, to the nurse about any worries or concerns that you may have about your child/ren, simply pop into school between 2.00 - 6.00pm on the 25th October. No appointments are needed.



## Non-Uniform Days

You will see on the calendar that there are 3 non uniform days planned during the next half term - Monday 13th, 20th and 27th November. We use these days to collect items for our Christmas fundraising activities so we are extremely grateful for your kind donations.

Monday 13th November - we are asking for donations of Christmas chocolates e.g. tinned sweets, selection boxes, chocolate oranges etc

Monday 20th November - we would be grateful for any bottle donations—especially those bottles that contain festive cheer :)

Further details will follow about the Colours of Christmas Hamper donations.

## Charges for the Half-Term

Many parents prefer to pay for lunches etc for the half-term rather than on a weekly basis. Please see costings below. All money must be paid using the School Money App.

Lunches - £85.00  
Fish/Pizza & Chips  
Friday - £17.50



## Guitar Awards

Congratulations to

Joycelin from Y4

who was chosen as Mrs Connolly's Music Star of the Week this week.



## Poppy Appeal

We have received our annual fundraising box to support the Poppy Appeal.

As always, the box contains a variety of poppy themed items e.g. slap bands, wrist

bands, coat reflectors.

Our Y6 children will take the box to all classes next week and the first week back after half-term. We ask for a donation of £1 per item. Some of our children like to collect all of the items, but this can be expensive for families, so we are capping the number of items bought to 2 per child.

If your child would like to buy any of the items, please send in their money in a named envelope.

Traditional poppies can also be purchased.





## 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.

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



It was lovely to see so many parents/carers coming into school this week to look through their children's work with them.

We will be holding our second open afternoon, for those families who couldn't attend last week, on Wednesday 25th October from 2.15 - 3.15pm.

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.

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.



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, Isaac from Year 1 has recommended a book called Paw Patrol. It is a story about when Rubble saves the day. Isaac says, *It is a great story and I enjoy reading it*

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

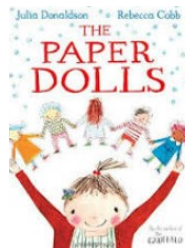


### Introducing Mrs Cotterill as a reader:

As a very busy mum to two young, energetic boys, I don't get much chance to read a book for myself.

However, my children love to listen to stories and they are an important part of our bed time routine.

Our favourite author is Julia Donaldson and two of our favourite stories are The Paper Dolls and The Ugly Five. The Paper Dolls is about a string of paper dolls who go on a fantastical adventure through the house and out into the garden where they escape the clutches of a toy dinosaur. The Ugly Five is about five animals who rejoice in their ugliness.



My boys love to read books about animals and they love collecting animal facts, so non-fiction books are also very popular in our house.

One of our favourite animal facts is:

Did you know there are 5 species of rhinos - a Black Rhino and a White Rhino from Africa and a Sumatran, Javan and The Greater One Horned Rhino from Asia.



### Class Attendances for the Week

Reception	98.85%
Year 1	89.35%
Year 2	97.22%
Year 3	95.24%
Year 4	93.06%
Year 5	95.14%
Year 6	96.67%





## Shout Out to

A BIG shout out to Eva, Daisy and Rosie who are pictured here about to go on stage to perform in a dance show. Their outfits were for their, 'Do you Love Me?' performance. You look amazing girls.

## Poetry SLAM

Last week, school held its annual 'Poetry Slam' in recognition of all of the hard work across the school that went into celebrating National Poetry Day. We were completely blown away by the number of pupils that came to share poetry they had written, and we were very impressed by the children's poems.

Winners from each class have been chosen and are as follows:

Year 3: Amelia - 'Sky at Night'

Year 4: Grace - 'My Dog Simba'

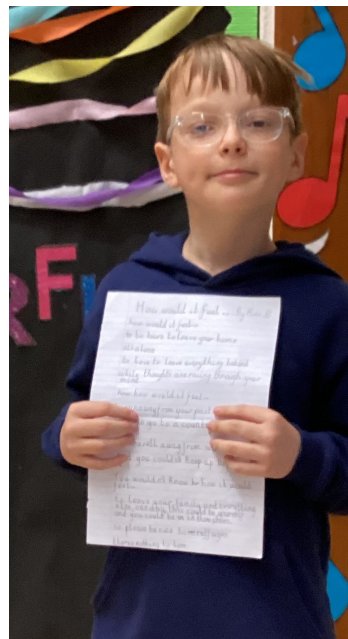
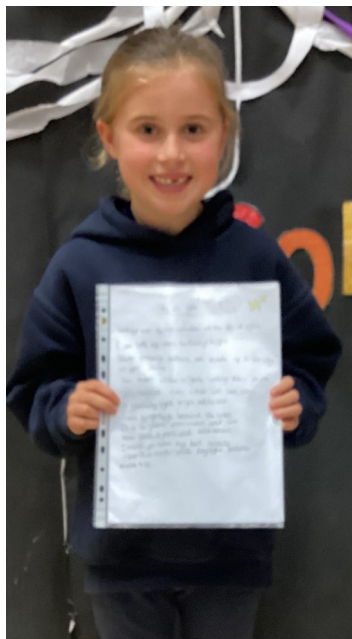
Year 5: Indiana & Ruby - 'Animals'

Year 6: Heidi - 'The Chase'

Year 6: Alex - 'How would you Feel?'



The children will receive their prizes in assembly on Monday. Thank you to Mrs Evans for organising and co-ordinating the event.



A BIG WELL DONE to everyone who took part.





## Celebration Page



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



Year 3	Ellis
Year 4	Jennifer
Year 5	Elliot
Year 6	Jessica

### 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	Connie for always trying hard to uphold our school values
Year 1	India for always helping in the classroom
Year 2	Rose for being very respectful in class
Year 3	Ethan for trying really hard with his work this week
Year 4	Joycelin for always being a good and kind friend
Year 5	Amelia for being very helpful at all times
Year 6	Molly for bringing a smile to Mrs Naylor's face



### Good Work Stars



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

Rec	George - being a super group member when making pumpkin soup
Year 1	Nancy - fantastic phonics
Year 2	Ava - wonderful writing
Year 3	TJ - having impressive knowledge of the Ancient Egyptians
Year 4	Grace - super Stone Age story
Year 5	James B - for being very enthusiastic about his Beowulf writing
Year 6	Thomas - excellent short division work

### ABC Star of the Week

A big SHOUT OUT to Indiana from Y5 who has been chosen this week for always being the first to offer to help. Well done.



### Star Pupil Award



	Matthew House Winner	Mark House Winner	Luke House Winner	John House Winner	Overall Star Pupil
Rec	Lillia	Max B	Oscar C	Harry C	Lillia
Year 1	Isabella	Reuben	Harley	Chloe	Chloe
Year 2	Lexie	Isabella Rose	Alfie	Jax	Alfie
Year 3	Domhnall	Amelia	Robyn	Sam	Robyn
Year 4	Ally	Edison K	Heidi	Jessica	Jessica
Year 5	Bobby	Sam	Tilly	Georgia	Georgia
Year 6	Fred S	Heidi	Brooke	Kate	Heidi



What a lovely Harvest morning we had. Our Reception children loved spending time with their families and Y6 buddies eating pumpkin soup and taking part in craft activities.







Our Year 2 children led our prayer time beautifully.







**Our Year 1 made fantastic farmers!**







Our Reception children  
were wonderful  
scarecrows!

