

St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

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**St. Mary's bible message:
"Thank you God for the harvest."**

Please take a few minutes to discuss this with your child at home. We have focused on it in school this week.

This week...

Well it has been another busy week in the life of St Mary's! I cannot believe that we are almost at the end of the first half term! I personally have enjoyed getting to know more children this week and am learning everyone's names – bit by bit!

Thank you for being so welcoming to me when I see you around the school grounds. It really does make a difference and I am delighted to be part of the family of St Mary's!

Harvest Festival

Thank you so much for your generous contributions! Please see below.

Tameside Mile

Well done to all who took part in our virtual competition 'The Tameside Mile'. The children ran with determination and enthusiasm! I was exhausted just watching them!

Upcoming Events

Date	October
22nd	Year 4 First Forgiveness
22nd	School closes for half term
23rd	Staff INSET Day
31st	Deadline for Year 6 High School Applications
Date	November
2 nd	School opens
14th	Year 4 First Holy Communion
21st	Year 4 First Holy Communion
28th	Year 4 First Holy Communion

Virtual Harvest Festival

On Monday 12th October, we celebrated 'HARVEST' with the children. Whilst a 'virtual' Harvest Festival was a very different way of doing things, we all really enjoyed it. The children commented that they loved seeing each other on the big screen! The school came to life with the sound of children singing in their bubbles and although 'separate' there was a definite sense of 'coming together' which was lovely!

Thank you so much for your generous donations. They will be given to our local foodbank, to help those less fortunate than ourselves.



COVID-19

Please inform the school office ASAP if your child would not have access to online learning, in case of future bubble closures or lockdowns.

Please be advised that online learning is the preferred choice, but should your child not have access to any device, school will provide a printed 'pack' of work in the event of a lockdown, if we are aware that you do not have any access to a device.

Online Learning

The staff are working hard to ensure that, in the event of a bubble closure, the children have access to online learning.

TT Rock Stars

We all know that times tables are a vital in supporting so many strands of mathematics. Please encourage your child to access TT Rock Stars as often as possible and watch this space for upcoming competitions!

Spelling Shed

Please encourage your children to access Spelling Shed as much as possible. Little and often is the best way to improve spelling skills.

Sacramental Programme

The children in Year 4 that began their sacramental journey in Year 3 last year, were unable to complete it. We have been awaiting guidance from the diocese with regards to continuing their journey. I am delighted to inform you of the following arrangements:

First Forgiveness

The children will be prepared in school for the sacrament of First Forgiveness. This will then take place on THURSDAY 22nd OCTOBER. Due to restrictions in Church, Fr Oliver will come to school during the school day and the children will complete their First Forgiveness with him. Unfortunately, parents will be unable to attend this.

First Holy Communion

This will be celebrated over 3 consecutive Saturdays:

- Saturday 14th November at 10.00am
- Saturday 21st November at 10.00am
- Saturday 28th November at 10.00am

On Tuesday 1st December (once all children have made their First Holy Communion), we will arrange a 'celebration' in school. Children will be able to come to school wearing their First Holy Communion clothes and we will arrange for a photographer to take individual photos. A group 'collage' photo will also be created, so that children and families have a memento of this special occasion. Unfortunately, parents would not be able to attend this celebration, but we will ensure that it is special for the children and will share photos with you via our school Twitter feed.

Please rest assured that Fr Oliver, the staff and I will do all we can to ensure that whilst different, their First Holy Communion will be a special occasion for them.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE CHILDREN IN YEAR 4.

