



[www.stmarys-kl.cumbria.sch.uk](http://www.stmarys-kl.cumbria.sch.uk)



[@StMarysKL](https://twitter.com/StMarysKL)

**Juniors – Knowing your birthday and address**

We are aware that some children in the juniors don't know their birthday, address or home telephone number. At school we are working on this for those children however we wondered if parents could check that their children know this information. This is very important from a safety perspective, but also helpful when writing letters in class.

**Project day**

Thank you to everyone who made and created some amazing projects. The children took time to share them in groups and as a class and finally with the rest of the school. The effort made really pays off when you see the children light up and being proud of their creations. It really boosts their confidence and improves their language skills!

**500 Words – Radio 2 Competition**

We are encouraging children in school or at home to copy their 500 word stories onto the Radio 2 website. The best way is for children to type these up and copy and paste them onto the website. This requires an adult to help the children as it requires some personal details. I know how excited the children are and this year, enthused to take part in this amazing competition.

**Word of the Week:**



**Shivoo** – a boisterous party or celebration

We are once again reminding children that we are hoping our children are practising their tables to be able to rapidly recall the times tables when required. This crucial skill enables the children to access so much maths with ease. Gold award is the expected standard by Year 5 so that they can apply these to problems thus getting Platinum. When learning tables a whole set eg the 3 times table can be overwhelming. It is better to work on a specific table eg  $8 \times 4 = 32$  which children find tricky to remember. Once learnt move on to another...

## St Mary's CE School

### Times Tables Challenge

	<p><b>Palladium—Maths Leader</b> Developing Mastery in maths and applying knowledge to challenging problems</p>
	<p><b>Diamond</b> Knows 13 times table, Square numbers and Prime Numbers</p>
	<p><b>Platinum</b> Applies knowledge of all times tables to x12 to division problems</p>
	<p><b>Gold</b> Secure with x9, x11, x12 times tables</p>
	<p><b>Silver</b> Secure with x4, x6, x7, x8 times tables</p>
	<p><b>Bronze</b> Secure with x2, x5, x10, x3 times tables</p>
	<p><b>Maths Star 2</b> Doubles to 20, Number Facts to 20, Counting in 2s, 3s, 5s, 10s,</p>
	<p><b>Maths Star 1</b> Count, recognise and order numbers to 10</p>



### **Parent Consultations**

Please can you make sure you have sent your return slips for parent consultations. We will be returning appointment forms to confirm your appointment this week. Governors will once again be available to talk to during this time.

### **Infant Playground**

We are aware that the infant playground equipment is reaching the end of its life. The playground houses and shelter have proved to be exceptionally popular and much appreciated. We have recently worked with school council to approve the purchase of new wooden houses and we will be developing the yard to enable the children to grow flowers all around the different areas of the yard. Recently parents discussed with Governors at the previous parent consultations about the need for increased fencing for the playground. We agreed this was a good idea and we have put out a tender for this also.

As headteacher I was aware of the need to improve the school environment, this has included painting the school, new windows, signage, the interior of the school including new flooring, new lockers, and redeveloping outside of the school hall. We have (with very generous support) been able to purchase the learning pod. The governors also invested in the Early Years area with the purchase of new equipment and outdoor furniture. Clearly development of the school takes time and money! I hope you will see the benefit of the new purchases very soon. Soon we will be asking parents and friends of the school to consider sharing some of their plants they may have in their gardens to help us out. I am already eyeing up some plants from my garden to help the school along! As the warmer weather comes and the plants emerge we will be planning a day to transfer plants to the yard.

We have a plan to develop the school further but ultimately this does take a significant investment in time and the school finances are limited. We hope that very soon our school will really be as beautiful as we would like it to be, a valuing and special place to play and learn.

Many thanks

Mr Jones  
Headteacher