



St. Mary's News

April 19th 2024



community.

Welcome back to the final term of this academic year. We hope that you all had a lovely Easter break and that the wet weather didn't spoil your plans. Hopefully the weather will start to improve (although I did need to de-ice my car yesterday morning!) so that the children can wear their summer uniform and more importantly to the children—the grass will be dry enough for them play on.

We have lots of lovely things planned for this term, from trips to Sports Day to First Holy Communion to Leavers' Celebrations. It will be so busy that the weeks will fly by and before long we will be saying goodbye to our fabulous Y6 children and welcoming our new Reception children and their families into our school



Welcome to our New Reception Children for September 2024

We would like to say a great BIG WELCOME to our new Reception children, and their families, who have been allocated a place in our Reception class for September 2024. We are really looking forward to welcoming them all into our school community and we hope that they will all quickly start to feel part of our school family.

A personalised welcome letter will be sent out to our new starters next week to say, 'Hello,' and to invite their parents/carers to a New Intake Meeting on **Wednesday 12th June** at 6.00pm. The letter will also contain details of transition activities and visit dates.

If you know of any new starters, please let them know about the letter. If you are reading our newsletter, as a new starter, WELCOME. We can't wait to meet you all very soon.

We do still have some places left in our current Reception cohort if you know of anyone who is unhappy with their child's allocated school.

Welcome to Reception



Important Dates

Wednesday 5th June 2024	Y6 Residential Holiday (5th—7th June)
Friday 7th June 2024	Y4 Swimming begins—every Friday until 19/7/24 Further details will be given nearer to the time
Wednesday 12th June 2024	New Intake Meeting for Reception 2024 6pm Infant Hall
Tuesday 18th June 2024	Sports Day (weather permitting)
Saturday 22nd June 2024	First Holy Communion Mass - 10.00am. Children in school for 9.00am
Tuesday 25th June 2024	Sports Day - reserve/backup day
Thursday 27th June 2024	Year 6 Stay and Pray session with parents/carers 9.00am
Tuesday 2nd July 2024	Year 5 Stay and Pray session with parents/carers 9.00am
Wednesday 3rd July 2024	Year 4 Stay and Pray session with parents/carers 9.00am
Thursday 4th July 2024	Year 3 Stay and Pray session with parents/carers 9.00am
Wednesday 24th July 2024	School breaks up for summer



First Confession - PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE

Our Y4/5 children, who are making their First Holy Communion, will make their First Confession on **WEDNESDAY 1ST MAY** at 2pm in Church. Please note that this date has changed.



It will be a simple service, led by Fr. Paul with our choir supporting the children. You are more than welcome to attend the service.



Y3/Y4 ART CLUB

Following two very successful sewing clubs with Y4/5/6, Mrs Whipp is offering an art club to our Y3/4 children for 6 weeks on Tuesday evenings - 30th April, 7th May, 14th May, 21st May, 11th June and 18th June.

In order to cover the cost of resources/equipment, and to pay Mrs Whipp for her time, the club will cost £25 for the 6 weeks.

There are 2 places remaining — if your child would like to attend, please let the office know by Monday evening. Any spare places, after Monday, will be offered to Y5 children.

If your child has already expressed an interest, and been given a place, a payment stream will be added to School Money next week.



Easter Egg Bingo and Easter Egg Hunt

It feels like such a long time ago since this fun filled event took place! The PTFA would like to say a great big THANK YOU to everyone who attended the event and made it a great success raising a massive £780.



Thanks also go to the members of the PTFA who gave their time up to run both sessions—their help was invaluable as the event could not have run without them.

Finally a huge shout out to Emily and Anna's grandad and Darcy's dad for being fantastic bingo callers on the evening.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the PTFA will be on Wednesday 24th April at 6pm in the Infant Hall. (Entrance is via the side fire door and not the main entrance.) Please do try to come along as the more members we have—the more fund raising events we will be able to hold. We promise you a warm welcome.

Congratulations on our SAT results for 2023



We wanted to say a huge congratulations to our Y6 children from last year, whose SAT results were phenomenal—with 80% of the cohort achieving the expected standard in reading, writing and maths combined - meaning that only 3 other primary schools, from the 64 in St Helens - all from other areas outside of Billinge achieved higher.

17% of our children achieved greater depth in reading, writing and maths combined - this the highest percentage of children achieving greater depth in the local area.

In terms of progress scores which track progress from Y2 to Y6, our Y6 children achieved well above average progress in reading (+3.5) and maths (+ 5.1) the best progress measures in the local area.

These super results are testament to both the children's and teachers' hard work and we are really proud of them all.

Our current Y6 children are working very hard to prepare for this year's SAT tests in May. They are all making super progress and we are sure that their end results will be a true reflection of their desire to be the best that they can be. We can't ask anymore of them.



Guitar Awards

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

Week beginning 15/4/24

Year 3:
James



Y4/5/6:
James B
(Y5)





Celebration Page



Emile—Key Stage 2 Homework Star of the Week



Year 3	Sam
Year 4	Leo
Year 5	Theo
Year 6	Freddi P

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.



Rec	Harry C for always helping to tidy the classroom
Year 1	Isaac for being a kind and caring friend
Year 2	Noah for showing enthusiasm and passion in his learning
Year 3	Thomas B for always making Mrs Cotterill smile
Year 4	Ralph S - 100% in maths and really impressing Miss Gradwell
Year 5	Oliver for always having wonderful manners
Year 6	Alex for being helpful and supportive of his peers



Good Work Stars



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

Rec	Mychailo - sharing facts about the moon
Year 1	Arya - phenomenal phonics
Year 2	James K - trying really hard in maths
Year 3	Wallis - amazing art work
Year 4	Aiden - marvellous maths work on decimals
Year 5	Maddison - wonderful writing
Year 6	Andrew - putting 100% into all that he does and showing dedication towards his work

ABC Star of the Week

A big SHOUT OUT to Leo from Y4 who has been chosen this week for being a super role model in club. Well done Leo.



Star Pupil Award



	Matthew House Winner	Mark House Winner	Luke House Winner	John House Winner	Overall Star Pupil
Rec	Jacob	Esme	Emily T	Alexander	Emily T
Year 1	Ava	Reuben	Hunter	India	Reuben
Year 2	Sebi	Alicja	Tyler	Sofia	Sofia
Year 3	Ellis	Charlie R	Robyn	Willow	Charlie R
Year 4	Ally	Maddison Lucy	Joycelin	Henry	Ally
Year 5	Theo	Indiana	Harry	Tyler	Theo
Year 6	Ruby	Malachy	Freddi P	James D	Malachy