



The Federation of St Mary's Catholic Schools

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me"

Philippians 4: 13

5th May 2023

Respect

Compassion

Resilience

Coronation

We celebrated the coronation today in style in a sea of red, white and blue. The weather stayed dry and we made excellent use of our garden. Thank you to our fabulous kitchen staff, Kay and Lorraine for their efforts—the coronation lunch boxes were a real hit!

Thank you also to Debby and Kathryn from our PTFA, who had the unenviable job of judging the crown competition. Winners pictures to follow. The efforts that the children went to were tremendous and brought smiles to lots of faces this morning.



Relationships and Behaviour Policy

You will have received our draft Restorative Practice: Relationships and Behaviour Policy this week. Please give us your feedback through Survey Monkey: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/BPLN3QX>



Diamond Cricket

Our Y5 team represented St Mary's at Newton CC this week and came an impressive 3rd place, narrowly missing out on the top 2 spots. Well done Team-StMary's!



Donations please!

We are looking for donations of newspapers and plastic bags (clothing delivery ones are ideal) to use in a CAFOD club project.

We are also looking for fabric remnant donations. Mrs Risley very cleverly makes pencil cases for every Y3 child at the beginning of the academic year and is starting the project soon. Any spare fabric to do this would be appreciated.

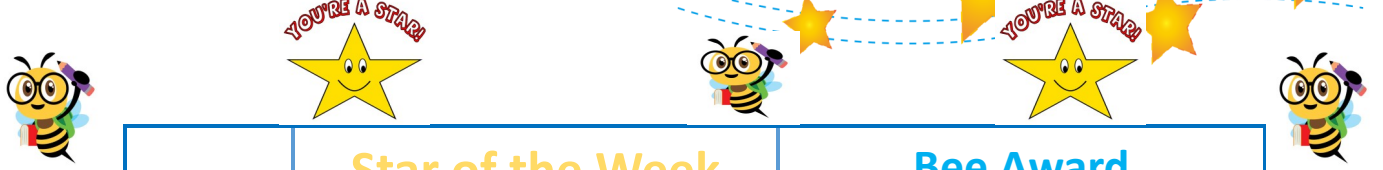
We are continuing to accept book donations. Thanks to all who have donated so far—it has made a big difference.

SATs

Next week, our Year 6 start their SATs. They are invited into school for breakfast from 8.30. Good luck Year 6.






Award Winners



	Star of the Week	Bee Award
3Ri	Sammy	All of Diamond table
3Ro	India	Orla B
4W	Zara	Alice
4M	Conor	Amelia
5R	Lola R	Madeleine D
5HQ	Ava S	Matthew
6W	Amelia C	Archie
6D	Scarlett	Amelia G



	School Values Award	Oakley
	Millionaire Reader	
	Rock Hero	



Dates for your diary

Summer 1

St Mary's Catholic Junior School

Every Friday	Biscuits for school funds. 50p
Monday 8 th May	Coronation Bank Holiday
Tuesday 9 th May – Friday 12 th May	Y6 SATs week. All Y6 children are invited to school from 8.30 for toast and a drink.
Thursday 11 th May	Y4 Apple of my Eye DT food day
Friday 12 th May	PTFA Family Fun Night @ St Patrick's Club
Monday 22 nd May	PTFA coffee and cake afternoon at the Juniors. Everyone welcome.
Wednesday 24 th May – Friday 26 th May	Y6 Residential
Tuesday 20 th June	Sports Day (weather permitting) Y3&4 in the morning; Y5&6 in the afternoon

PE days

Y3	Thursday
Y4	Wednesday
Y5	Tuesday
Y6	Monday

Ever thought about becoming a teaching assistant?

Do you enjoy helping and supporting your child with their work?



Do you know what qualifications you will need?

Give us a call to find out more information about the **Level 2 Certificate**

Supporting Teaching and Learning Course

New course starting in September 2023

Contact Teresa on
01744 677328

or
Email: teresaslee@sthelens.gov.uk

Contact us to find out more:

Call: 01744 676671 / 01744 677328 or text 07702 959814

JOURNEY OF HOPE

Information session for Hope Academy Parents Time: 5.30pm - 6.30pm



Supporting Students with Disabilities & Special Educational Needs

Tuesday 9th May 2023 (On site Event) Aimed at all Year groups (also Year 6 students transitioning to Hope)

The workshop will focus on the following:

- Hope Academy Local Offer
- The Four Broad Areas of Need
- Support for students with EHCP and ESS Funded students
- Support for students with a diagnosis of a condition/ syndrome
- The St. Helens Local Offer / What if needs cannot be met? / What if my child struggles to attend school?
- When to involve multi-agencies
- Who do I contact if my child is unable to access work in lessons?
- When do I contact the Pastoral team / SENDCO
- Early Help / Placements in Alternative Education

To book a place, please sign up here: <https://forms.gle/BPrtn5ZSRQsbma26>

Phillippa Hible, SENDCO



RESPECT

COURAGE

AMBITION

HOPE



Hope Academy Transition – Polite reminder

You will have recently received important documents from Hope Academy – please ensure they are completed and returned in the reply-paid envelope provided by Friday 26th May. If you did not receive the documents, please email lesley.white@hopeacademy.org.uk



Y6 pupils follow the below link for you to order your free Outwood Academy bundles. The cut off date is the 14th May

<https://www.haydock.outwood.com/transition>

THINK FOOD BANK

NEWTON COMMUNITY CENTRE ARE STILL A FOOD BANK DONATION POINT EVEN WHILST THE CENTRE IS CLOSED FOR SUMMER PLAYScheme

IF YOU ARE ABLE TO, PLEASE CONSIDER MAKING A DONATION OF NON PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS TO HELP FAMILIES IN YOUR COMMUNITY THIS SUMMER

POP IT IN THE TROLLEY
OUTSIDE NEWTON COMMUNITY CENTRE
PARK ROAD SOUTH, NEWTON-LE-WILLOWS, WA12 8EX

St Helens foodbank
Newton Family and Community Centre

Made with PosterMyWall.com

Join us for a
VINTAGE TEA PARTY
honoring
The Coronation of King Charles III

Saturday, 29th April 2023
From 2pm to 4.30pm
Newton Community Centre, Park Rd
South, WA12 8EX
£5 per ticket (which includes cream tea and entertainment)

Sharing the Gospel

Jesus the influencer

In this week's gospel, John 10:1-10, we see Jesus speaks of a shepherd whose sheep know his voice and follow him away from danger. The Pharisees do not understand that Jesus is referring to himself. He also says that he is the gate of the sheepfold, and whoever enters by him will be saved.



Lord Jesus,
help us not to pursue a 'half' life.
May we live a life that is full:
Full of joy, kindness, generosity,
and love.
A life that is full of you.
Amen.

Song of the week: **I can do all things through him who strengthens me**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ult9cnLIGQE&t=83s>

BRITISH VALUES

This week's British Value we have been looking at is:



Mutual Respect and Tolerance

We are all different; our lives, and our beliefs. How or if we choose to celebrate the coronation will be different too and we respect this.

The story it links to in the news is:

The coronation of King Charles III is taking place at Westminster Abbey on Saturday 6th May. During the ceremony, the King will be crowned alongside Camilla, the Queen Consort. Buckingham Palace has announced various events for the weekend, including a concert and laser light show at Windsor Castle on Sunday 7th May. There will be an extra bank holiday across the UK on Monday 8th May and people are also being invited to hold street parties, and to take part in volunteering projects in their local community.





@MarysPTFA

The Federation of St Mary's PTFA

6 REASONS TO JOIN THE PTFA

FOR THE CHILDREN

BECOME A ROLE MODEL TO SHOW YOUR CHILD YOU VALUE THEIR EDUCATION.

THE EVENTS WE PLAN WILL IMPROVE YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL EXPERIENCE.



FOR YOU

VOLUNTEERING IS A REWARDING EXPERIENCE

WE PLAN TO HOST MANY SOCIAL EVENTS TO RAISE MONEY AND ALSO TO ENJOY EACH OTHERS COMPANY.



FOR THE SCHOOL

HELP THE SCHOOL TO RAISE FUNDS.

HAVE A VOICE IN THE PURCHASES THAT ARE MADE TO SUPPORT THE CHILDREN.



BE CONNECTED

THERE IS NO BETTER WAY OF KNOWING WHAT'S HAPPENING IN SCHOOL.

MEET OTHERS THAT SHARE THE SAME COMMON GOALS TO HELP IMPROVE THE SCHOOL.



IT IS FUN!

WE AIM TO ENJOY OURSELVES IN ALL OUR ROLES.

FROM PLANNING EVENTS TO RUNNING A STALL IS EXCITING!



KEEP THE PTFA GOING!

AS PARENTS LEAVE SCHOOL WE NEED TO KEEP THE COMMITTEE GOING.

COME JOIN OUR FRIENDLY TEAM AS MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK!



"I work full time and help when I am able"

"I really enjoy seeing my grown up help out at events"

"I didn't realise how rewarding it would be"

"I've made life long friends"

St Mary's PTFA Presents....

Crazy Family Night & Disco

St Patricks Club
Friday 12th May 2023
Doors Open from 6.30pm
Tickets £5 each in advance of the night

Licensed bar, cash tuck shop, extra games, fun prizes & much more

Attendance Matters



Every Day Counts....



FACT: The more time your child spends in school, the better your child's attainment.

10 top tips for safely using SMARTWATCHES

Kids love gadgets, and smartwatches – available to buy from as little as £20 online – make a tempting gift. As with any type of mobile technology, though, smartwatches can pose risks to children unless they're used safely. Receiving unwanted calls, cyber-stalking and distracting a young person when they're crossing the road are all known risks associated with smartwatches. However, these devices can bring plenty of benefits for children and parents alike – so let's examine the pros and cons of smartwatches.

AVOID CHEAP OPTIONS

A quick search online yields a torrent of cheap smartwatches for kids, costing as little as £20. It's wise to avoid this bargain basement tech: it tends to deliver a poor experience with inferior battery life, and it's hard to have faith in the software's safety. There have been cases of smartwatches being hacked to track or contact children; stick to known brands who have a reputation to protect.

CONTROL CALLING

Many smartwatches have the facility to make or take calls. As with a phone, you may want to restrict who your child can call – or be called by. On Apple Watches, you can select trusted contacts who are allowed to ring your child, while other watches' controls vary hugely. Some need to connect to a linked phone for calls, so you may be able to block unknown contacts via that device instead.

BEWARE HIDDEN COSTS

For a smartwatch to allow calls independently (that is, without being connected to a phone via Bluetooth), it will need its own mobile data plan. This might take the form of a tiny SIM card that you slot into the watch – or an eSIM, where the physical card is replaced by software settings. Either way, this will incur an additional monthly cost that you'll need to factor into any buying decision.

ENABLE FAMILY SHARING

Apple Watches aren't cheap, but they do offer superb safety features – allowing parents to control calls, messages and emails on the device, as well as a location tracking system that can send alerts if kids wander beyond pre-set boundaries. Their SOS function enables children to contact emergency services instantly if they're in trouble, which simultaneously also alerts parents and carers.

MAKE THEM COOL FOR SCHOOL

Some schools have banned smartwatches, as pupils have been using them as substitute phones. If your child's school does permit them, some devices can be set to prevent distractions in class. For example, Apple's Schooltime feature turns their watches into ordinary time-keeping devices during school hours. The display changes in this mode, showing teachers that it isn't being used for other purposes.

BE MINDFUL OF BEDTIME

Many smartwatches offer sleep tracking, which some (usually older) children use to justify wearing them to bed. However, that also presents a temptation to message friends or check social media late at night, even if their phone is downstairs. Unless there's a valid reason not to, you could encourage your child to remove the watch in the evenings and ensure the charger stays in a different room.

TRACK ITS LOCATION

Both Apple and Android devices have apps which allow you to track a smartwatch's location. They can also initiate an audio alert – avoiding those cushion-hurling panics when a treasured device can't be found at home. If you're planning to track your child's location via their watch, make them aware of that in advance. You could even make it a condition of them getting the watch in the first place.

THINK 'SAFETY FIRST'

Smartwatches are often worth hundreds of pounds, which can make young people wearing one a target for thieves. Advise your child to keep the watch hidden in public (when possible) and not to resist if muggers demand their watch. If you manage to track a stolen device, pass that information to the police: location data isn't always accurate, so you could end up wrongly accusing someone.

STORE MEDICAL INFO

Devices including the Samsung Galaxy Watch and Apple Watch can store the owner's medical details (such as their blood group and any pre-existing medical conditions), potentially giving emergency services access to vital information in a crisis. These devices also have 'hard fall' detection, which sends a text message to selected contacts along with a map showing the wearer's location.

USE THEM AS MOTIVATION

If you're worried your child's spending too much time slumped on the sofa staring at screens, smartwatches are great fitness trackers and can be a powerful incentive to get moving. Some devices will alert the wearer if they've been inactive for a long time and encourage them to do some exercise. Many watches record the user's daily step count and measure other health metrics.

Meet Our Expert

Barry Collins has been a technology journalist and editor for more than 20 years, working for titles such as the *Sunday Times*, *Which?*, *PC Pro* and *Computeractive*. He's appeared regularly as a technology pundit on television and radio, including on *BBC Newsnight*, *Radio 5 Live* and the *ITV News at Ten*. He has two children and writes regularly about internet safety issues.



NOS National Online Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday



OUT OF SCHOOL CLUBS



DYNAMOS CRICKET

This is our game.

dynamicscricket.co.uk

Join us at:
Newton - le - Willows Cricket Club, WA12 9XE

Session dates:
Friday evenings, 19th May - 7th July 2023, for all children aged 8-11

Session timings:
6:00 - 7:00 pm

Contact:
ianwalky112@gmail.com



This is our game.

Dynamo Cricket provides a fantastic next step for all those graduating from All Stars Cricket and the perfect introduction for all 8-11 year-olds new to the sport!

Sessions are all about playing together and developing new skills, teamwork and friendship.

Every child that registers will receive their very own Dynamo Cricket New Balance t-shirt, personalised with their name and number on the back and have access to a brand new digital app, packed with exclusive cricket content, unlockable skills challenges, quizzes and activities.

Sign up today to your nearest Dynamo Cricket centre.

dynamicscricket.co.uk

Wigan Football Development

St Edmund Arrowsmith High School (AstroTurf Pitch), Rookery Avenue, Wigan, WN4 9FF
Starting on Friday 19th May 2023

In association with First Kick Football

School years - Reception and Year 1	6:00pm - 6:45pm
School years - Year 2 and Year 3	6:45pm - 7:30pm
School years - Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6	7:30pm - 8:30pm

Dear parents,
Places are now available to join a new 12-week football course every Friday at St Edmund Arrowsmith Catholic High School, starting 19th May, which is open to both boys and girls.

Our courses teach children correct football techniques by FA qualified coaches who have full DBS (CRB) clearance to work with children. The structure for the course is 'FUN through Football', building confidence for total beginners and moving onto more complex sessions for experienced players.

We provide a ball per player for the majority of our drills ensuring children get more touches of the ball and improve quicker than conventional coaching when children are waiting around to have a turn. The sessions are held on the fantastic AstroTurf pitch so trainers or AstroTurf boots should be worn. Players are also advised to bring a will drink for the session.

The club has links to local junior teams of which players will be able to play for at the weekend. Players who show advanced ability on the course will be recommended for trials at professional academies. Players who have previously attended courses are currently playing for Blackburn Rovers, Preston North End, Manchester United, Liverpool, Blackpool, Everton, Burnley, Bolton, Oldham, Rochdale and Wigan.

The cost of the course is just over £5 per week, which is payable in two instalments. The first payment of £25 is due when booking your child on and the second payment of £25 due at the first session. Parents are encouraged to watch the sessions but are welcome to leave children, as every session is fully supervised.

****NEW TOURNAMENT FORMAT****
Every four weeks we have a tournament in order for the children to put their new-found skills into practice with medals and trophies awarded at the end of the course for various categories.

ALL PLAYERS WILL RECEIVE A TROPHY & A MEDAL at the presentation, which is held on the final week of the course. Additional trophies will also be awarded in each group from categories including: Best Attitude, Star Player, Most Improved Player, Most Possessing Player and Hardest Working Player.

To book a place for your child please telephone the number below as soon as possible as a high response is expected.

TO BOOK PLEASE TELEPHONE Kaden
0161 302 2510 or 07514 316 534

We cannot guarantee that the course will run in consecutive weeks.
Please note we have a strict no refund policy once the course has been booked.



JOIN THE STORM!

Newton Storm, your local community Rugby League club, are currently on the look out for new players and volunteers.

With age groups from Reception to Open Age, and continued success both on and off the field, it's a great time to get involved.

If you'd like to know more find us on Facebook or Twitter.

@NewtonStormARL
NewtonStormARLFC
www.newtonstorm.co.uk

U8S COME ALONG & JOIN THE STORM!

Calling Y3 boys & girls to join our U8s team.

Training:
Mon 6-7pm
Wed 6-7pm
Newton Sports Club

For more details, contact:
Matt 07827 921707
Jacob 07780 435526



Big Moments of summer fun!


Sign up today at allstarscricket.co.uk or at the centre

Join us at: Earlestown Cricket Club, Earle Street, Earlestown WA12 9NU

Session dates: Monday evenings, starting 8 May 2023 for all children aged 5-8

Session timings: 6:00 - 7:00 pm

Contact: earlestowncc@hotmail.co.uk

DYNAMOS CRICKET

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dynamicscricket.co.uk

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Session dates:
Monday evenings, starting 8th May 2023 for all children aged 8-11

Session timings:
6:00 - 7:00 pm

Contact:
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classroomkit.com