St. Mary's

Church of England Primary School Kirkby Lonsdale



St Mary's School at night, this week during the residential for Year 5 and 6

Newsletter



Honesty



Trust



Responsibility









Dates Summary September:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
23	24	25	26	27
		Zoobidoo Visit Y1	Languages Day	
		PTA AGM	Governor Meeting pm)	
30	1	2	3	4
	Dental Nurse Visit Reception Class		PTA – BAGS 2 SCHOOL	
			Junior Cross Country at Sedbergh Prep	

Dear Parents

I am exceptionally pleased to see how well the children in Year 5 and 6 have taken on board the various challenges of our residential this week, den building, emergency first aid, knot craft, forest skills, cooking as a team and fire building and other team activities. This has really set them up for a good start to the year and will also help them bond and develop or cement new friendships as they get into the right mind set for this year. Thank you to the staff who stayed in school to make this time possible.

On Wednesday we hosted a visitor from the Princes Teachers Institute as we have been short listed for the PTI Impact Award. This national award recognises the impact our curriculum has and in our case we have focused on art and how it has engaged on our children. We await the results in October. Thank you to everyone who took part in the process. https://www.ptieducation.org/pia-award/

I am always impressed with our children and of course your support, when the children want to think about others. At the end of the summer term we held an enterprise day which generated over £400 profit and as a result, Mountain Rescue, St John's Hospice, The Brain Cancer Trust and Save Ruskin's View all benefitted from the funds raised. Thank you once again to the children and everyone who supported the enterprise ideas.

Hoping you have a good week.















Parents to talk about their skills:



On either Wednesday/Thursday afternoons, Mr Jones is teaching PSHE in Year 4 with a focus on skills that adults have. If any parents would like to come into school and talk for 15 minutes about their job or talents and skills, we would love to have you in school. We are hoping to inspire the children with thinking about the diverse

skills people need in their roles. Please get in touch if you feel you could spare 15 minutes in the afternoons of either Wed or Thurs. bjones@stmarys-kl.cumbria.sch.uk

Flu Vaccinations Code

Thank you for your understanding as we move forward to the NHS new system for permissions for the annual vaccinations. If you need our school code to login, this has been sent in your Arbor messages. The Code is: **CM112323**

European Languages Day 26th September (Mufti Day)



To celebrate European Languages Day we have decided to totally focus on the language we teach in school – <u>French</u>. On this day children will have an opportunity to explore French through lessons and songs. <u>We are encouraging everyone to dress up in red white and blue on this day to reflect the French Flag.</u> Some classes may be exploring food as well as learning about France in general.

Bags to School - October 3rd.



Please start collecting clothing items if you are having a clear out, or sorting clothes, the PTA will be sending bags next week with collection dates information etc.

PTA AGM - ALL WELCOME

PTA AGM Wednesday 25th September 6:30pm, in the school hall.















Games Library

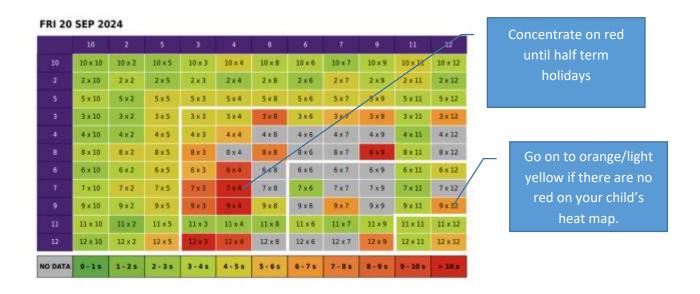


We are trailing a GAMES LIBRARY which will start in Year 1. This will involve sending home small games (able to fit in a zip bag) and sharing these within the class throughout the year. We have some games and puzzles already, but if you have any games or puzzles in good condition that could be shared as part of the games library, we would value your contributions too. Mrs Hutchinson is coordinating the games library and all contributions can be sent in to the office or to Mrs Hutchinson. Thank you for your help.

Responding to parents wanting to help their children... TT Rockstars – Heat Maps

We know that parents are keen to (a) understand their child's needs and gaps in learning and (b) understand how to help. We are encouraging families to look at their child's 'heat map' in T T Rockstars, which many parents already explore. This gives a focus for exact times tables to learn. Red are tables children are struggling with (and there ones to concentrate on) and grey is means they have not learned these yet at all. We suggest families make a game or list of the **red tables** to then concentrate on. Children fly with their fluency when they focus on specific tables and not a whole series of tables.

We hope this helps and answers your requests on how you can help your child.





You can download the TT Rockstars App on your table or phone or just Google TT Rockstars in your web browser. Your children go on TT Rockstars each week so they know their password. It is also in their planner.

Year 4, 5 and 6 will be getting a print out of the heat map in planners but it is available in your child's account.



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One of the key messages we were getting from parents is that there were lots of apps to book events and lunches, communicate with school and see their child's progress and attendance etc. We have spent some time moving to the Arbor App which pulls things

together in one place. I am mindful that change can be tricky for some people, but I want to thank you for your understanding and I know many families have really valued a 'one stop shop' for our school. This is particularly so when you have children in secondary school too when you use their app also.



I know that it is a challenge to keep on top of various messages. I have asked that teachers try to send (where possible) one email per week with the class news rather than lots of messages throughout the week. I hope this will help you manage the communication. I have also asked that

messages from teachers come via email and not dojo. This means they are more likely to be seen either before school starts of at the end of the teaching day. We will continue to try to send a newsletter towards the end of the week from myself as well.



Parent WhatsApp groups are vital nowadays to clarify homework, PE Days, changes to a timetable and just check in with one another. Recently, we are aware that parents have not always been thoughtful when using this which has made parents, children or staff feel uncomfortable about the messages being sent. Can I please ask

families to be mindful of what they say, be aware the comments usually get back to staff and please protect children in your child's class by being sensitive and caring with your comments. Teachers will happily deal with any issues about children in the class using email or by making a call to school during office hours.



Do you or extended family follow us on Instagram? Many of our post get transferred to Facebook, but not all. If you or extended family and friends would like to see what happens at St Mary's, please follow us stmaryskl on Instagram.

Keep up with the daily events at St Mary's and extra news and information for families.



Next week, we will be recognising National Doodle Day which is an Epilepsy Action Awareness Day. Many families have been affected by epilepsy and schools and families are encouraged to take part. Doodles are being auctioned nationally from many famous artists and celebrities and Bob Sutcliffe is also taking part on a National level.























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